

ST JOHN PAYNE



AVITA PRO FIDE



NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2023

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Headteacher: Mr Thomas Coen, BA (Hons), PGCE, MA, NPQH*



HEADTEACHER'S COMMENTS

Dear St John Payne Community

I am pleased to congratulate Mr Farrugia on his appointment as Deputy Headteacher, complementing the strength of Mrs Iciek's continued service to ensure our leadership and mission continues to offer the children in our care the very best Catholic education.

I also thank pastoral mentors Mr Cullers and Mrs Knevett as they depart our community, and I wish Mrs Lansdell and Mrs Conway a long and happy retirement following respectively sixteen and twenty years of fantastic service as much valued members of the technology department.

The half-term began with the community uniting in prayer at our All Saints Masses, followed by remembrance of our beloved departed - for the first time within the school day to include the children we serve. We thank Fr Paul, Fr Martin, Fr Damien, Fr Paschal and all our Deanery priests for their friendship in bringing Christ to our community, and for offering the Sacrament of Reconciliation to almost three hundred children last week. In recent weeks we have been blessed by Fr Paschal visiting for Adoration during Thursday lunchtimes, well attended by students and staff, and we continue to accompany students to the monthly Youth Mass at Brentwood Cathedral. All are welcome.

It was an honour to attend the House of Commons to receive the school's One Global Changemaker Award, nominated by Chelmsford MP Vicky Ford - a fantastic support to education across the city - for our welcome of refugee and displaced children from Ukraine & Afghanistan.





HEADTEACHER'S COMMENTS

Our diverse community comprising upwards of seventy-five nationalities and cultural heritages has been further enriched by our Ukrainian and Afghan children. For a community of Gospel values, the instinct to welcome testifies to the vocation of Catholic education to embrace those most in need.

The new members of our community quickly became immersed in all aspects of school life. In partnership with Essex Local Authority, the school has supported families as they have adjusted to life in Britain. As a Catholic community we reflect upon Joseph & Mary's flight. They and Christ were refugees, migrants fleeing persecution, seeking warmth and security in troubled times. We are proud to witness our common identity as people of God, responding with humanity, compassion and love.

It was lovely to affirm our former and current students' achievements last year at Monday's Certificate Evening. With Year 11 practice exams concluded, I thank the students for their maturity. Invigilators noted their responsibility, and it is nice to see results offer much cause for encouragement and a foundation upon which to build in next summer's public exams.



With each week of Advent beginning in traditional fashion with prayer and the lighting of our wreath, last night's Carol service was a joyous celebration as we continue to anticipate the coming of Christ.

We look forward to welcoming the students back to school on Monday 8th January. On behalf of us all, I offer the prayers of our community for a Holy, happy and restful Christmas & New Year.

In Faith, God Bless.

Thomas Coen- Headteacher.

CHAPLAINCY FAITH LIFE



Fr Paschal & Mrs Webb visited today to promote the thirteen Youth Alpha sessions, combining faith reflection with a meal and social time. The first is on 15th December, the last 3rd May 2024. The programme is open to students of all and of no faith background.

The Catholic tradition of the Advent wreath is a tradition that is near and dear to my heart. When I was growing up, it was one of the only ways we celebrated the liturgical year at home. My mum always used it as a way to keep Christmas focused on Christ, and she always said extra prayers for the season while lighting it. Each Monday the whole of the SJP community have come together for the lighting of the Advent wreath. We have enjoyed scripture, prayer and hymns – being together in preparation of the coming of Christ.

This year I have led an Advent Service to each year group. The focus has been on Hope for a world where kindness is at the heart of all we do, when it becomes as natural as breathing.

Adoration & The Rosary

The Chelmsford group of the Legion of Mary have continued to visit us on a Thursday lunchtime in the Chapel. We start the lunchtime club praying a decade of the rosary. The new addition of Adoration is now so highly attended that you often cannot see any carpet but instead a room filled with Christ's followers, giving thanks for our God. Fr Paschal has taught our students the importance to serve God under the banner of Mary, to bring Mary to the world by practicing spiritual works of mercy and through the sanctification of its members by the means of prayers and devotion to Mary and the Holy Trinity and doing apostolic works for the glory of God. The praise of God continues to grow each week.

Mass in December

This month has been a great month for Mass at SJP. Forms in Year 11 and 13 have enjoyed Mass in the chapel with Fr Paschal, Fr Matthias, Fr Martin and Fr Paul. The reverence was impeccable and the students took an active lead with readings and writing of the bidding prayers. The reverence displayed was outstanding, with students leading the Word of God and singing well-loved hymns.

Every Tuesday many staff members and students come together at 8am to celebrate in the best way we know how, morning Mass. We thank Fr Paschal for joining us every week and starting our day with the miracle of the Eucharist.

CHAPLAINCY FAITH LIFE



A beautiful Reconciliation
service and Youth Mass.

Rejoice! Rejoice!
@BrentwoodCYS



Advent Reconciliation

On Thursday 14th December, all students were invited to the sacrament of reconciliation. Over 280 catholic students received this healing and many other students joined for embrace silent prayer time with God.

Carol Service

During our Carol service yesterday evening, the students involved gave wonderfully joyous witness and reverence that was shared with all students this morning. Ever our greatest ambassadors, our whole student body continues to respond to their faith with great reverence and grace. I want to thank the many staff members who were instrumental in helping create the beauty in this service: Mr Venables, Mr Bellworthy and the student leadership team. On behalf of us all, I offer the prayers of our community for a Holy, happy and restful Christmas & New Year.

God bless
Lay Chaplain,
Katy Adams

*'O Come, O Come, Emmanuel.' We give thanks to Fr
Paschal for celebrating Mass for students & staff on
Tuesday mornings throughout the term. With prayers and
warmest wishes to our whole community for a Holy, happy
& restful Christmas season.*




STUDENT AWARDS



Student Awards



	Total Year Group Achievement Points	Highest Form Achievement points	Highest Achievement Points In the Year Group
Year 7	11,859	7D 3966	Annalise W- 7D 189 Achievement Points
Year 8	12,281	8F 2825	Abigail S- 8F 216 Achievement Points
Year 9	9,184	9F 2080	Freddie G- 9S 240 Achievement Points
Year 10	6,878	10D 1371	Ariel O- 10A 126 Achievement Points
Year 11	3,459	11B 860	Daniel B- 11C 96 Achievement Points

Student Awards



HOY Awards Term 1

Pixie C 7S- This term, the Head of Year Award is awarded to a student who has shown resilience, assertiveness and kindness.



Annaise W- 7D
189 Achievement Points



Eddie C-Eddie has shown resilience and kindness in his first term of year 8. He is a model student.



Abigail S- 8F
216 Achievement Points



Joe D 9A- A most deserving of winners and had the loudest cheer I have ever heard. The year group love him.



Freddie G- 9S
240 Achievement Points



Dorian J- His service to the faith life of the school not just in school hours but outside. Coming in early every Wednesday to prepare and serve in mass. He is also polite and encourages this behaviour in others.



Ariel O- 10A
126 Achievement Points



Livvie Sharp- For her perseverance, positive attitude, for having 100% attendance and having no behaviour points. Liv is a pleasure to have in the year group, is always respectful to staff and kind to peers.



Daniel B- 11C
96 Achievement Points



Year 12- Felix O for his contribution to the faith life of the school, including volunteering to participate in the HCPT pilgrimage to Lourdes.

Year 13- Niamh S for her service to the community, both inside and outside school, including leading a thriving MedSoc and maintaining her involvement with HCPT, which began in a pilgrimage to Lourdes at Easter.



SJP Linguastars– Autumn term 1b!



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

Autumn term 1a

There is nothing complicated about learning languages, but it takes hard work. These students have shown 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.

Year 7 French	Year 8 French	Year 8 German	Year 9 French	Year 9 German
Daniella O (7A)	Jessica M (8A)	Leon S (8A)	Abigail B (9B)	Kayah A (9A)
Aurana I (7B)	Emma F (8D)	Nicole K (8D)	Leonor P (9D)	Owen T (9C)
Joshua C (7C)	Abigail S (8 F)	Xavier G (8F)	Nathan O (9S)	Freddie G (9S)
Anderw M (7D)	Isabella C (8B)	Joel R (8B)	Manogyna (8B)	Manogyna K (9B)
Amelia S (7F)	Phoebe D (8C)	Francine N (8C)	Jayden D (9D)	Eloise S (9C)

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

Aurana I (7B) Excellent participation in class via repeating, guessing, translating and constant hand up to offer answers.

Isabella C (8B) Responsible student completing homework and classwork diligently.

Joel R (8B) Positive attitude and approaches his studies. He is keen to do well and puts a lot of effort in his work. As a result, he did very well in his last assessment.

Manogyna K (8B) Great attitude to learning and proactive in asking questions that benefit the whole class.

Manogyna K (9B) Excellent attitude to learning. Manogyna works to the best of his ability at all times and displays excellent manners and impeccable behaviour.

Erin W (10A) Erin has a fantastic attitude to learning. She completes all tasks to the best of her ability and has excelled in her last assessment.

Amelia J (10S) Amelia is conscientious and always pushes herself to produce excellent written work.

Fanci B (11D) Excellent written ability in a variety of tenses due to hard work at home and in lessons.

Tyler M (11C) Tyler has moved to Higher tier and participates well in class.

Ellen S (12A) Positive approach to learning and resilient attitude to vocabulary recall. Great spontaneity and intuition to learning and reusing new idiomatic vocabulary.

Lilli O (12F) Recorded speaking homework to improve fully formed sentences in speech.

Eve L (13C) Considerable improvement in essay writing over the year due to mature approach to text/film analysis. Very keen to demonstrate acquired vocabulary in long term memory.

Hannah Y (13C) Resilient redrafting leading to improved analysis, excellent recall of vocabulary and exceptional attitude to learning.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



Sporting Achievements



Jake R - Athletics



Jake joined Chelmsford Athletics Club in April this year on the advice of Mr Magee and was immediately asked to become part of the competing team. He has consistently achieved 1st place in the Eastern Youth Athletics league throughout his first season in his specialist sports - High jump, long jump and hurdles.

Jake has been recognised as emerging talent for a future in sports and was given a trophy for U13 jump of the year. He is ranked 1st in Essex and on a national level Jake is ranked 4th in the country. He participated in the Year 7 champs in the summer for St John Payne and jumped a whopping 1.63m breaking the school record which unofficially would place him 2nd in the UK.

Charlotte C - Hockey

Charlotte has earned a spot on the U13 Girls Essex County Junior Squad for Hockey. Only 20 girls got picked out of 48 who trialled over three 2-hour sessions. Charlotte has been playing hockey since year 2, and currently plays for the u14 girls academy team at Chelmsford Hockey Club and trains three times a week.



Theo- Year 12



Theo has joined the London Giants! Two years ago, Theo joined his first mixed netball club, Suffolk rockets, and had his first netball season with them. This year he was fortunate enough to be invited to play with the England invitational team at nationals in August where he got the opportunity to play with, and against some of the best Netball players in the country. Whilst at nationals, he was scouted by a coach from the Giants and was offered the opportunity to train with them for the upcoming season.

'It was my dream to play for Giants and I've recently signed with them to play in the national league. I train 3-5 times a week and am extremely dedicated to my training to be where I am today.'



Sporting Achievements



Well Done Artem!



Artem 7F represented St John Payne at the London Regional School Championships for Judo on 11th November and won a gold medal! Following on from this success, Artem competed at the NHC Regional School Championships on 26th November and again took home the gold medal! We are so proud of Artem's successes this term in his Judo competitions.



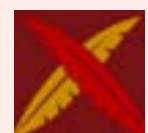
Football – Football has once again proven to be popular with pupils with over 75 attending our Thursday afterschool sessions, making it very competitive to get onto the school team for each year group. They also managed to score 14 goals and concede 0 in the games. Stand out player have been **Oscar E.**

Year 8 also have a 100% winning record after coming out as victors in a couple of very close and competitive games. This desire to win and work together as a team will hopefully stand them in good stead as the season continues. Well done to all of those involved in the matches but a special mention must go to our hat-trick hero **Romeo Y** and midfield maestro **Joseph W.**

Unfortunately, our year 10, 11 and 6th form teams did not have the same fortune in their cup competitions as they were all eliminated at an early stage of the competition. It has very unlucky for year 11 and 6th form who both lost their games by a margin of 1 goal.

Basketball – As always, the basketball buzz has taken over the sports hall at SJP. Pupils from years 7 to 13 have been given up mornings, lunch times and after school to fine tune their skills for the upcoming season. Year 7 have made a great start to both the MESSA league and Essex Cup group stage. Excellent performances from **Adrian O and Edward D** have led the way for the rest of their team.

Year 8 Have also began their **MESSA Campaign** with a strong result in their opening fixture but also give them plenty to improve on over the course of the next few months. Well Done to Freddie C for his player of the match performance



Sporting Achievements



Rugby

Rugby – The Rugby season is well underway at SJP, and with added motivation of the World cup being a hot topic of discussion during September and October the pupils need little extra motivation to get out and compete against other local schools at our annual waterfall festival.

Year 7 played their first competitive rugby for SJP in November and showed a lot of the skills they have picked up over the past few months with some fantastic performances from **Louis M and Terryima A-T.**

Year 8 had some mixed results during the first of their festivals but showed massive improvement in the second festival with some great victories and stand out performance from **Jake R.**

U13 & U15 girls football tournament

Well done to our U13 and U15 Football teams for their fantastic game play in the tournament at Plume Academy. Both teams showed brilliant attacking and defensive play.

A particular mention goes to Jess in the U13 team, who stepped up and played goalkeeper, saving a goal. Our sixth form coaches were a brilliant help leading warmups and giving feedback to the students throughout their games.

We look forward to our next games!



Girls teams update

We have had a lot of matches this half term. Y7-13 have played numerous netball matches which have been aided by our latest umpire, Theo. Year 8 are through to the next round of the Essex Cup Plate netball competition.

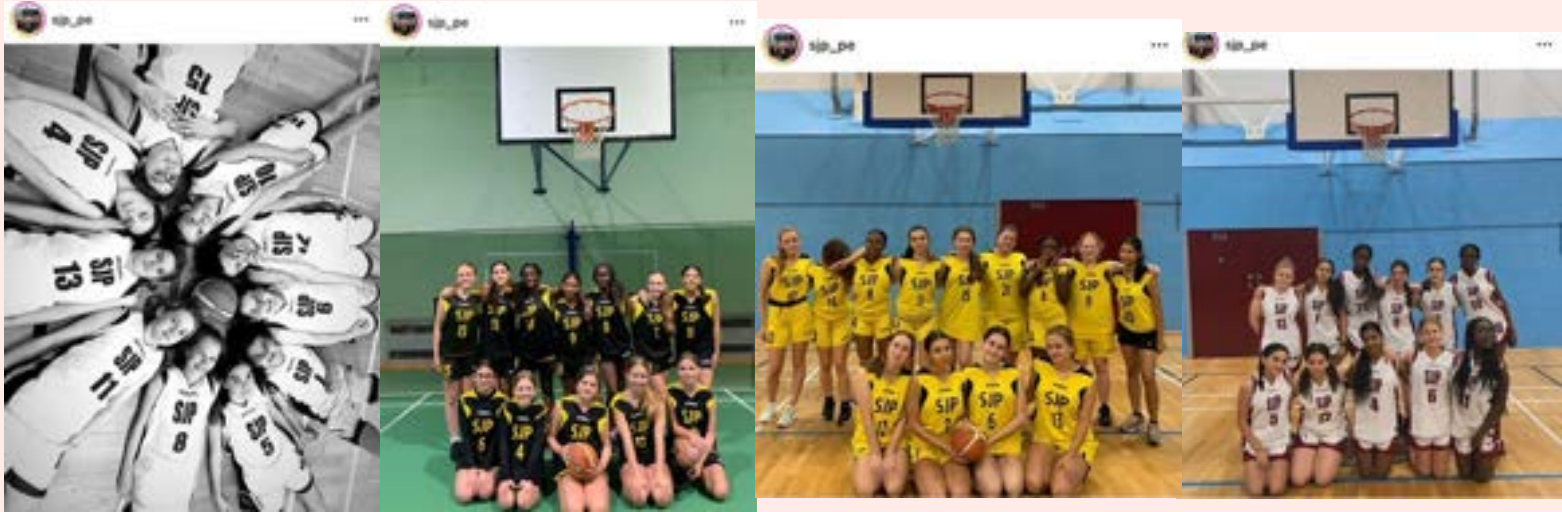


Sporting Achievements



Basketball

Thursday evenings have been busy with all Years' girls' basketball training. Year 7 have had numerous matches, thank you to Mr Ryan for taking this team on.



Our girls football has been slow to start with many rearranged fixtures but last week the girls managed to play at Chelmer Valley and had a great time despite the weather.



Cross country competitions

Since coming back after October Half-Term, our cross-country athletes have been very busy, competing in both the Cross-Country Cup and District Cross-Country Championships, all in the space of one week.

Of course, our students were absolutely outstanding and ran extremely well in both events, considering they had to run in downpours and boggy, muddy tracks.

Highlights included the Year 7 girls team who came 6th out of 20 teams and the Junior Boys who came 5th out of 25 teams.

Individual praise goes to **Annabel M** who came 16th in the Year 7 girls race and both **Jo D and Jack N** who came 7th and 9th respectively in the Junior boy's race, which will hopefully see them selected to represent the Mid Essex Team.

Earth Society & Faith Leaders



Season's greetings from Earth Society! At Earth Society, we are so proud of all the exceptional things that our community have come together to achieve this term. With Pope Francis' preaching on Care for Our Common Home as our inspiration, SJP's Earth Society has engaged in a wide variety of exciting and ambitious activities since September. From providing trees for Year 7 to nurture and grow, in collaboration with National Tree Week (in which we raised over £250 from your generous contributions), to planting beautiful bulbs for our school community to enjoy as well as offering reusable and biodegradable drinking bottles for sale to staff and students, fun lunchtimes of Christmas-decoration making as well as selling hot chocolate to raise funds for us to continue serving our school's amazing environment, there is something for everyone at our Earth Society. We even had an incredibly enjoyable Geography Quiz in PSHE to raise awareness for our vital aim of saving our planet!

Please look out for posters all around our school site for how to take part in future events, and know that you will always receive a warm welcome when taking part in Earth Society. Thank you so much for your kind donations and sensational support so far.



Freddie 9S



Congratulations to the Year 9 students who were awarded their Servant of Faith awards this term.

**Bradley P 9B, Samara 9A, Hrithik N 9A, Annette 9A, Aoife P 9S, Logan B, 9S
Freddie G 9S**



Mathematics– Autumn



It has been great to see the return of the KS5 maths and STEM enrichment trips.

On Wednesday 15th November 20 year 12 students attended Chelmsford Cathedral for a lecture on the physics/maths behind your one-time passcode along with the use of maths in transplant organs. It was a great day out, with 2 very different but inspirational speakers. Here are some comments from the students who attended.

‘The first speaker was very good at explaining things in a way that was easy to understand. The topic was quite mind-opening, and the practical's he did explained the basic theory to his talk very well. He really made me consider things I hadn't before, combining multiple parts of my A-levels together. Overall, the trip was excellent.’

‘The cathedral trip was enlightening and inspiring. The talks led me to think about careers in fields that I hadn't previously given any thought to. This was due to the interactive and attention-grabbing nature of both talks. The location of the event – the cathedral – made the experience even better. It was awe inspiring and I'm looking forward to the next event.’



On Wednesday 6th December, the year 12 students headed out to Anglia Ruskin University. The lecture was entitled ‘**The GB Team's Track Bike for The Tokyo Olympics**’ and was delivered by Professor Tony Purnell, former Head of Technology at British Cycling.

The Team GB track bicycle for the Tokyo 2020 Olympics caused a stir on its announcement. Its wide forks and unusual titanium-carbon frame were a radical departure from convention. Tony, former Head of Technology at British Cycling, will talk about how engineering helped Great Britain top the cycling medal table at the Tokyo games.

Students had the opportunity to ask about Tony's life as an Engineer and how they can progress, through school, university, or apprenticeships to help deliver the technology we will need to address the many challenges that we face.

Professor Tony Purnell FREng, FRSA was Head of Technical Development at British Cycling, where he worked across all aspects of technology – from improving data analysis to assisting the coaches with the development of organisational software and tools to optimise rider performance. Tony Purnell is Visiting Professor at Cambridge University Engineering Department, and an Honorary Fellow at Trinity Hall Cambridge.



Mathematics– Autumn



UKMT – Individual challenge update

The Senior Maths Challenge again took place in Bosco Hall, involving all A level maths and Further Maths students. 25 students received a bronze certificate,

7 students received a silver award, and 1, **David Ashton Tyler in Year 13**, received a gold award, gaining entry to the follow-on Kangaroo round. Alex Farrow was the highest-scoring year 12 student.

Congratulations to all of the students who were involved.



Maths enrichment report, Autumn 2023

This term we've continued to provide monthly mathematical challenges for our students to complete. The response rate has been fantastic, so many thanks to all who have submitted entries – and to parents for encouraging them. Our December challenge is due in at the start of January, and we hope for as many as possible to get involved. Based on some of the Decision Mathematics problems we study in Year 12 Further Maths, we hope students are inspired to try something “completely different”.

Remember – 5 house points are awarded for each valid submission. Please hand in your completed submission to Mr Newman or any of the maths teacher.

In addition to the monthly challenges, we've been pleased to see other students get involved in other ways too.

Mr Acton's weekly chess club continues to be very popular. Open to all, there's a really exciting buzz in the room every Friday lunchtime. Come along to see what all the fuss is about!



Silent Film Study Day



On Thursday 30th November, the Year 12 and Year 13 A-Level film studies students went on a day trip to a Silent Film study day at BFI Southbank. As part of our film Studies course involves studying silent film, this day was beneficial for both years. The year 12s are currently studying silent film, so it was useful for them to get extra information about the context of silent films. For the year 13s it was a useful revision day for our upcoming mocks.

The day was spent in the auditorium at BFI Southbank with a break midday for lunch. In the morning, we attended a lecture by Matthew Daintrey-Hall, where he taught us about the film movements and aesthetics of silent film. We looked at an overview of silent film and its characteristics and then focused on 4 different film movements: Realism, German Expressionism, Constructivism and American Silent Film Comedy. I thought the lecture was amazing as I was able to revise what I knew about German Expressionism while also learning about different film movements I didn't previously know about. I liked how the lecture was set up where Matthew Daintrey-Hall would give us an overview of each film movement and its characteristics and then play a clip from a silent film that was within that movement. After each clip, we had a couple of minutes to write down on a handout sheet what characteristics of the movement we were able to see within the clip, after which we had an open discussion with the whole auditorium to discuss our ideas. Hearing other people's ideas, from both our school and other schools, helped develop our knowledge of silent film and I found it especially helpful as other people would point out ideas I have never thought of before. This took up the morning, after which we broke for lunch.

When we came back in the afternoon, we started by watching the silent film we are studying, *Sunrise: A Song of Two Humans*, which was accompanied by live pianist Neil Brand. *Sunrise* was originally released with a soundtrack of music and sound effects so that everyone's viewing of the film would be the same. So, it was really interesting to hear a different soundtrack to the movie as I am used to the original. I liked how the piano brought a new meaning to the characters and highlighted elements of the actors' performance that I hadn't seen before. For example, I originally thought that the wife was completely naïve about her husband's plans to kill her, but Brand's accompaniment helped to highlight Janet Gaynor's performance and I was able to see how the wife was slightly suspicious of her husband and what he might be planning. The only thing that was strange to me was watching this movie, but not hearing any of the sound effects I'm used to as they cannot be created on a piano. Despite this, it was fascinating to see how Neil Brand created certain sound effects on the piano and how he incorporated the other sounds into the music he was playing.

After we had watched the movie, we had a Q&A session with Neil Brand that was hosted by Matthew Daintrey-Hall. He asked Brand some initial questions to get the discussion started and then opened it up to the students for us to ask questions. I enjoyed hearing Brand's explanation for why he played the music the way he did and was amazed to find out he completely improvised the entire piece. By the time the Q&A finished, the day was over and we returned home.

Overall, the study day was a helpful revision tool as a year 13 and I enjoyed hearing the different perspectives about silent film, especially *Sunrise*, from both students and Neil Brand. Matthew Daintrey-Hall was an amazing teacher and Neil Brand was a fantastic pianist, I learnt so much from them both. I enjoyed the day immensely and I know all the other students did too.

KEY SCHOOL EVENTS



Performing Arts Department *Drama*



Tickets are now on sale for this year's production of
THE ADDAMS FAMILY MUSICAL!

The cast of 65 students, from years 7 to 13, have been working tirelessly both at lunchtimes and afterschool rehearsing this fantastic show.

'THE ADDAMS FAMILY, a comical feast that embraces the wackiness in every family, features an original story and it's every father's nightmare: Wednesday Addams, the ultimate princess of darkness, has grown up and fallen in love with a sweet, smart young man from a respectable family– a man her parents have never met. And if that wasn't upsetting enough, Wednesday confides in her father and begs him not to tell her mother. Now, Gomez Addams must do something he's never done before– keep a secret from his beloved wife, Morticia. Everything will change for the whole family on the fateful night they host a dinner for Wednesday's "normal" boyfriend and his parents.'

Tickets are available now on ParentPay - £7/£5 concession.
Please buy your tickets in advance, we sadly had to turn people away last year.
Performance dates: Thursday 1st February & Friday 2nd Feb 2024 – 7pm



Performing Arts Department Music



DJ & Music Production Workshops

Nine Year 9 boys who had demonstrated a keen interest in music, especially in creating rhythms, were selected at the start of the Autumn term to take part in a series of DJ & Music Production workshops provided by Essex Music Services as part of a Year of Numbers project.

The students worked with passion and enthusiasm every week with Alexander Mercier aka 'Shy Cookie', co-founder/producer/official DJ of The House & Garage Orchestra and producer for DJ Luck and MC Neat, learning how to mix music and create original sets.

The sessions culminated in the boys performing what they had learnt to their form group during a music lesson. The student's skill blew their peers away and it was not long before everyone was out of their seat dancing and enjoying the music. Watch this space for more information about future opportunities to learn how to produce music and DJ.

Well done to all the boys involved: Charlie A, Manogyna K David E, Chester B, Charlie B, Leo J, Evan L, Alfie M, Nathan O.



Live Music Performance at Madelayne Court



Amelia M, Year 13, completed her 'Live Music Performance' module for the RSL Music Practitioners course this week. Amelia had to plan and deliver every aspect of her performance from start to finish and Freddie Smith kindly accompanied her on acoustic guitar. They were a credit to SJP and the residents and staff at Madelayne Court thoroughly enjoyed the performance and were left feeling very festive. Well done Amelia.

Performing Arts Department

Dance



Jack Petchey trip to see 'Crazy for You'



This term saw both **Erin B and Tamsin C** Year 13, win Jack Petchey awards for their service to the school community and their dedication to the Performing Arts Department. For their reward they chose to organise a trip for the Year 11, 12 & 13 Dance & Drama students to see a West End show 'Crazy for You', a show that really celebrates musical theatre. The 21 students who attended were blown away by the dancing and singing of the 34 strong cast and were so grateful to be generously offered this opportunity by Tamsin and Erin through the Jack Petchey foundation. The Year 11 Dance Arts Awards students will also be reviewing this show as part of the Silver Arts Award they are completing this year

DANCE ARTS AWARD STUDENT OF THE TERM

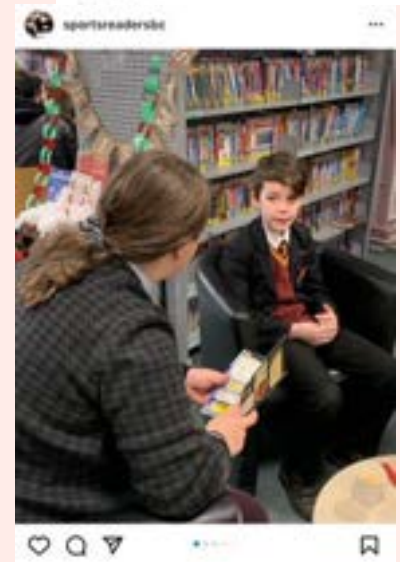


Congratulations to **Marney H**, Year 10, for being selected as this term's student of the term in Dance. Marney has showed excellent leadership skills this term by confidently leading workshops for her peers in dance lessons, sharing her talents and dance knowledge that she has gained through studying dance outside of school from a young age. It has been wonderful to see Marney grow in confidence and develop her coaching skills. Well done Marney

Sports Readers & Kids Inspire 2023



'Sports Readers' is a great programme designed to develop and improve literacy skills through an interest in sport. Two mornings a week, the Year 12 leaders meet with their younger buddies for some breakfast, social time and then some reading. The younger buddies read their books whilst the Year 12 leader supports and helps them. For each book there are questions and worksheets to complete which helps the buddy to further understand and comprehend their reading. Literacy skills are so important in order to access all areas of the curriculum. However, the programme also offers the opportunity for discussion, helping all involved to improve social skills and to build relationships. Overall, sports readers is a fun and interactive programme that is beneficial for everyone; I am very glad that I took the opportunity to be involved.



Tilda C



Thank you to everyone in the school community who contributed - either with a gift or your time – to the Kids Inspire Christmas Appeal. We took 4 year 9's to the the Kids inspire headquarters to deliver the hampers and gift that had been collected. Thank you to the staff who promoted the appeal, the students who contributed and the amazing Year 9 elves who helped check and prepare all the hampers. You are all wonderful.

Merry Christmas, from Mrs Coleman

Sixth Form News



Fancy Dress Friday – Little Havens Hospice (03.11.23)

Sixth form students held their annual Fancy Dress Friday on 3rd November.

This year, the students have chosen Little Havens Hospice as the target for our fundraising. The community raised over £447.38



Madelayne Court Care Home. Amelia and Freddie (Yr13 Music students) performed brilliantly with such confidence giving the residents a lovely afternoon. One resident was on his feet for all of the songs!



Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas.
Mrs Williams



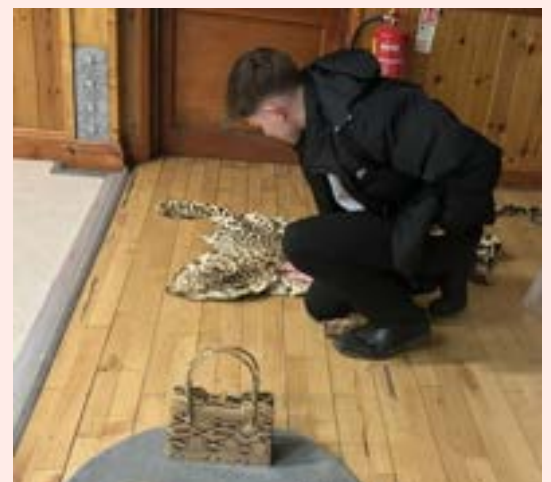
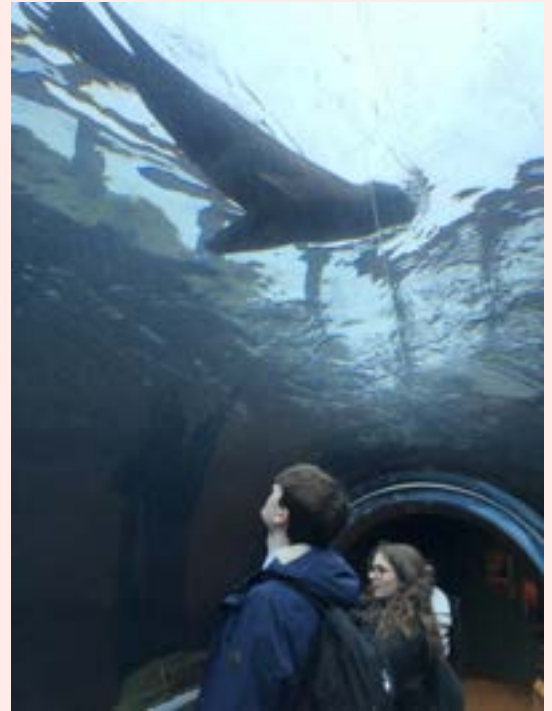
A Level Environmental Science trip to Colchester Zoo



On a wet Thursday morning in the middle of December Year 12 Environmental Science students embarked upon the first trip of this brand new A Level. The purpose was to support the theory being taught at school and enrich their understanding and awareness of wildlife conservation. A member of the Zoo's Education Department expertly demonstrated the role of Colchester Zoo in local and global conservation education and research. The students were able to examine and discuss a number of wildlife items, mostly the consequences of illegal poaching confiscated by border control. The students were excellent representatives of the SJP community and provided clear evidence of their expanding understanding of the need for conservation to preserve the planet's biodiversity. Thank you to all SJP staff who made the trip possible. The highlight of the day for most of us was the time spent seeing the Red Pandas!

Miss L Dabbs

Teacher of Geography and Environmental Science and Assistant Head of Geography



Year 13 History trip to the Tower of London



Just before October half term, Year 13 History students went to the Tower of London for the day. There they took part in a workshop examining whether or not there was a mid-Tudor crisis; were the problems during Edward VI, Mary I and the early years of Elizabeth I's reigns a time of trouble within the country.

After an introduction from our guide, telling us the different uses different monarchs had for the Tower, we were taken around the site. Here students were shown graffiti/engravings made by prisoners. Firstly, engravings made by protestant prisoners under Mary and then Catholic prisoners under Elizabeth, including in the part of the Tower where St John Payne would likely have been held. Students were challenged to consider what they could suggest about the conditions prisoners were kept in and the reasons for their imprisonment based upon the style of the engravings.

We were also shown some key sites, such as the spot of Anne Boleyn's execution, and challenged to think about like history myths, such as how could Elizabeth I and Robert Dudley ever have fallen in love at the Tower when they were both imprisoned in different areas. Students then had some free time to explore other areas of the Tower, including the White Tower, the Crown Jewels and the café!

Year 13 were a credit to the school. They engaged with our guide really well and behaved wonderfully throughout our day. Well done Year 13. Thank you to Ali, our pastoral mentor, for joining us for the day too.



Mrs Cameron-McIntosh



Literacy & Library News



The St. John Payne Library recently marked a successful Non-fiction November, with a reading challenge that motivated children to dive into a wide range of reading material, from grocery lists to scientific journals. The challenge offered students the opportunity to earn House Points based on the difficulty and length of their reading selections. The event not only encouraged children to explore new genres and topics but also helped them to improve their reading skills in a fun and engaging way.



To inspire a new generation of writers, the library recently hosted a thrilling writing challenge from Young Writers. The challenge, dubbed 'THE GLITCH', urged students to write short stories about a glitch in reality and its impacts. All year groups were welcome to enter the competition and showcase their creative writing talents. To prepare, year 7 students were given time during their literacy classes to plan out their stories. The results were truly impressive, with a plethora of imaginative and creative stories submitted from all year groups. Take a moment to read some of the stories submitted by our gifted students and experience the magic of their storytelling abilities firsthand...

It was a normal day, my alarm went off, and I had breakfast, but when I was walking to school, I looked at my watch, 8:25 I wasn't late -for once- but then I walked past the video game store - maybe I had time for one game. When I walked outside the shop, I looked at my watch, still 8:25, and I was sure it had been at least 10 minutes.

When I got to school, I looked at my watch again - 8:25; now it was really weird so I kept looking at it thinking another minute would pass any second now...

NON-FICTION NOVEMBER READING CHALLENGE		
DO SOME READING FROM A NON-FICTION BOOK TO COMPLETE EACH CATEGORY AND EARN HP		
BOOK TYPE	TITLE, AUTHOR & COMMENT	HP
Recipe Book		+2
Biography		+3
Newspaper		+2
Auto-Biography		+3
Memoir		+2
Historical text		+2
Scientific journal		+3
Self-help book		+3
Text book		+1
Magazine		+1
Essay		+2
Travel Writing		+1
A Letter		+1
Diary		+2
A Review		+1
A Leaflet		+1
TOTAL		



Jessica was a little girl who loved to play games, especially video games.

On her 16th birthday, her father bought her a PS5- She enjoyed playing it.

One night she was playing a new game on the PS5. Her game started glitching she got sucked into it! She screamed, "Help!" but nobody responded.

A strange worm-like creature came to her and spun around her until it covered her fully.

Jessica got transported to a land which was calm and beautiful. She swam the crystal clear water until she saw a

light; she touched it and then ended up in her house.

Literacy & Library News



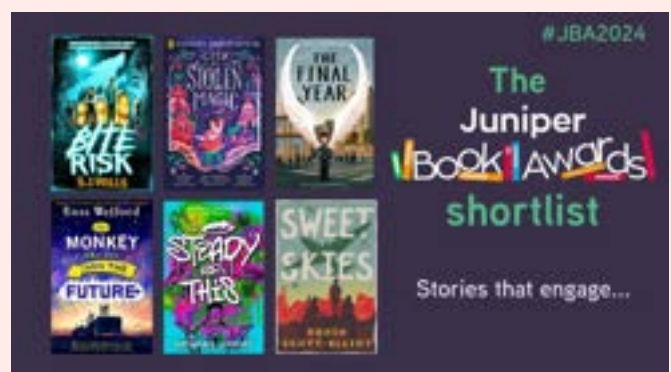
Don't forget to visit SJP Libraries' GoodReads page to stay updated with the latest books added to the school library. We are excited to announce that the library has released a new wider reading guide for sixth formers, which includes many new titles. You can find some of the new titles mentioned below:



Our sixth-form reading section is not the only area of the library with new titles this term. Our graphic novel section, which is the most popular and fastest-growing section, has some long-awaited sequels and all-new series. So, why not check out our graphic novel section? Just a few of our new graphic novels can be found below...



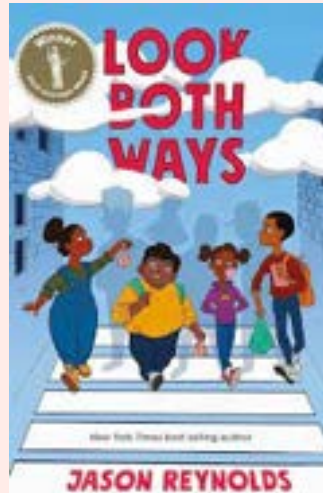
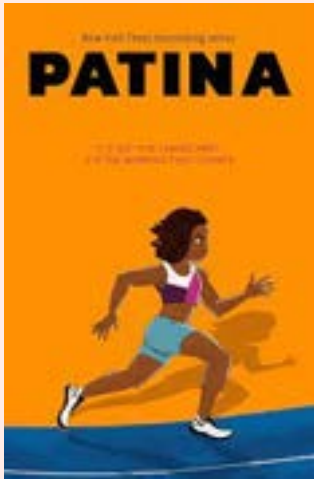
The Library and Literacy departments are excited to announce that five young readers, Robbie, Gianna, Daniella, Dasharn, and Mia, have been selected for an exciting literary adventure. They will have the opportunity to read a range of never-before-read books and vote for their favourite newly released title, as a part of the Juniper Awards. Additionally, they will be invited to attend a virtual book awards ceremony where they will help to select the winner.



Literacy & Library News



SJP Library will be ending its Black History reading club at the end of the term, which was a great opportunity for students from any background to read stories written by and about black heroes, scientists, doctors, leaders, and inspiring characters.



Student Librarians

The SJP library wouldn't be the same without the incredible service of its student librarians. These amazing individuals have just completed one year of exceptional service and we couldn't be more proud.

As the student librarians bid farewell, SJP Library welcomes new applicants to apply in January of 2024. The role of a student librarian is not only to help put away books but also to assist fellow learners in recommending books, decorating the library, and creating reading challenges. This position is an excellent opportunity for students to earn HP, build career skills and confidence, and make a lasting impact on their community. Being a student librarian is an achievement that looks impressive on a CV or university application. The role not only highlights the student's dedication to their educational institution but also demonstrates their willingness to go above and beyond to help their peers. SJP Library encourages interested students to apply and become part of the exceptional community of student librarians.



New BookTok Reads are now available in the library! Have you heard of BookTok and how it is helping our young people to learn to love reading? BookTok is a community on TikTok that provides book recommendations, reviews, and releases, and has amassed 185 billion views. It is one of the most active communities on the platform. According to the Publisher's Association, 59% of 16-25-year-olds have rekindled their love for reading thanks to the trend.

Literacy & Library News



Happy Holidays, fellow Christmas enthusiasts! I'm excited to share that the library's Christmas reading challenge is still underway until December 24th, and I invite you to join in on the festive fun!

We're taking a unique approach to the challenge this year - each day, we're reading from the Gospel of Luke, like opening a door on an advent calendar. By Christmas day, we'll have uncovered the true meaning of the season!

The library is sending out copies of the readings over Edulink to every student, and for every reading completed, Miss O will award 2 HP. That's a total of 48 HP by the start of the new year - just for reading! Remember to keep track of your readings and questions over the Christmas holiday to submit them to Miss O in the library come January.

Starting each day with a bit of scripture is a great way to get into the holiday spirit. And, for those who haven't started yet, it's never too late to join in on the fun! You can either start fresh today or work your way back through the readings. Let's get reading and spread some Christmas cheer!



LUKE 8	LUKE 2	LUKE 3	LUKE 19	LUKE 20	LUKE 24
LUKE 17	LUKE 15	LUKE 23	LUKE 10	LUKE 11	LUKE 12
LUKE 13	LUKE 14	LUKE 1	LUKE 5	LUKE 7	LUKE 18
LUKE 4	LUKE 9	LUKE 21	LUKE 22	LUKE 16	LUKE 6

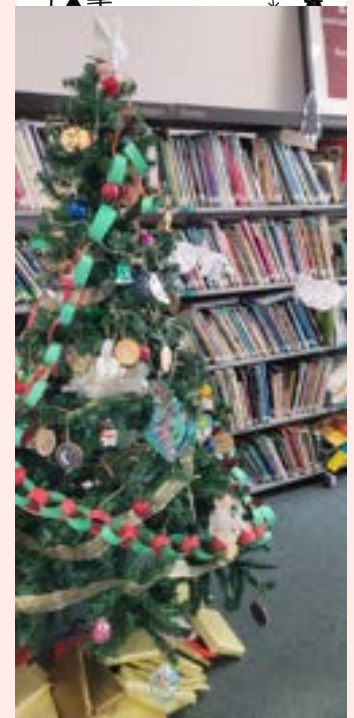
DECEMBER 1ST	Luke 1
DECEMBER 2ND	Luke 2
DECEMBER 3RD	Luke 3
DECEMBER 4TH	Luke 4
DECEMBER 5TH	Luke 5
DECEMBER 6TH	Luke 6
DECEMBER 7TH	Luke 7
DECEMBER 8TH	Luke 8
DECEMBER 9TH	Luke 9
DECEMBER 10TH	Luke 10
DECEMBER 11TH	Luke 11
DECEMBER 12TH	Luke 12
DECEMBER 13TH	Luke 13
DECEMBER 14TH	Luke 14
DECEMBER 15TH	Luke 15
DECEMBER 16TH	Luke 16
DECEMBER 17TH	Luke 17
DECEMBER 18TH	Luke 18
DECEMBER 19TH	Luke 19
DECEMBER 20TH	Luke 20
DECEMBER 21ST	Luke 21
DECEMBER 22ND	Luke 22
DECEMBER 23RD	Luke 23
DECEMBER 24TH	Luke 24

DECEMBER 1ST
Luke 1

Luke 1 is the opening chapter of the Gospel of Luke in the New Testament. It begins with an introduction and dedication to the reader, followed by the story of the angel Gabriel's announcement to Zechariah, a priest, that his wife Elizabeth will conceive and bear a son named John. Gabriel also appears to Mary, a young virgin, and tells her that she will conceive and bear a son named Jesus, who will be the Savior of the world. Mary visits Elizabeth, and the two women rejoice together. Zechariah's doubt about Gabriel's announcement leads to him being struck mute until the birth of John.

10 questions about Luke 1:

1. Who is the author of the Gospel of Luke?
2. What is the purpose of Luke 1's dedication to the reader?
3. Who does the angel Gabriel appear to in Luke 1?
4. What does Gabriel announce to Zechariah?
5. What is the name of the son that Elizabeth will bear?
6. What does Gabriel announce to Mary?
7. What is the name of the son that Mary will bear?
8. Why is Zechariah struck mute in Luke 1?
9. Who visits Elizabeth in Luke 1?
10. What is the significance of the events in Luke 1 for Christianity?



PASTORAL CARE, MENTAL HEALTH & WELLBEING

**Top Tips
for looking after your
Mental Health
at
Christmas**

Keep active!
Being active is great for your physical health and fitness, and evidence shows that it can also improve your mental wellbeing.

Watch what you eat!
Nutrition can significantly impact your mental health. A healthy, balanced diet is good for you physically and mentally. A healthy body means a healthy mind.

Stay in touch!
Having good friendships is important for your mental health. Connect or reconnect with friends and family this Christmas.

Take a break!
Allow time for yourself, even if it's just for 5 minutes - stop and put your feet up or have a cup of tea. Make sure you get enough sleep.

Ask for help!
Talk to friends or family or contact:
Samaritans
Child line
Shout (text)

116 123
0800 1111
85258

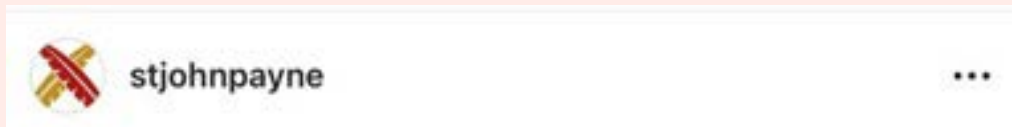
If you feel you are struggling with your mental health over the holidays, please reach out and seek help.
SET CAMHS Team: 0800 953 0222
Out Of Hours (Mental Health Direct): 0800 995 1000
Emergency: 999

If you would like your child to be referred to the MHST please contact Miss Squires (**c.squires@sjp.essex.sch.uk**)

For any Pastoral Information please email
Mrs Oldfield- Manager **sol@sjp.essex.sch.uk**

E - SAFETY

Please follow us on Instagram [@StJohnPayne](https://www.instagram.com/stjohnpayne)



<https://www.childnet.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/esafety-calendar.pdf>

Year 8 Girls - Year 8 girls – Cyber First competition

Congratulations to Connie, Nanaserwaa, Nkechi, Isabella, Charlotte, Imandhi, Cemya, Lily, Dami, Olivia and Francine who took part in the CyberFirst girls competition run by GCHQ. There were a number of different challenges that the girls completed. Topics included cyber security, networking, cryptography, logic and coding and speciality areas. The girls were enthusiastic and engaged with the challenges pushing them to be their best. Certificates will be issued after Christmas.

Miss Lovelock

KNOW YOUR E-BIKES



→ *Did you know?*

Only some e-bikes are road legal

The official term for a legal e-bike is an EAPC (Electrically Assisted Pedal Cycle).

What makes a legal e-bike?

- A maximum continuous power output of no more than 250 Watts.
- A motor that may only provide assistance while the rider is pedalling.
- The motor may not provide assistance over 15.5mph.
- Must be fitted with a plate showing manufacturer, maximum speed and maximum continuous power output.
- May only be ridden by persons aged 14 years and over.

The safety advice for traditional bicycles also applies to EAPCs, this means riding in a position that helps drivers see you, wearing a helmet and using lights and reflectors in low light conditions.

Don't block your exit when charging e-bike batteries. Store them in a shed or garage where possible. Keep an eye out for warning signs that your battery might be failing and becoming a fire risk.

→ **An unsafe, illegal e-bike**



Non-road-legal e-bikes often have power outputs of 500-1,000 watts, propelling riders to maximum speeds in the range of 25-45mph, without pedalling. These include imported complete bikes and kits for converting standard bikes.

While they may look like normal bicycles, these are classed as electric mopeds. However, these bikes are not constructed to a standard where they could obtain MOT or insurance, so it is not possible to make them road legal.

→ **Know your e-facts**

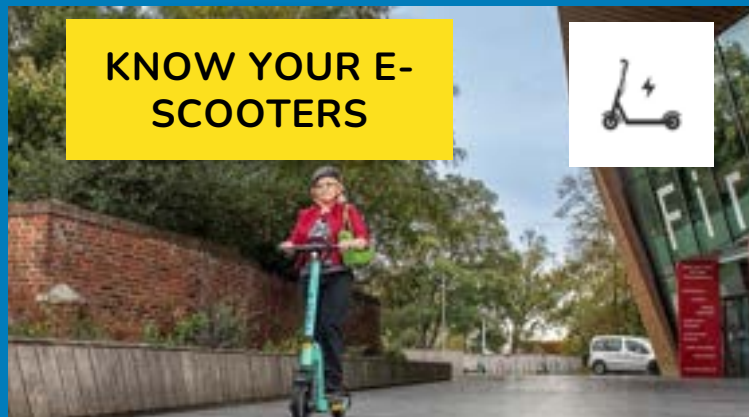
Non-road-legal e-bikes pose additional risks:

- Capable of speeds in excess of those attained by standard pedal cycles.
- These speeds are normally only experienced on two wheels by motorcyclists, who wear full crash helmets and (should) also wear protective gloves, boots, trousers and jackets.
- Handling, grip and braking of the bike is inadequate to cope with the power of the motor.



VISION
ZERO
NO ROAD DEATHS

KNOW YOUR E-SCOOTERS



→ *Did you know?*

It is illegal to ride a private e-scooter on a public road or pavement

What is an e-scooter?

Electrically powered scooters are classed as a mechanically propelled vehicle, which means the same rules apply to e-scooters as other motor vehicles. These rules also apply to other personal electric transporters, with the exception of mobility scooters. Electric scooters are treated the same as any other motorised vehicle, this means they must have MOT, Vehicle Excise Duty ("tax") and insurance.

→ **Know your e-facts**

In order to obtain an MOT and insurance to be used legally in public, an e-scooter must be approved by the Vehicle Certification Agency for its construction and use for transport on the public highway. No such approval exists for privately owned e-scooters.

If you are using a private e-scooter on public roads, or footways, the police can seize it and you could be liable for prosecution for traffic offences, and even receive points on your licence.

Risks include:

- Lack of maintenance affecting braking and tyre performance.
- Charging of devices in the home introduces fire risk, especially if batteries have become damaged or wet.
- Scooters can easily over balance on bumps or holes due to their small wheels.
- Handling can be unpredictable, especially when reacting to hazards.
- There can be a temptation to ride while intoxicated or distracted.

→ **How to ride legally**

A number of rental schemes have been set up in towns and cities in the UK, including Basildon, Chelmsford, Braintree and Colchester in Essex. These schemes allow people to use rented e-scooters legally.

To use these schemes, you must:

- Be aged 18 or over.
- Hold a UK driving licence.
- Only ride on roads and cycle-paths within the hire scheme areas, pavement riding is not permitted.
- Not carry passengers or allow others to use a scooter you have hired.

Wearing a helmet is highly recommended, and riders have the same responsibility to obey traffic laws as anyone driving a car.



→ **E-scooters are motor vehicles, so must not be used by children.**

***“Education is the
most powerful
weapon which
you can use to
change the
world.”***

-Nelson Mandela