



# ST JOHN PAYNE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

*Be it known...*

19TH JUNE 2020

Dear Parents & Carers

In my last newsletter of 13th March I thanked you for your continued commitment to our partnership throughout a time of growing concern not only for our own community but for all communities local, national and global. Three months on I reiterate my appreciation. The unity and solidarity from all quarters of our community has been absolute, and is a testament to the St John Payne spirit at its very best.

Much has changed in our community, as in the world. As we have been pleased to welcome students back to school more widely this week, we are acutely aware that for some the relief and happiness at again seeing friends and teachers, and being able to receive face to face support, will be tinged with anxiety, sadness, and sorrow.

Some members of our community have been bereaved of family members and friends, and we know the long term effects of what continues to be a hugely significant experience for young people, as for us all, will require ongoing sensitivity and care. Be assured of our unwavering commitment to continue working with you to support your children towards their potential.

In addition to the global public health concern, the world has witnessed a stark reminder - in the terrible actions resulting in the death of George Floyd - of the importance of standing against all forms of injustice, oppression and discrimination, a principle at the very heart of the values upon which the school is founded.

Our community is wonderfully diverse, blessed in its cohesion, and we celebrate the achievements and contributions of all who learn and grow here. Our guiding principle is that for children to flourish and realise their God given potential, they must above all else be assured they are individually known, heard, valued and loved as people made in the image of God and seen in the light of Christ.

However, we cannot afford to be complacent, and we embrace the responsibility invested in us to support embedded change in the world. To this end our History department has invited dialogue over how the curriculum can more sensitively address history to offer a wider breadth of experience, so that content can be reassessed in both historic and contemporary contexts.

Our sixth form leadership team has likewise invited students to share any issue about which they are concerned, and we will continue to work in partnership with them over concerns that unite us all. As I wrote in my letter to our whole community, we will remain ever faithful to Christ's greatest commandment, **Love one another as I have loved you.**

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.

**SUNDAY 21ST GOSPEL, MATTHEW 10: 26-33**

*All that is hidden  
will be made clear.  
All that is dark now  
will be revealed.*

**AMELIA YEAR 10: RETURNING TO SCHOOL**

Learning from home, I missed the social side of school life and talking over face time and text wasn't the same as an actual conversation with classmates. I missed the things I never thought I would, the things I took for granted, assemblies and form time especially. Going back to school, I was expecting to see some of my friends I hadn't seen in a while and slowly get back into the school routine, but I knew it wouldn't be the same as before. I was also hoping I could see some teachers to talk face to face about the classwork I had completed at home. My expectations were met, when I returned, I was able to socialise with my friends in person as well as see some teachers. It was a strange feeling to feel so separated despite being in the same building. I really enjoyed my first day back and I felt really safe as all of the safety precautions were in place. It brought a sense of normality to my life that had become so different to what I was used to. I am looking forward to the coming weeks and the routines of the new school life I will experience.

**WELL DONE SJP  
COMMUNITY FOR RISING  
TO THE CHALLENGE AND  
BEING FIRST TO REACH  
THE BIG 1500KM! WE  
KEPT GOING AND NOW  
HAVE JUST 241KM TO  
REACH 5000KM.**

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 proposed 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.*

