



ST JOHN PAYNE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Be it known...

24th May 2019

Dear Parents & Carers

On Tuesday we hosted a Rounders tournament for a number of local primary schools. Our students contributed to the event, demonstrating fantastic responsibility and leadership; whilst yesterday's National Athletics Championship brought great success. We are proud of all who represented the school.

Throughout the examination season Aquinas hall is unavailable for assemblies, and I am therefore unfortunately unable to address the students collectively each week as is our custom. However, we know that sharing the Gospel need not require a hall, and in continuing to prepare assemblies to be shared by tutors, students can be afforded perhaps a more intimate reflection; and also the opportunity for discussion.

Last Sunday's Gospel contained Christ's greatest commandment, displayed proudly in our reception, ***Love one another, just as I have loved you.*** I asked tutors to consider with students how realistic and achievable this is; why we fall short; and are we ourselves worthy of the love of others; worthy of the love of God?

Our humanity sees us prey to the shortcomings of human emotion. We give way to pride, envy, resentment, anger. We find ourselves beyond others' love; just as we deny ours to others: failings that ought to make us unworthy of God's love. Yet still He loves us; not despite, but precisely because of our failings. He made us in love; with all our imperfections; and because - for all our shortcomings - we ultimately bear witness to His truth, like the penitent thief we are assured a place in His kingdom.

Our mission is to establish for our community a small portion of God's kingdom here at SJP. In witness to this we are proud to walk alongside our brothers and sisters in Christ from the OLI community, witnessing the faith in the Corpus Christi Procession on Sunday 16th June; just as members of our community will also bear witness at tomorrow's Diocesan pilgrimage to Walsingham.

We continue to pray for all students sitting public examinations. The mood is buoyant as they gather to enter the halls, and it is always a pleasure to be among them with other staff to offer prayers and words of encouragement. Many students place a crucifix upon their desk, given them each year as a symbol of our faith at the Year 11 Mass of Celebration, and still cherished by our Year 13 students. It is fantastic to hear many students as they leave the hall confirm feeling that God was with them. Always and ever, ***...even until the end of the age.***

Thomas Coen, Headteacher.

Celebrations & Successes

Following last week's report of a student gathering litter on her way to school, I was pleased by a further display of community action and responsibility yesterday when a student requested to borrow one of our litter pickers to gather litter in her local community over the break.

It was lovely to hear our Head Girl Olivia's powerful witness on Kaos Mojo, ***'everything is possible 'cause God is on our side...'***; and fantastic to learn of Daire, Eimear, Rohan & Janelle's success respectively in Gaelic football and performances of ***Trouble's Brewing & Oliver.*** Mr Coen invites students to end the week with an ice lolly or hot chocolate, so please keep sharing your achievements.

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.

Please be familiar with Mr Coen's letter regarding efforts by the PTA to finance a new school mini-bus. You may have noted via twitter that our current mini-bus is at present home to two nesting pied wagtails and therefore cannot be used. <https://cafdonate.cafonline.org/9721>

Brentwood Catholic Children's Society has several charity places remaining for the London to Brighton Bike Ride on 15th September 2019. Riders are asked to pay a registration fee of £55 and make a commitment to raise £150 for 'bccs'. For more information, please visit our website www.bccs.org.uk/GetInvolved/Events or call Julie Abbott on 01268 784544/07912 277413

Please be familiar with a change to the timing of the start of the school day from September. Registration will begin at 8.45 a.m. rather than 8.40 a.m. Aquinas canteen is open from 7.30 a.m. Lesson contact will not be reduced as lunch will be shortened by five minutes. The end of the day will remain 3.30 p.m.

Please see the attached information about the Our Lady Immaculate Corpus Christi Procession on Sunday 16th June.



Governors assure parents & 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.





The Angelus

The Angelus is traditionally recited morning (6:00 a.m.), noon and evening (6:00 p.m.) throughout the year except during Paschal time, when the Regina Coeli is recited instead.

V. The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary.
R. And she conceived of the Holy Spirit.
Hail Mary, etc.

V. Behold the handmaid of the Lord.
R. Be it done unto me according to thy word.
Hail Mary, etc.

V. And the Word was made Flesh.
R. And dwelt among us.
Hail Mary, etc.

V. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.
R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

LET US PRAY

Pour forth, we beseech Thee, O Lord, Thy grace into our hearts, that we to whom the Incarnation of Christ Thy Son was made known by the message of an angel, may by His Passion and Cross be brought to the glory of His Resurrection. Through the same Christ Our Lord. Amen.