



# ST JOHN PAYNE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

*Be it known...*

13th September 2019

Dear Parents & Carers

With the first full week almost completed the new academic year is well underway. The newest members of our community are becoming familiar with their new surroundings, kindly aided by their elder peers who are always on hand to guide and support, whilst there is a palpable sense of energy and renewal as students become familiar with their new timetables and teachers.

Last Sunday's Gospel challenged us to forsake our possessions and devote ourselves to Christ. In assemblies I stressed that we may be allowed a degree of interpretation; an element of symbolism. Christ surely cannot mean that we are to live lives of misery, lacking joy and interest in our passions and pursuits, wholly rejecting the pleasures of earthly goods. The peril arises when these become our gods, when we become enslaved to them. We are called to lift our gaze to a higher ideal, to the promise of eternal life in God's kingdom, and to live our lives in witness to Christ's example as servant leader.

Rehearsals for Oliver have begun, and we look forward to what will as ever be a fantastic showcase of our students' many gifts and talents in February. With last year's introduction of GCSE Dance, and this year's first cohort of GCSE Drama, this always vibrant area of school life has received additional impetus.

On Wednesday students in 7A & 7B will visit The Blessed Sacrament to learn about the features of a Catholic Church, with Fr Paul celebrating Mass. The remaining Y7 Forms will visit later in the term. We are blessed in our relations with Priests & Clergy, who make a vital contribution to the life of our school, and who bring to us the most Blessed Sacrament that defines our identity as a people made in the image of God.

Next Thursday we welcome parents and carers of students in Key Stage 4 to attend our support evening. Such events are always an opportunity to strengthen the partnerships that lie at the heart of all that we do. Sixth form students will on Friday attend a Hosanna House & Children's Pilgrimage Trust presentation on the Easter pilgrimage to Lourdes. Our long standing friendship with the HCPT has seen many students support the pilgrimage. It always proves a truly life affirming experience for all involved.

Thomas Coen, Headteacher

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.

**Travel Discounts and age verification:** Greater Anglia discounted rail tickets for students

<https://public.greenrailtravel.co.uk/scholars.html>

Queries 03456007245

Citizencard age verification [www.citizencard.com/e-form](http://www.citizencard.com/e-form) UOC code. STJEA9

We continue to support the efforts of SOLE to oppose the closure and reduction of library services across the county, and are pleased here to share an opportunity to support on behalf of Broomfield Library.

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

**SAVE  
OUR  
LIBRARIES  
ESSEX**

BROOMFIELD LIBRARY USERS  
INVITE YOU TO  
OUR DAY OF ACTION

SEPTEMBER 28th

4pm

MEET ON

BROOMFIELD  
CHURCH GREEN

**STILL UNDER THREAT**

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

We thank Eilla Y13 for serving as a wonderful ambassador for the school at Chelmsford County Court throughout the summer break. We have received a lovely letter of recognition and appreciation.

Well done to India-Rose for her demonstration of kindness towards younger students this week.

Online applications via Essex County Council website are open for 2020 Year 7 entry. The SJP supplementary information form will also need to be completed by 31st October 2019. This is available from the school office or website - **Admissions**.



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.*

