



ST JOHN PAYNE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Be it known...

6th September 2019

Dear Parents & Carers

It has been lovely to welcome the students this week, particularly the newest members of our community. On Wednesday afternoon staff gathered with Year 7 & 12 students in witness to the faith, celebrating the Eucharist that lies at the heart of all that we do. We are blessed by our friendship with the Norbertine community at St Philip's Priory, and we thank Fr Stephen for bringing Christ to our community in a wonderfully joyous and prayerful celebration.

Yesterday the school was bursting with excitement and energy as the whole student community returned. There is always a wonderful sense of renewal as we begin afresh, keen to get the year underway. It really is a special time - one of the many blessings of working with young people.

This afternoon we are pleased to welcome parents and carers of Year 7 students to join us for refreshments in our Chaplaincy from 2.00 p.m. - an early opportunity to forge new partnerships or to strengthen those already established.

The summer brought cause for celebration as students in Years 11, 12 & 13 collected their exam results, enjoying much merited reward for all their commitment. Results have maintained the school's long standing record of excellent academic provision and fantastic pastoral care.

The school has undergone renovation and redecoration throughout the break. Most notably, we have created a drama studio to accommodate our introduction of GCSE drama for the first time; students in Years 7 & 8 will also receive a lesson of drama each week.

The reconfiguration of our Pastoral area is also of particular significance. We have long enjoyed a reputation for offering outstanding pastoral care and guidance. Following its rezoning last year, the recent works ensure that the space will become an even more valuable resource in support of our nurture and guidance of the young people in our care.

Thomas Coen, Headteacher

Please be familiar with a change to the timing of the start of the day. Registration begins at 08.45 rather than 8.40. Aquinas canteen is open from 7.30 a.m. The end of the day remains 3.30 p.m.

13.09: Tempest Photography photograph students in Years 7, 10 & 12

19.09: KS4 Support evening 6.00-7.30 p.m.

20.09: HCPT presentation to Sixth Form

30.09: Y8 maths trip

03.10: Open Evening 5.30-8.00 p.m (school closes 1.30 p.m.)

We will be grateful of donations of books to help increase our classroom libraries for DEAR time.

SJP is a proud Teacher Training Partnership School to Billericay Education Consortium and West Essex Teacher Training School Alliance. Please contact us if you are interested in a career in teaching and/or work experience.



Student Celebrations: always our greatest ambassadors - we're proud of you all!

It was lovely to see Paddy, Jennifer, Daniel, Luke & Callum at the Columbus College Ball on the penultimate evening of the summer term. Unbeknown to us, they had continued to support college students after their exams, devoting weeks of their break to the service of others. Paddy remains instrumental in ensuring that the opportunity to support is extended to other students in Years 10 & 11, with many of our sixth form students also keen to continue their visits, embodying the SJP spirit of servant leadership.

Congratulations to Y11 Ellie for her fantastic leadership during Fun Week, supporting Sisters Moira & Margaret to provide local children with a range of wonderful experiences, including circus skills and reptile handling. Ellie has been commended for her service.

We are hugely proud of our students' efforts in last summer's exams. At St John Payne we regard all progress as equally deserving of praise and recognition in that it testifies to students' progress towards becoming the best versions of themselves - the people God created them to be. With this in mind I am moved to note the achievements of James, Thomas and Oliver as they progress to Oxbridge. We wish every future success and happiness to all those whose futures see them progress from our community.

On Monday evening Weronika from last year's Y13 and Oliver in Y13 were guests at the Chelmsford Catenian Association dinner at Pontlands Park. They spoke warmly of their week in Lourdes with HCPT at Easter. The Catenian Association has generously sponsored students to travel to Lourdes to help care for children with disabilities for the past twelve years.

Congratulations to Sam Y12 on successfully completing his first solo flight - a significant step towards his dream of becoming a pilot. Well done to all - it is always a pleasure to hear of your success.

The Full Governing Body has voted in favour of the motion that St. John Payne Catholic School will engage in discussion with the Diocese of Brentwood and members of the prospective Multi Academy Trust (MAT) to influence the final structure and determine whether in the view of the Full Governing Body it is in the best interests of the school to join the MAT. Governors continue to assure parents and carers that no MAT decision involving SJP will be taken without consultation with all parties.



...to all who enter here that Christ is the reason for this school.



