

ST JOHN PAYNE



AVITA PRO FIDE



## NEWSLETTER APRIL 2023

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4BS 01245256030 | [office@sjp.essex.sch.uk](mailto:office@sjp.essex.sch.uk) | [sjp.essex.sch.uk](http://sjp.essex.sch.uk) Headteacher:  
Mr Thomas Coen, BA (Hons), PGCE, MA, NPQH*



Throughout Lent we have continued to pray for peace and stability in Ukraine, the recent year's anniversary of the invasion marked so powerfully with our community observing a minute's silence before Year 7 Mariia sang a ballad from the St Anne Line mound. Fr Paul of The Blessed Sacrament led prayers, and Chelmsford MP Vicky Ford attended to pay her personal observance, afterwards meeting with a number of our Ukrainian & Afghan students to learn about their experiences since joining us.

The recent focus in the public arena on national policy concerning those seeking sanctuary and safety provides pause for reflection. We are reminded of Joseph & Mary's flight. They and Christ were refugees, migrants fleeing persecution, seeking warmth and security in troubled times. Whatever the complexity and nuance of the situation, we must always witness our common identity as people of God, responding with humanity, compassion and love.



Our Lenten reflections have encompassed Retreats for Year 8, school representation at Flame Congress at Wembley's Ovo Arena, and Reconciliation in school for upwards of four hundred students. Last night's Lent service was a moving testament to our faith, and it has been nice to gather in witness with the students as each Year group has attended the service today.



Today's non-uniform day is in aid of CAFOD, with 25% of donations to initiatives inspired by our student Earth Society to support our stewardship of the environment, a newly introduced means being to plant six trees per year - one for each new Year 7 Form. Older students from each House will plant the trees as a welcome gift that will grow with the younger children as they progress throughout their time with us.

The term has as ever been full, with students attending a swimming gala at the Olympic park aquatics centre, team and individual sporting success, Head Boy Onyeka continuing his progress in athletics, the visit of over 200 Year 5 children from our Catholic feeder schools, a fantastic collaboration with Chelmer Valley in the monologue & duologue slam, N-Act Theatre Company performing a drama on mental health to Year 9, Frantic Assembly drama workshops, a Sports Readers' trip to Chelmsford Library, an A Level English Language visit to a London conference, the Year 9 Respect project, and visits of councillors from across the political spectrum to speak to our Government & Politics students. We wish our whole community a Holy, happy & restful Easter break, and will look forward to welcoming the students back to school on our return.

In Faith

**Thomas Coen- Headteacher.**





## CHAPLAINCY FAITH LIFE

As a community we come together to pray for the Holy Father to make a swift recovery. Students prayed for our loving Pope during Stations of the Cross on Thursday breaktime.

On Thursday evening, our KS3 Faith Ambassadors led a beautiful Lent service, it was both emotive and joyful. The students involved created and delivered the whole service. The theme was LOVE, a love so strong that it held Christ to the cross and not the nails. The singing was exceptional, special thanks to Mr Venables. The readings were delivered with clarity and feeling, special thanks to Mrs Webb. The musicians were note perfect, special thanks to Mr Sullivan. This service was then repeated three times on Friday to every member of the SJP community.

"Nails we're not enough to hold God and man nailed and fastened on the Cross, had not love held Him there."  
Saint Catherine of Sienna

I wish the whole community a happy & holy Easter. May your Easter will be bright with the hope and joy of our risen Savior.

God bless,

*Lay Chaplain,*  
**Katy Adams**



# Flame 2023



We started the day early, meeting at New Hall School along with many from our diocese. The coaches arrived and, with almost one hundred buzzing young Christians we set off for 'Flame 2023'.

After an hour and a half, we arrived at Wembley Arena and were greeted by what seemed like millions of young people all flocking towards the big arena. We headed in and found our seats. I was in Block D1 Row 11 Seat 3. Whilst it was near the back of the arena, I still felt part of the atmosphere amongst all 8,000 of us that had come to bear witness.

The event began with the music group 'One Hope Project', opening the show with two songs which included a personal favourite of mine: '10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)'. The uplifting lyrics definitely set the mood for the day. Afterwards, our hosts were introduced, one of which was former St John Payne Head Boy, Father Michael. We were uproarious and so proud to see one of our own representing us on stage.

This year was dedicated to Father Dermott Donnelly; the founder of 'Flame'. The last name sounded incredibly familiar but I never expected where I recognised it from until Father Michael introduced someone who was the able to tell us more about Father Dermott. We were greeted by a broadcast from Ant & Dec. I didn't realise until then that Father Dermott was Dec's late brother.

Soon David Wells began to interview Robert Billott - a Catholic environmental lawyer from America who fought against a chemical company that was harming people and animals with their products. The result is Billott getting his own movie: 'Dark Waters' starring Mark Ruffalo and Anne Hathaway; the Hulk and Catwoman!

Then we had our first break during which my friend Evelyn and I decided to take part in the diocese selfie competition! This involved us having to go around taking selfies and talking to different people such as nuns, priests, our own doppelgängers and people who had travelled more than five hours to get there. The most challenging by far was to get a selfie with a musician and a speaker at the event. We tried to get backstage but our break was over and we didn't make it. The rest of the challenge would have to wait until later....

After the break we were greeted by a South American Catholic. We heard her inspiring story of the work she has done to preserve the Amazon and teach the young in her community. Next to take to the stage was MOBO award-winning 'Guvna B'. We started screaming and raved to some Catholic rap music. Then he initiated a competition. He told us about his Ghanaian roots and about how when praying they would wave a random object in the air and challenged us to do the same in order to win an album. I very cleverly began to wave my Toshiba laptop in an attempt to gain his attention. Unfortunately, I was robbed of victory and a lucky Adidas shoe owner was victorious!

The second third ended with Adenike who led us in an 8000-person choir. She was amazing and shared her testimony with us.

# Flame 2023



During the next break, we were determined to do everything we could to win the diocese selfie challenge. All was going well until we got to our final obstacle: the backstage security guard. We used every single persuasive device our English teachers had ever taught us and soon we were in! We were absolutely buzzing as we headed straight to Adenike and her sequined jacket. She was lovely and told us about how she was very good at taekwondo. We took a selfie and moved on. Next we met David Wells - we spoke briefly to him and then we took a selfie and went away. We couldn't believe that we had actually pulled it off!

We were so happy as the third act started with the amazing 'Faith Child'. As expected, 'Faith Child' brought loads of energy to the stage and blessed us with his amazing rap music and talent. Soon we had a calmer section of the day when priests and cardinals were to bless us and spread a message of hope. My favourite was Cardinal Tagle who is a Filipino priest who first came to Flame in 2015. He spread a message of hope and encouraged us to 'rise up'. He also shared his memories of his dearly departed friend father Dermot.

Finally came adoration. Adoration was definitely a stand out from our trip. 8000 people were gathered together and we still managed to find silence. They sang a refrain that we frequently sing at school during Mass: 'Be still in the presence of the Lord'. It was awe-inspiring as Adenike led us in worship. Every performer that day came on the stage and was exactly as the song suggests--still. Our host concluded the day and just as quickly as it started Flame 2023 was over. The experience and blessings I received on that day will stay with me forever and it was definitely a time to remember. I look forward to going again. Just as they quickly buzzed in, what seemed like millions of Christians, quickly buzzed out leaving with feelings of peace and joy and filled with the presence of God.

**By Ariel O**  
**St John Payne Catholic School**





# NEW STAFF INTRODUCTIONS

**Eleanor- Pastoral  
Mentor &  
Attendance**



**Tracey- Pastoral  
Mentor**



**B Purcell- Site**



**R Odendaal-  
Librarian**



**W Hockaday- IT  
Technician**



**S Murray- LSA**



**S Baker- LSA**


# STUDENT AWARDS





# Student Awards



|  | <b>Total Year<br/>Group<br/>Achievement<br/>Points</b> | <b>Highest<br/>Form<br/>Achievement<br/>points</b> | <b>Highest<br/>Achievement<br/>Points In the Year</b> |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Year 7</b>                                                                     | <b>18810</b>                                           | <b>7S<br/>5991</b>                                 | <b>Ayobami O- 7S<br/>383 Achievement<br/>Points</b>   |
| <b>Year 8</b>                                                                     | <b>8992</b>                                            | <b>8A<br/>2698</b>                                 | <b>Freddie G - 8S<br/>348 Achievement<br/>Points</b>  |
| <b>Year 9</b>                                                                     | <b>8147</b>                                            | <b>9C<br/>2487</b>                                 | <b>Ariel O - 9A<br/>266 Achievement<br/>Points</b>    |
| <b>Year 10</b>                                                                    | <b>4118</b>                                            | <b>10F<br/>1180</b>                                | <b>Victory M- 10B<br/>153 Achievement<br/>Points</b>  |
| <b>Year 11</b>                                                                    | <b>1439</b>                                            | <b>11S<br/>367</b>                                 | <b>Tilda C 11A<br/>116 Achievement<br/>Points</b>     |

# Student Awards



**Ayobami O- 7S**  
**383 Achievement Points**



**Freddie G - 8S**  
**348 Achievement Points**



**Ariel O - 9A**  
**266 Achievement Points**



**Victory M- 10B**  
**153 Achievement Points**



**Tilda C- 11A**  
**116 Achievement Points**



# Form, Vice and Sports Captains Year 8 2022–23



From Mrs Coleman, Head of Year 8

I am very pleased to announce that the following students have been voted in as the Year 8 captains – well done to all. The Heads of House, Katy our Chaplain, your form tutors and I look forward to working with you all this year.

|    | Form      | Vice               | Sport                   |
|----|-----------|--------------------|-------------------------|
| 8A | Lilly     | Ellie-May          | Jack                    |
|    | Stephen J | Moeez              | Tallulah                |
| 8B | Honor     | Grace-Rose         | Nidia                   |
|    | Jason     |                    | Jacob                   |
| 8C | Poppy     | Lore               | Nour                    |
|    | Owen      | Joanna             | Mani                    |
|    |           |                    | Assistant Sport: Sharon |
| 8D | Arabella  | Jacob              | Robert                  |
|    | Piotr     | Cheryll and Hanifa | Nicole                  |
| 8F | Issy      | Thabani            | Jessica                 |
|    | Daniel    |                    | Benji                   |
| 8S | Nathan    | Aoife              | Jasmin                  |
|    | Charlie   | Freddie            | David                   |



# SJP Linguastars- Autumn term 1b



**There is nothing complicated about learning languages, but it takes hard work.**

These students have showed

These students have showed particular grit, resilience, curiosity and effort in embedding French/German knowledge into their long-term memory. They will have a very strong start to French and German this year because they have not given up and continued to ask questions and check their memory.

| <b>Year 7 French</b> | <b>Year 8 French/German</b> | <b>Year 9 French</b> | <b>Year 9 German</b> |
|----------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Jessica D (7A)       | Honor M (8B)                | Erin W (9A)          | Olivia P (9A)        |
| Joseph W (7B)        | Emmanuel G (8C)             | Luc L (9C)           | Rebecca D (9F)       |
| Teteth E (7C)        | Amelia D G (8F)             | George H (9S)        | Niamh M (9A)         |
| Marta I (7F)         | Ellie-May R (8A)            | Victoria O (9B)      | Maria I (9C)         |
| Sofia K (7S)         | Valery M F (8S)             | Ethan R (9F)         | Ronnell N (9S)       |

# SJP Linguastars- Autumn term 1b



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These students have showed

**These students have showed particular grit, resilience, curiosity and effort in embedding French/German knowledge into their long-term memory. They will have a very strong start to French and German this year because they have not given up and continued to ask questions and check their memory.**

Moreover, SJP Top Linguastars are chosen amongst all others for their excellence.

**Saif E (7D)** Outstanding all round: progress, behaviour, participation and achievement

**Suhana G (8D)** Excellent attitude to learning every single lesson. Always works to the best of her ability.

**Maya B (9D)** Maya is working extremely well, improving her written and speaking skills

**Caelyn T (9D)** Caelyn has worked with enthusiasm and determination this term

**Lola L-T (10C)** Faultless pronunciation with excellent recall of high-level structures.

**Tia E (10C)** is working very hard and has produced excellent written and spoken German

**Keira J (11F)** Amazing work ethic and resilience.

**Panni O (11F)** is working extremely hard to produce excellent German. She has attended all revision sessions

**Eve L (12C)** Calm mature approach to studies assuming good statistics and vocabulary.

**Nicole B (12F)** Consistent positive attitude and developing grammatical accuracy.

**Katie T (13S)** Good recall of vocabulary and ideas to argue point of view.

**Isabel L (13B)** Hard private study in preparation for finals.

# STUDENT SPOTLIGHT





# Student Leadership Team 2023



|           |                   |
|-----------|-------------------|
| Phoebe    | Head Girl         |
| Nneka     | Deputy Head Girl  |
| Joshua    | Head Boy          |
| Wilmo     | Deputy Head Boy   |
| Erin      | Chaplaincy Leader |
| Priscilla | Chaplaincy Leader |
| Kamsi     | Chaplaincy Leader |
| Menzel    | Chaplaincy Leader |
| Martha    | Chaplaincy Leader |
| Katie     | Chaplaincy Leader |
| Hannah    | Chaplaincy Leader |
| Imogen    | Chaplaincy Leader |
| Emily     | Chaplaincy Leader |
| Mila      | Chaplaincy Leader |
| Oscar     | A House Captain   |
| Naomi     | A House Captain   |
| Jack      | B House Captain   |
| Tamsin    | B House Captain   |
| Hannah    | C House Captain   |
| Ruby      | C House Captain   |
| Grace     | D House Captain   |
| Rosalie   | D House Captain   |
| Joshua    | F House Captain   |
| Julia     | F House Captain   |
| Michael   | S House Captain   |
| Lucy      | S House Captain   |



# Student Leadership Team 2023



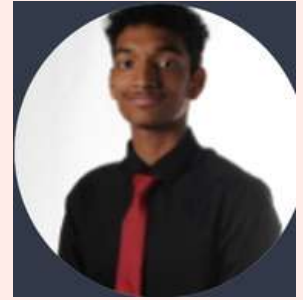
Head Girl  
**Phoebe**



*Deputy Head Girl*  
**Nneka**



*Deputy Head Boy*  
**Wilmo**



Head Boy  
**Joshua**

Good luck to Niamh, Gracie, Eiblis, Niamh, Susie, Joshua, Martha, William, Manuel, Millie and Emily, who are travelling to Lourdes over Easter with HCPT. We know you will have a life-changing experience and we can't wait to hear all about it when you get back.



# Inclusivity at SJP by Mila S 12D



February 24th marked a full year since the Russian invasion of Ukraine. Within school we were blessed to have Maria Yakymchuk, a year seven student and Ukrainian refugee, sing in remembrance of her country, of the lives lost, the homes destroyed, and the hearts broken. We were also visited by Vicky Ford, the local member of parliament, who spoke to both the Ukrainian and Afghan refugee students that we have within our school. As she spoke to them, she, as all who were in the room, saw the prevalent strength of each child, with appreciation of not only where they were, but where there had come from and what had been left behind.

There are over twenty refugee students contributing to the St John Payne school community. Each one speaking in a language that is not their own, each one leaving a home and family behind, each one still growing up. When speaking to them, their astounding maturity and manners mask the fact that they are all still children and teenagers at most. Yet, they have been through experiences, dealt with burdens, and learnt lessons that should never have to be taught to such ages.

When speaking to them individually the confluence of their age and their experience met, becoming very apparent. Like most, they still feel the stresses of lessons, tests and teachers they don't like. They watch the newest shows on Netflix and scroll through tik-tok. They love dancing and singing. They have dreams and aspirations. Just like any other person their age. However, in stark divergence they feel the stresses of their family's safety, and the separation from those they love. They watch as their homes are destroyed. They love with hearts that have experienced so much loss. They dream and aspire, working with double the load of the schoolwork they experience during the day, the work at night in order to stay on top of the education of their home country, and still tackling the daily struggle of learning a new language, which for many is their third, fourth, fifth or even further, language learnt. However, despite these challenges, when given the opportunity to drop subjects, they self-advocate to continue in the same level of education as their peers, seeing the benefit that each class has on them. Very different from others their age.

Each student spoken to shared both a humble frustration yet fierce humility of life and school in this country, foreign to them. They reminisced fondly of the peers and schools that they had left at home, the clubs and hobbies they had had to leave behind and the grandma that they call daily yet still wish to hug. However, they also communicated an overwhelming gratitude for what this school has given them. Gaining new friends and finding sanctity in the friends that arrived with them, learning new things and feeling the place they have as a member of this community.

In many ways, what they have been through will unfortunately never be fully appreciated. However, their space, place and importance within this school will forever be seen and valued.

When speaking with the students on the 24th of February, Ford spoke of the country standing together, standing with and standing against



***"And it is the schools hope that each of our community also stand alongside those members who have already stood for so long."***



# YOUR COMMUNITY NEWS

## Olympic sprinter Adam inspires students during visit to school

By MILA SCHWARTZ

Year 12 student,  
St John Payne Catholic School

BEGINNING in December 2022, the St John Payne Catholic School in Chelmsford launched a new initiative, manufactured and facilitated by the teachers within the school, called Sports Readers.

The programme was originally orchestrated with the aim of helping younger secondary school students with low reading ages improve their reading and comprehension abilities in order to ensure that they were equipped with the necessary skills to support them as they continue through their school career, using sports and athletic reward as a motivation.

The importance of reading has become significantly more crucial for students' success across all areas of education as exam questions within almost all subjects have become increasingly more word-based and require an added level of understanding of what the question really requires.

Although it is understood that encouraging students to read twice a week will not ignite a love for literature amongst them all, there is no doubt about the impact that this will have on their school careers and further outcomes.

This programme began as a hope for academic growth and has, due to its noble cause, caught the attention of several people eager to share and support the students in their efforts.

Only recently the school, in Patching Hall Lane, was honoured to be visited by Adam Gemili, three-time European champion and Olympian.

The British sprinter was the 2014 European champion at 200 metres, three-time European champion in the 4 x 100 metres relay, and part of the Great Britain team that won gold at the 2017 World Championships in the same event. He has finished fourth in the 200 metres at the 2016 Rio Olympic Games, and fourth and fifth in separate editions of the World Championships in the same event.

Arriving early in the morning, he was able to watch the students at work within the programme, fuelled by hot chocolate and pastries, reading together.

Afterwards he spoke to the group, allowing time for open discussion and questions from the students



Adam Gemili during his visit to meet pupils and staff at St John Payne Catholic School in Chelmsford  
ST JOHN PAYNE CATHOLIC SCHOOL



and, for the remainder of the morning, he worked with several other pupils who share his same love for running.

Going through drills with them, giving them their very own training session from an Olympic athlete, the students were given an opportunity they most likely will never forget.

Adam's personable character and genuine interest in the students made him very easy for them to connect to, seeing him not as a distant role model with shoes impossible to fill, but as a peer with opportunities received through passion and hard work.

They were shown that if they dedicate the necessary effort, they also have the ability.

Illustrating the journey he went through in order to reach where he has, Adam emphasised the importance of hard work, perseverance and sacrifice.

Speaking openly about his regrets, achievements, failures and successes, his vulnerability made him all the easier for the students to connect with.

St John Payne's own athletes, one being Onyeka Okoh, who only recently attended an under-20s international competition in Madrid, all benefitted from Adam's visit, seeing a reflection of who they are striving to become.

It is the qualities that he discussed that the Sports Reader's programme also advocates and strives to build within the youth of today, making Adam not only a role model for the athletics students at the school but also to all who he met during his visit.



Email your news to:  
[communitynews@gazettenews.co.uk](mailto:communitynews@gazettenews.co.uk)  
[communitynews@essexchronicle.co.uk](mailto:communitynews@essexchronicle.co.uk)

**An excellent team performance!**



# ***Monologue and Duologue Slam- SJP & CVHS***

Just a quick update to say how amazing our students were last at the Monologue & Duologue Slam hosted by Chelmer Valley High. Our students performed & competed with confidence, creativity and were not only so supportive of each other but so supportive of all the competitors from both schools. Congratulations to Marie for winning best monologue and Zinachidi & Chenell for winning best duologue. Please congratulate all the students who competed and represented SJP whenever you see them today..



***An outstanding and moving performance from all students!***

# Sporting Achievements



13 students from year 8 and 12 helped to lead the Panathlon swimming event at the Olympic Swimming Pool in Stratford. This event gives young people with disabilities and special educational needs every year the opportunity to take part in competitive sport. The students were a credit to the school. Staff from other schools commented to Rob and I on how fantastic our students were and the organisers are keen for our students to take part again in this event towards the end of the year! It was evident that this was a really good bonding experience for the Sports Readers as year 12 students volunteered to work with their year 8 students throughout the event.

Please congratulate the following students if you see them:

Alfie L, William H, Tom L, Austin W, Finnbar D, Emmy P, Kitty D, Tallulah C, Nneka O, Frankie M, Sophie C, Wilmo G and Joseph C-. **Miss A Cracknell**



***An excellent team performance!***







# Congratulations Freddie



5 Park Road, Richmond, Surrey TW10 6NS

Congratulations to ou

8. 3. 23



Dear Freddie

Thank you for your letter  
and congratulations on all you and  
your School are doing to help in  
natural world

It is very kind of you  
to invite me to visit your School.  
I regret to say, however, that I  
am unable to do so

Best wishes

from David Attenborough



## Sir David Attenborough

# World Book Day 2023

## By Freddie G 8S, Poet Laureate.

Fabulously first introduced in 1995,  
World Book Day in the UK has kept our imaginations alive!  
To encourage young people to read with delight,  
It has heightened empathy with much might!

Increasing vocabulary as each year rushes by,  
World Book Day: improving concentration, ambition will fly!  
Dressing up as your favourite fictional character,  
You can read any of your books, from your attic to your cellar!

One hundred different countries celebrate it annually,  
You may even commemorate it by writing a book review manually!  
To discover the pleasure of reading today,  
Go to our school library, please don't stay away!

An essential calendar fixture for all schools,  
Thursday 2nd March, this year, it falls!  
Never forgotten by us at SJP,  
Exciting activities took place as you will now see...

Having gracefully received a one pound voucher to spend on a book,  
To see our school's celebrations, you excitedly had to look!  
A two sentence horror story, you may have decided to devise,  
Or you could have created your own Manga... all World Book Day events making us wise!  
A masked reader was displayed in every lesson,  
All students scrambled to guess the right teacher in each session!  
Here at Saint John Payne we fully embraced this special Day,  
Wait; you thought that was all that there was to say?

PSHE lessons jam-packed full of book-passion,  
This event made reading the fantastic new fashion!  
Growing rapidly in countless different ways,  
DEAR Time, is vital to us and deserves much praise!

All children should have the right to read,  
We are the people in the future who will lead!  
The National Literacy Trust says, "Children reading is on a decline,"  
As a school body, we know that this is not fine!

A sanctuary for when - after a long day - you feel tired or sore,  
Book Day continues to set forth a notion of stories galore, forevermore!  
For those who are not as privileged to own books at home,  
Please come to our fantastic library where book lovers are free to roam!

So, let's celebrate reading: a gift which comes to no end,  
For many people, their favourite book can be their best friend!  
World Book Day is overwhelmed by the message of equality,  
Stunning stories should be present for all and not just the minority!



# Health & Social Care- KS4



Pupils have been working hard preparing for their first piece of coursework. For their final lesson before Easter they had a visitor from Florrie, where they compared the life changes in comparison to her as a one year old.



***An excellent team performance!***

# KEY SCHOOL EVENTS





# Modern Languages Year 7 day trip to the Opal Coast

On Monday 20th February 2023 SJP travelled abroad for the third time since the pandemic! 49 year 7 students and 5 members of staff enjoyed a first-hand French experience interacting with natives in and around Boulogne for the day. Not only did the students use French to get by, but they absorbed the local culture and its local traditions of chocolate at Beussent Lachelle, chocolate factory. For some it was their first time travelling by ferry and for others they would never have before walked the streets of the beautiful town of Boulogne. The day culminated in a visit to Nausicaa, the sea life centre before enjoying the return trip home on the ferry.

This message from a thankful parent summarises the lasting impact:

*"I just wanted to say thank you so much for organising and running such a fantastic trip to France for Year 7. He had a brilliant time and got so much from the day. The whole day sounded fantastic and well thought out. It's been lovely hearing about it. It's a great experience for the children, to get to travel abroad without their parents, see new places and a different culture, visit fun and interesting places, practise their French, build on new friendships, and even just make their own decisions about how to spend their time, money etc! Thanks for all your hard work. Hope you're not too exhausted!"*

*A year 7 parent*

**Mr Bellworthy, Head of Languages**



**"An excellent experience, thank you  
Mr Bellworthy. Year 7 Student"**

# SJP Ski Trip Piancavallo 2022-23

This year the ski trip returned to the fabulous Piancavallo ski resort in Italy. Following a long journey, we woke up to lovely blue skies and pristine slopes. After meeting the ski instructors, the pupils embarked on 6 days of fantastic skiing. As always, the ski instructors were absolutely amazing. They were friendly, encouraging and great fun to be around. Après ski activities included a quiz, bingo, a pizza night, disco and ice-skating.

The progress the pupils made during the week was amazing to see and it was really nice to hear them encourage each other on the slopes. Hopefully the pupils will be able to take the skills they learnt with them and I know many are hoping to hit the slopes again sometime soon!



***This year the ski trip returned to the fabulous Piancavallo ski resort in Italy. Thank you team SJP. Mr Keylock***



# Jack Petchey- SJP



Jeneta O has been awarded a Jack Petchey award for her serving the SJP community with effectiveness in so many ways during her time with us. In September a student had a fit on the field and Jeneta calmly administered first aid techniques - she demonstrated a maturity much older than her years. She knew exactly what to do and was very helpful when the paramedics arrived as she knew all about the students' past seizures and the medications they were currently taking. The whole of the SJP community is so very proud of her.



***"The whole of the SJP community is so very proud of you Jeneta." Mrs Adams***

## Speak Out with Year 10 – by Satyam C

We are excited to announce that our Year 10 students are participating in Jack Petchey's Speak Out Challenge this year. This is a public speaking competition that aims to motivate young people to speak up and be heard.

The Speak Out Challenge is a yearly competition that is open to students from Year 10. It gives them the opportunity to develop their public speaking skills and boosts their confidence, while also sharing their views on things that are close to them.

The Speak Out Challenge is a fantastic opportunity for our students to develop needed life skills, such as communication, critical thinking, and self-confidence. The Speak Out Challenge is more than just a competition. In fact, it's a chance for young people's voices and perspectives to be heard.

The students practiced their speeches all day and received feedback from their peers to present it at the end. Out of the 31 students a few were selected to move on to the next round, where they would speak in front of an assembly.

The selected students prepared for the challenge over the past few weeks. They practiced their speeches and received feedback from Mr. Godfrey, who gladly took time to practice with them.

And after weeks of preparation with Mr. Godfrey, our students were able to present their speeches to Year 8 successfully.

The finalist is due to be announced shortly.



*The finalist is due to be announced shortly.*



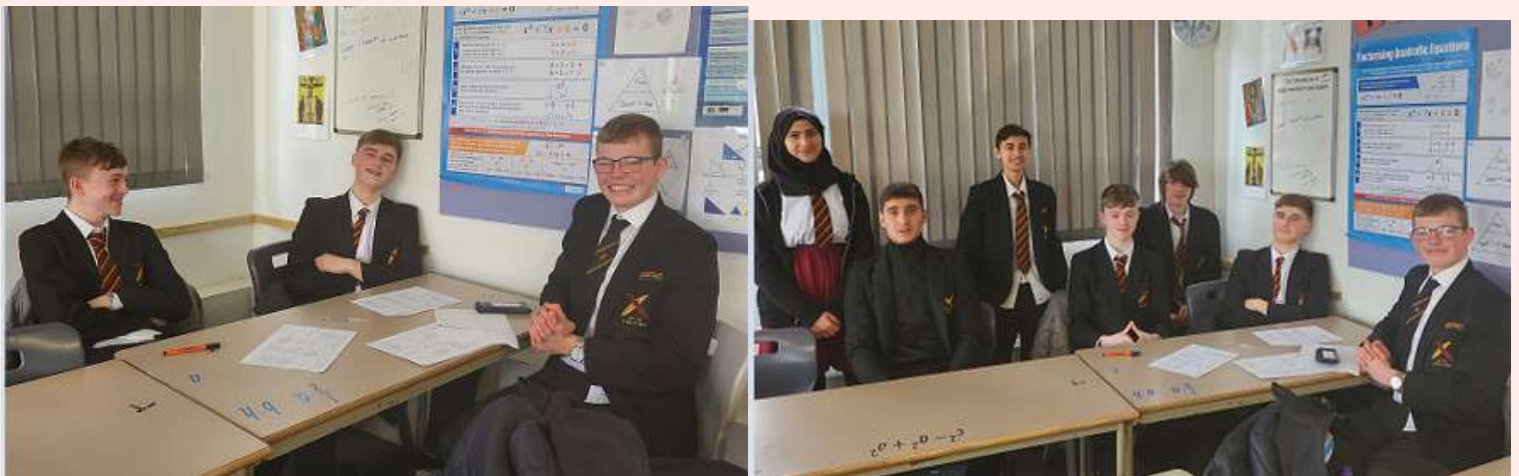
# Mathematics Spring Newsletter

## Functional skills in mathematics

Over the past 6 years the maths department have worked outside of curriculum time to offer alternative pathways in mathematics. One of the big success stories is Functional Mathematics and we are delighted that this programme has now been integrated into our curriculum time. Thank you to Mrs Machin and Mrs Green for, voluntarily, establishing this.

We can announce that the students in year 11 Functional Maths class have passed various examinations within Functional Maths.

Three students in Year 11 who have worked closely with myself, Mrs Machin and Mrs Green over the past 2 years have passed their Level Two Award in Functional maths – this qualification is equivalent to a GCSE pass at G5 – Congratulations!



The Functional maths class have worked really hard over the last 2 years. All students have passed different levels of their Functional maths qualifications from E1/2/3 to L1/2. These qualifications are recognised by schools, colleges and other post 16 routes. Congratulations to the class!

**We are looking forward to our next cohort of Functional skill mathematicians!**



**Mrs O'Leary and the SJP mathematics team**

# Mathematics Spring Newsletter

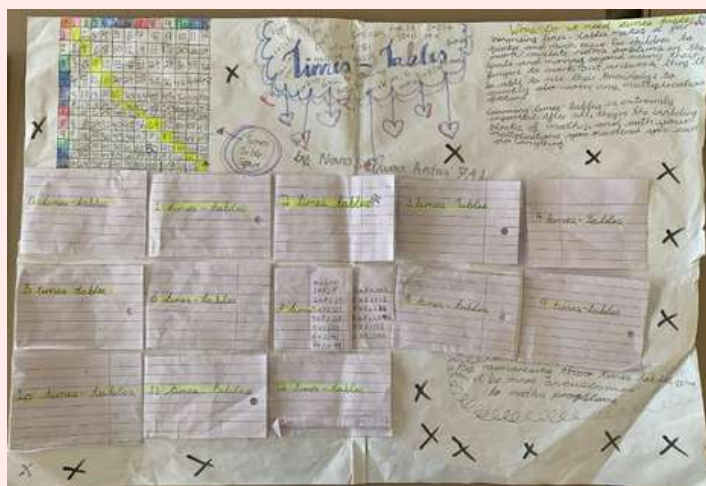
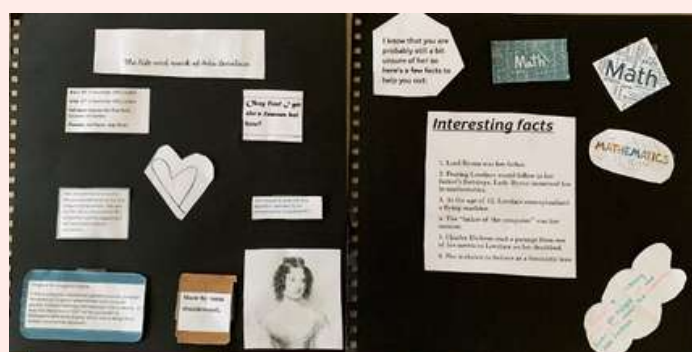
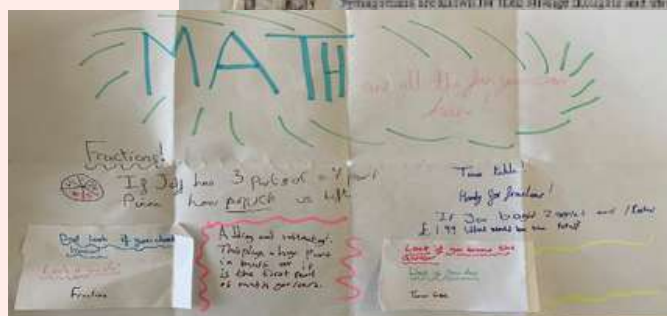
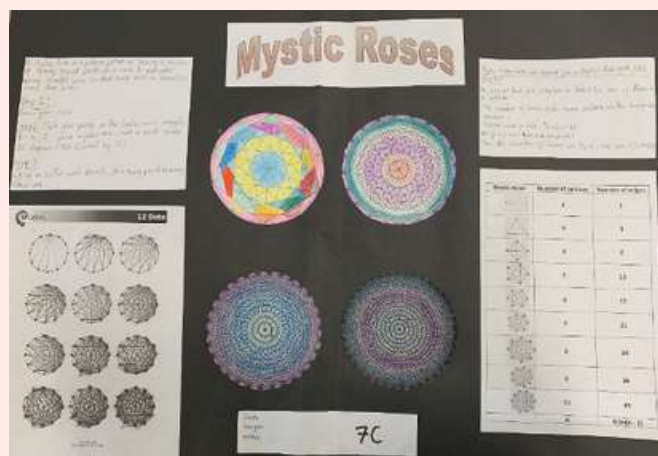
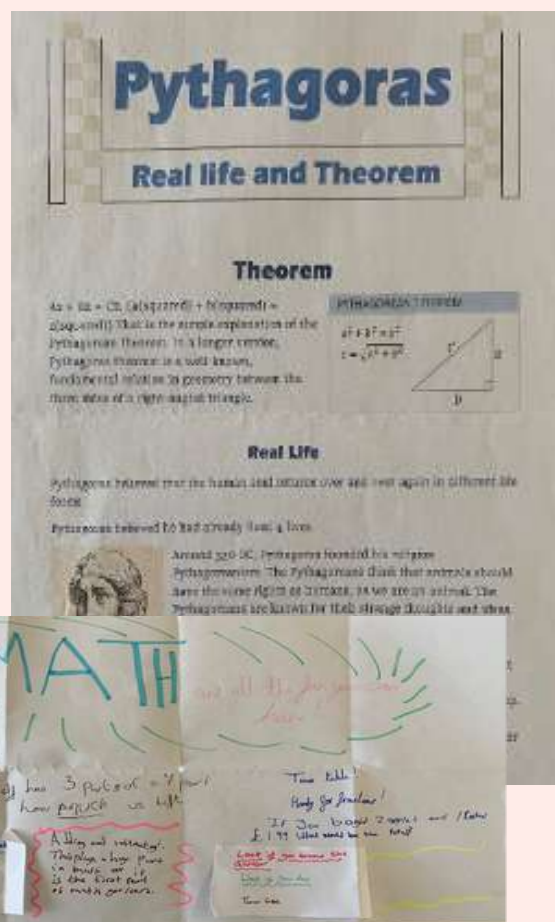
## Inter-House Maths Competition by Mr Newman

In January and February, students from all houses were challenged to produce a display on anything mathematical. The best display would then be awarded 600 house points for the competitor(s) house. We were pleased to see displays on a variety of topics, including Mystic Roses, Pythagoras' Theorem and Fermi problems. The standard of the entries was very impressive.

Connie Ashton-Tyler's display on Women in Mathematics was difficult to match and so, with two other excellent entries from 7A, first place went to Augustinians.

**The full placings were:**

**1st place – Augustinians 2nd Place – Carmelites 3rd Place – Franciscans**





# Maths cultural Capital – Ultimate Frisbee National Competition – Mrs Machin



On the 3rd & 4th March the Ultimate Frisbee team went and competed in their first ever tournament – the U14 Nationals. After an adventurous journey to Wolverhampton, we had an excellent weekend. They all played some amazing competitive ultimate, improving a lot over the weekend and having lots of fun!

**We would like to take this opportunity to thank all students for their hard work over the past academic year – have a safe summer and we look forward to welcoming you back in September.**

**Mrs O'Leary and the SJP mathematics team**



# Mathematics Spring Newsletter

## Logic Grid Puzzles

The regular logic grid puzzles continue to be issued, with the current challenge due on 17th April. These are a great and fun way to practice verbal and non-verbal reasoning skills, and every complete entry is awarded with 5 house points. It has been great to see so many students getting involved already and we would love to see even more entries next time.

## SPARX

Students have embraced the new homework and revision online learning site. Please make sure that you continue to complete your compulsory SPARX work that is set every Wednesday and due in every Monday.

With end of year assessments, along with GCSE examinations coming up, try to complete your target work or XP boost to ensure that you are best prepared.

## UKMT maths challenges – Mr Acton

Congratulations to all of the year 9, 10 and 11 pupils who took part in the UK Intermediate Maths Challenge. In total 41 pupils received bronze and silver certificates.

Maxwell R (yr10) and Seamus O (yr9) received Gold certificates. Seamus was invited to take part in the follow-on Kangaroo competition.





# Auschwitz project



On the 1st of March, we both got the honourable opportunity to travel to Poland and visit the Auschwitz Museum and Memorial with the Lessons from Auschwitz project. This project, set up by the Holocaust Educational Trust, is an eye-opening experience that aims to teach young people about the Holocaust and its relevance today in a profound way to reveal what can occur if prejudice and racism become tolerable. From taking in all the overwhelmingly humbling sights and shocking information to feeling a sense of pride in being able to bear witness to victims, this project is truly vital to anyone who wants to educate themselves and others. The project undoubtedly achieved its aim, as we bore witness to all those effected, through the reflection on the vast number of names written in the book of victims, the harrowing sight of their belongings, and the beautiful memorial service to pay respect. Our group leader Jamie was trustworthy and passionate- allowing us to truly understand the depth of the information given, not just as statistics, but the life experiences of actual people.

I am honoured to have been a part of this amazing experience- it has shaped my view of the world and given me the confidence to share this with others. Being able to indulge in the sights of the significant village of Oswiecim, and the Auschwitz 1 and Birkenau camps opened my eyes and brought the victims lives closer- not just as a topic in history but as the genocide that left children without parents and parents without children.

The book containing the names of the victims in Auschwitz 1 was a shocking sight that is still incomprehensible to me. It revealed the enormous size of the scar left on the Jewish nation, made so hurtfully blatant through the 4 million names written on massive pages in tiny font- spanning the entire length of the room. This book of names told me more than any history textbook- proving that this experience has enriched my knowledge and compassion further than the classroom. The ability to learn about life before Nazi rule, life in the camp and how survivors survived is something you cannot read about in a textbook- that's why this experience was so unique and eye-opening. As the project highlights, and I experienced, hearing is not the same as seeing. – Ruby L

One thing that stuck with me were the words of the Rabbi that came along with us on our trip- he stated that, "People ask me 'where was God?' and I tell them - you're asking the wrong question! Where was MAN? God was always there - weeping with them (the victims of the holocaust) at the state of mankind".

I think this is one of the most important lessons to take from the Holocaust - what can happen when humanity is absent. We need to humanise the victims of the holocaust – putting names to all those affected as achieved by the Book of Names but also preserving sites such as Auschwitz that have rooms with great quantities of personal properties of the prisoners e.g. the piles of shoes of different sizes including those that were owned by children. The sites serve as a physical reminder of the brutal history and persuades us to be more conscious of the choices we make. This is where it has contemporary relevance -although they committed atrocities, dismissing the perpetrators as simply 'evil' or 'monsters' prevents us from understanding that these people were also human beings that were in fact capable of being compassionate and loving. Thus, their actions were the result of the society they lived in – a society built up upon misguided beliefs, racism and prejudice. Therefore, today it is necessary to promote peace and social cohesion whilst also remembering and bearing witness to those murdered, tortured and affected by the Holocaust.. – Julia S

**"People ask me 'where was God?' and I tell them – you're asking the wrong question! Where was MAN? God was always there – weeping with them (the victims of the holocaust) at the state of mankind".**

# Auschwitz project



**“People ask me ‘where was God?’ and I tell them – you’re asking the wrong question! Where was MAN? God was always there – weeping with them (the victims of the holocaust) at the state of mankind”.**



A massive THANK YOU to everyone who donated in support of the CAFOD appeal to raise money for the victims of the earthquakes in Turkey and Syria. We raised a total of **£1632.**

Thank you to the student leadership team for coordinating our fundraising, and for hosting a bake sale at short notice.

***Mrs Fearn***



# Literacy & Library News



## WORLD BOOK DAY

On world book day the library celebrated by hosting a number of contests. Two whole school literacy contests were available for the entire month of march: The 2 Sentence Horror Story Contest and the Design-Your-Own Manga/Comic Contest.

The library also hosted an Inter-House Book Quiz on Friday the 3rd of March, form representatives gathered in the library to compete head-to-head in a book knowledge quiz. The competition was close resulting in a tie between the Augustinians and the Benedictines!

Teachers also celebrated by dressing up as a character from a book or film.

The whole school dedicated their PHSE lesson to WBD by participating in Mini Book Quizzes, learning more about the charity and doing various contests and games related to reading.

## THE JUNIPER AWARDS

Students have participated in a book club with a twist: the Juniper awards!

Students who joined the Juniper awards book club took turn reading and swapping short-listed Juniper books, after having read all the short-listed titles students were able to vote for their favourite. At the end of this term participating students were invited to join the Juniper award ceremony hosted via Teams, the organisers and authors spoke about all the books and announced the winners!

## STUDENT LIBRARIANS

A big Congratulations to our newly appointed student librarians who have already started making the library a more amazing place:

ENYA P 7S  
ORLA M 7F  
XAVIER G 7F  
ELLIE-MAY R 8A

HONOR M 8B  
JACOB B 8B  
TIMOTHY B8B  
KIERAN J 8C

FREDDIE G 8S  
ONYI N 9A  
TIA E 10C  
HANNAH Y 12C

# Literacy & Library News



**WORLD BOOK DAY**

## 2 SENTENCE HORROR STORY CONTEST

TITLE: **Trail + Error**

NAME& FORM: **Orla M 7F**

Trying to defuse the bomb again-2 seconds left. And failure yet aga-

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**WORLD BOOK DAY**

## 2 SENTENCE HORROR STORY CONTEST

TITLE: **Darkness**

NAME& FORM: **Nathan O 8S**

I was always able to see a year into the future. Today, all I could see was darkness.

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# PASTORAL CARE, MENTAL HEALTH & WELLBEING

ACL

## FREE SESSIONS FOR FAMILIES

Join by scanning here:



### Raising Boys

Monday 30th Jan/6th Feb 23  
9:30-11:30am

### Understanding Children

Tuesday 31st Jan/7th/21st/28th Feb 23  
9:30 -11:30am

### Confident Cooking on a budget

Tuesday 31st Jan  
12:30-1:30pm

### Fussy Eaters

Tuesday 31st Jan/7th Feb 23  
12:30-1:30pm

### Valentine's Family Day Ideas

Wednesday 1st Feb  
9:30-11:30am

### Top tips to make your money go further

Thursday 2nd Feb 23  
12:30-1:30pm

### Where to go for cost of living support

Thursday 2nd Feb 23  
6:00-7:00pm

### Explain cost of living to your child

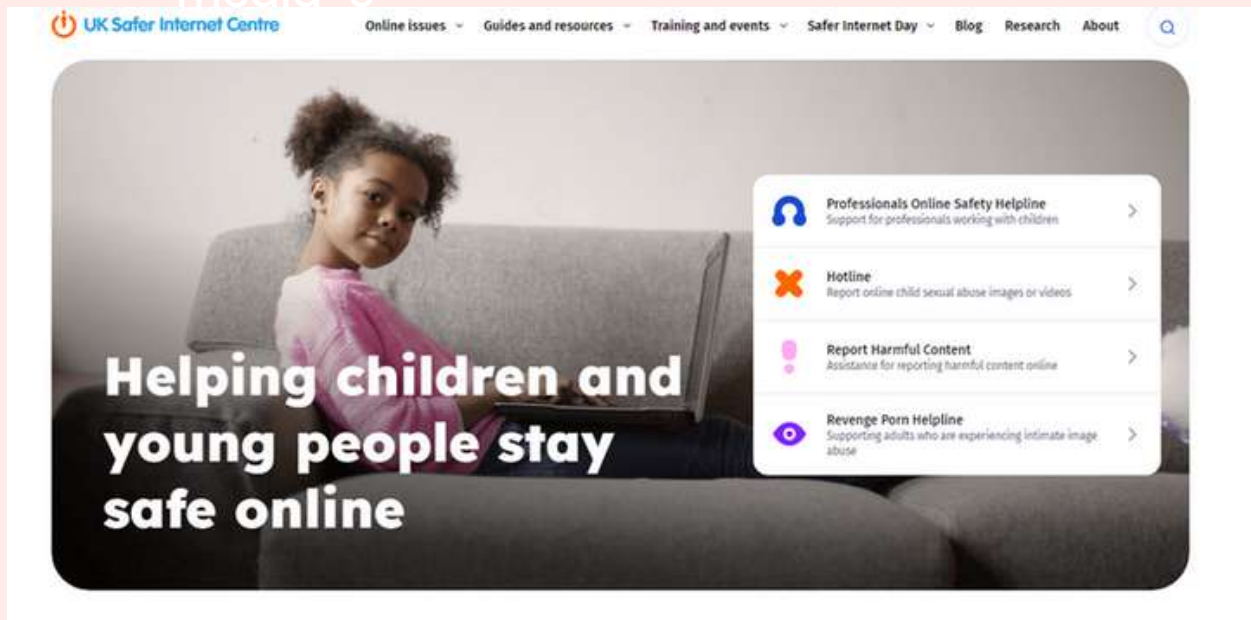
Friday 3rd Feb 23  
12:30-1:30pm





# E-SAFETY

Social media is a website or app that enables users to communicate and engage with others online. Users can share information such as posts, pictures, or videos, and users can respond through varying levels of engagement such as comments, reactions, or 'likes'.



Social media is a website or app that enables users to communicate and engage with others online. Users can share information such as posts, pictures, or videos, and users can respond through varying levels of engagement such as comments,

# Got a degree you're not really using? Thinking about becoming a teacher?



Robert, former School Direct trainee

Find out how you can **gain qualified teacher status (QTS)**, and an optional **post-graduate certificate in education (PGCE)** through the **Essex School Direct** initial teacher-training programme.

Join the next Essex School Direct online information event:

**Tuesday 21 February, from 7.30pm**

Scan the QR code to view our events and register for the latest one via Eventbrite, or visit our website:

<https://www.essex schooldirect.com/events/>



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**Visit:** <https://www.essex schooldirect.com>







*The Lord Is Risen!*

*Happy Easter!*