



# ST JOHN PAYNE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

*Be it known...*

29th November 2019

Dear Parents & Carers

Red Wednesday was well supported by students and staff, raising donations for Aid to the Church in need, a Pontifical Foundation of the Catholic Church which supports the world's persecuted Christians. We give thanks for the freedoms we enjoy to witness our faith, and we pray for our oppressed brothers and sisters in Christ.

Sunday marks the start of Advent, when we prepare to witness the birth of Christ. At a time that we eagerly anticipate the giving and receiving of gifts, we give thanks also for the gifts with which we are blessed that cannot be bought: time, attention, affirmation, laughter, friendship, encouragement, understanding, forgiveness and love - gifts that are abundant throughout our community.

It has been pleasing to hear invigilators praise Year 11 students for their attitude and approach to their examinations this week. Last week I reflected upon the fact that students are not defined by examination results, and that education amounts to more than grades. I now offer further reflection previously shared with students.

January 10th, when students will receive their examination results, will offer an experience close to that of Thursday 20th August. I encourage students to reflect upon how they want to feel next summer, and prepare to that end. I am sure they can look forward to much success both in the coming months and beyond. They can be assured all who work here want to see them celebrating the fruits of their efforts.

I end by thanking our PTA. We are blessed with a dedicated team of enthusiastic parents and carers who continue to devote much time and energy in support of the school to enhance the opportunities available to our students. Following September's photo marathon, November's Year 7 & 8 disco and last Saturday's quiz, December will see the team support two key events in our calendar.

Firstly, we look forward to our Certificate Evening on Monday 16th when we will affirm former and current students' achievements in last summer's examinations. We also extend the community a warm invitation to our Advent Service in Aquinas hall at 6.00 p.m. on Thursday 19th for what is sure to be a blessed and joyous celebration. We would love you to join us.

Well done to Y10 Sophie-Rose & Y8 Michael and their family for raising more than £550 for CHES from their sleep out last Friday.

Well done Year 7 for representing the school and our faith with great reverence and responsibility during your visits to Mass at The Blessed Sacrament this term. Parishioners and local residents have commented upon your example. We thank Fr Paul for his welcome.

Well done Year 11 for your conscientious approach to your practice

The Governing Body has a vacancy which they are looking to fill with a candidate who has finance skills. For further information please email Vice Chair Anne Rushton [gov-aru@sjp.essex.sch.uk](mailto:gov-aru@sjp.essex.sch.uk) Governors are keen to increase the diversity of the Governing Body and welcome applications from all sections of the school community.

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.

## Events & Notices

25.11 - 13.12: Y11 exams

06.12: Reconciliation

16.12: Certificate evening 6.00 p.m.

19.12: Advent Service 6.00 p.m.

We share an appeal from Columbus College for consideration when dropping children at Merici car park. This shared car park is predominantly allocated to college use.

Please also be familiar with Mr Coen's appeals for regard for safety when parking before and after school.

We advise students to bring only the equipment needed each day. We notice that some students' bags are extremely heavy, placing them under strain at a time that their bones are still forming.

## HOUSE POINTS

AUGUSTINIANS	3992
BENEDICTINES	3501
CARMELITES	3472
DOMINICANS	3406
FRANCISCANS	4179
SERVITES	4428



AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED  
RED WEDNESDAY 2019



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

