



ST JOHN PAYNE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Be it known...

Dear Parents & Carers

National anti-bullying week has seen students reflect upon the responsibilities invested in each of us as members of the St John Payne Community. Form time, assemblies & PSHE have highlighted the impact of bullying in its various forms.

Student safety and wellbeing are of paramount importance to all who work here. We hold no principle higher than that students must feel happy and safe if they are to fulfil their God given potential; and we regard as very serious any behaviour that compromises this ideal. Bullying has no place in a tolerant and inclusive community: a tenet central to our faith.

We urge students to report any instance of bullying. They may tell their Tutor, Head of Year, a member of the Leadership Team, or indeed any member of staff; alternatively they can complete a Speak Out card for the attendance office drop box.

We always welcome the opportunity to allay concerns, and are confident in our ability to resolve situations to ensure that students are able to live and learn in a safe, secure and welcoming environment. On the rare occasions that a student's wellbeing is compromised, we will of course apply appropriate sanctions.

However, at SJP we aspire to higher ideals. The culture that will see students become the best versions of themselves will be created not through the promise of sanctions, but because each member of our community embraces the responsibility we all have to one another.

Literature abounds with examples of this belief. John Donne's '*No man is an island...any man's death diminishes me, because I am involved in mankind*'; J.B. Priestley's Inspector Goole, '*We don't live alone. We are members of one body. We are responsible for each other*'; and migrant worker Tom Joad in John Steinbeck's *The Grapes of Wrath*, '*I'm just trying to get along without shoving anybody, that's all.*'

Ultimately we look to Christ's, '*Love one another as I have loved you*', witnessed in the most fleeting and seemingly inconsequential exchanges: a smile; holding open a door; not dominating space in the canteen or on the bus; simply noticing someone is upset, as I was inspired to see a Year 11 boy do for a younger student just last week. I have told students that such gestures cost nothing but make someone's day that little bit better, not least their own.

We were pleased yesterday to welcome parents and carers of Year 7 students to discuss their children's transition from primary school. We recognise parents and carers as a child's first teachers, and are always grateful of the opportunity to strengthen the partnerships that are vital to the school's continued success.

Retreats for Year 7 students began this week, continuing into next. These are a wonderful cornerstone of our curriculum, affording opportunity for prayer and reflection, and for the building of community upon which the school is founded.

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.

16th November 2018

Events & Notices

Mon 26/11 19.45: PTA AGM, Chaplaincy
Tue 20 – Thu 22: Y7 Retreats continue
26/11 - 14/12: Y11 practice exams



sjp_pe Mrs Watson has scored a hat trick!!! Well done Y7! WOTM: Shooting combo Katie & Amelie 🏆🏆🏆🏆🏆🏆🏆🏆🏆🏆

"You never look good trying to make someone else look bad"

Celebrations & successes

It was a pleasure to attend a fantastic production of *Les Miserables* at the Civic Theatre on Saturday evening starring Y13 Maria, Y12 Oliver, and Y10 Angelina, and also a number of with former SJP students.

Our Year 7 netball team beat Billericay, Boswells & Cecil Jones this week. Well done, girls!

Well done Y13 Miracle & Y12 Olivia, who as GospelX will sing with friends at the O2 arena in January in the final of the 2018 Open Mic UK awards.

There are 1,440 minutes in every day. That's 1,440 opportunities to say something nice.



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

