



ST JOHN PAYNE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Be it known...

11th January 2019

Dear Parents & Carers

We were pleased to welcome students back to school last Friday following what I hope has been a restful break. Assemblies this week focused upon last Sunday's Feast of the Epiphany, marking the visit of the wise men to the infant Jesus. Much is written of the derivation of the word *epiphany*, of its subtleties and nuances. Beyond its specific religious significance, it of course describes an awakening of vision and understanding; a dawning, radiant clarity.

Christ's service, Passion and Resurrection inverted the world's established order, as though time itself were beginning anew. John the Baptist foretold that one greater than he would come to baptise not with water but with the Holy Spirit; yet Christ humbled himself before John, receiving his baptism. We see this humility again at the last supper, with Christ admonishing Peter for recoiling at the notion that He should wash Peter's feet.

Our prayer at St John Payne is that like Christ we may humble ourselves, submitting to the will of His, and our, heavenly Father. We cannot emulate Christ's sinless perfection in our earthly life; we can only hope to attain this reward in the next by attempting to model ourselves on His example, each in our own way helping to establish a portion of His kingdom here on earth.

Year 13 students sat practice examinations this week. As with the Year 11 exams in December, for which students received results today, these provide valuable insights into how students are progressing, and to where support is needed. Equally, they inform students of where efforts may need to be improved if they are to realise their potential.

For Year 13, this will see many progress to university, apprenticeships and the workplace; for Year 11, it will see many remain with us to continue their progress in the sixth form. We would greatly welcome the opportunity to further develop the partnerships with parents and carers that have shaped students' formation since they joined our community in Year 7.

The summer examinations are a culmination not only of students' time at St John Payne, but of twelve or fourteen years' education since Reception year. Whatever the current outcomes, and I am sure there will be much cause for optimism, I remind all those approaching examinations of the huge potential for improvement presented by the coming months of preparation.

Thomas Coen, Headteacher

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.

Following recent press reports, Governors assure parents & carers that no MAT decision involving SJP will be taken without proper process, involving consultation with all parties.

16th-18th Jan: Y12 Leaders' Retreat

17th Jan: Y11 Consultation evening

31st Jan—2nd Feb: School Play

27th Jan: Feast of St Angela Merici

28th Jan: Feast of St Thomas Aquinas

31st Jan: Feast of St John Bosco

7th Feb: Options evening

Advanced notice of *Get into Teaching: Catholic Education*, a recruitment evening for all interested in teaching in Brentwood Diocese Catholic schools. 21.03.19 4.00p.m.-7.00 p.m. Canon Roche Hall, Billericay

As of Monday the school office will receive calls from 08.00 rather than 07.30.

The PTA is holding an Afternoon Tea Dance on Saturday 16th February to help raise money for a new school minibus. Detail is provided in the accompanying flyer. Donations of bottles and gifts for the raffle will be gratefully received.

Please be familiar with Mr Coen's accompanying letter regarding Easy Fundraising.

Concern is raised by colleagues at KEGS regarding SJP students crossing the junction outside their school without due care and attention. They observe students crossing in front of traffic travelling at significantly high speeds. Appeals for safety from KEGS staff have been ignored. Tutors & Heads of Year will impress upon students the need for safe conduct. We thank you in advance for endorsing the message at home.

Celebrations & Successes

As our Y13 students begin to receive offers from universities and apprenticeship providers, we congratulate them on their achievements to date. We look forward to supporting their continued progress towards this next stage in their lives.

We are proud to confirm that last summer's A Level results place us in the top 10% nationally compared with 2,817 UK schools & colleges: a testament to students' dedication, to the expertise of highly committed staff, and to the strength of our partnerships with parents & carers.

At Christmas, instead of doing a secret Santa, 9D raised over £50.00 for 'CAFOD world gifts!' Mrs Broughton bought bees, goats and chickens for those in need in poverty stricken countries. Well done 9D!

2018 Alps Certificate of Outstanding Progress

St John Payne Catholic Comprehensive School (Chelmsford)

TOP 10%
Nationally

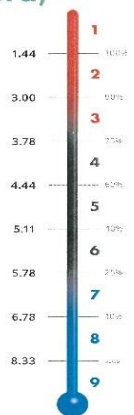
3 Year
T Score = 3.00

Well done!

Mary Ahern
Chief Executive

M. Ahern

National position compared to the A level outcomes of 2,817 schools and colleges in the UK.



Alps Helping students aim higher



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

