

ST JOHN PAYNE



AVITA PRO FIDE



NEWSLETTER JULY 2025

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HEADTEACHER'S COMMENTS

Dear St John Payne Community

As we close the academic year, I write to thank you for your continued commitment to our partnership.

The year has concluded with an array of extra-curricular opportunities and celebration: representation at the CAFOD mass lobby of Parliament in support of The Climate Coalition, the Jewish Living Experience Exhibition, Book Week, our Sanctity of Life day, a Year 12 UCAS visit, field trips & Duke of Edinburgh expeditions, a GCSE art visit, Jack Petchey award visits and the celebration at the Civic Theatre, Year 12 work experience, Year 10 interview experience, Year 6 induction days, Year 5 & Year 12 taster days, Diocese student leaders' conference and Citizenship Awards, Leavers' Balls, charities week, enrichment trips, Prizegiving, and amid many sports competitions and leadership opportunities we are delighted to retain the County Athletic Championship, with a number of new school records.

We look forward to continuing to support the Year 11 students remaining with us for sixth form study, and offer prayers and warm wishes for those whose paths lead elsewhere with Year 13 as they also progress to new ventures. I express accompanying appreciation for Mrs Iciek's entire career of service to the St John Payne community, with thanks to Fr Martin for our Mass of Thanksgiving where we also wished Mrs Bainbridge, Mr Master-Jewitt, Mrs Clark, Mrs Parr and Mr Cross every future happiness and success.

We pray for Fr Damien Wade in his new ministry as parish priest at Our Lady of Good Counsel, Wickford, and we look forward to welcoming former Head Boy Fr Michael Barwick as he returns to Chelmsford. We thank all our Deanery priests for bringing Christ to our community throughout the year.

Thank you for your prayers, sympathy and kindness upon the sad news of our beloved Harvey's passing. We continue to pray for Harvey and for all his family.

I wish all our whole community a restful summer. We look forward to welcoming students in Years 7 & 12 as they begin the new academic year on Tuesday 2nd and all other Years on Wednesday 3rd September.

In Faith,

God Bless.

Mr T. Coen
Headteacher

Dear St John Payne

I write to express appreciation on behalf of our whole school community for Mrs Iciek's service throughout an entire career of selfless devotion. We wish her a long and happy retirement.

Rebecca epitomises the school's values of love, inclusivity and kindness. Always placing others before herself, Rebecca has ensured the children in our care are afforded the very best Catholic education in a place of welcome and warmth, helping to secure the school's reputation for high academic outcomes founded upon excellent pastoral care.

Rebecca will always be regarded with fondness, admiration and respect by all who know her. I am delighted to extend heartfelt thanks on behalf of governors and clergy, staff, parents & carers, and of course the generations of children who have enjoyed the benefit of her guidance.

With warmest wishes

Mr T. Coen
Headteacher



CHAPLAINCY FAITH LIFE



The faith life of the school has been wonderfully rich this academic year: the introduction of the two weekly Masses is going strong, a superb KS4 pilgrimage to Italy, retreats for all the student faith leaders, all Holy Days of obligations being fulfilled, the introduction of our prayer group in devotion to Our Lady, Thursday Adoration, hosting the diocese Jubilee launch, Advent and Lent services and so much more.

In July, Fr Paschal and Fr Paul celebrated our leavers Mass for the Years 11 & 13; this marvellous occasion was attended by many staff, students, and families- It was such an uplifting Mass, giving thanks for the years of education at SJP.

Throughout the year form classes have enjoyed weekly form Mass in the Chapel, taking place on a Friday during period 4, we thank our deanery priests for bringing us Jesus in the most Holy Sacrament. On a Thursday morning, we come together to celebrate Mass in the Chapel – staff and students join together to be present at the miracle and sacrifice of the Eucharist. We thank our student leaders who give up their time to serve at this Mass.

During June, the month of the Sacred Heart of Jesus – all students joined together in the same daily prayers, this collective worship reminds us that our day always begins and ends in dedication to Our Lord. We continued this throughout July for the Precious Blood of Jesus

In June the junior faith ambassadors and the choir were treated to a pilgrimage at Walsingham House or Mass and an escape room in London. This trip was funded by the Jack Petchey foundation with the award winners prize from John W & Daniel O'H.

On Friday 11th July, I had the privilege of accompanying Georgia Matthews in 12F to receive her award from Bishop Alan for her outstanding and excellent citizenship. Georgia leads others with the gospel values at the core of her being, she does this with a humble and kind heart.

Chaplaincy clubs are well attended and will continue in September – Adoration takes place on a Thursday in the Chapel and Junior Faith Ambassadors will continue on a Tuesday lunchtime.

Every month we are well represented at the youth Mass at Brentwood cathedral. If students are interested in attending, please let me know and I will save a place for them on the bus!

I wish you all a happy and safe Summer.

**God bless,
Katy Adams
Lay Chaplain**



Mass Lobby of Parliament

25 years ago, many Christians came together to call for the cancellation of debt owed by the world's poorest countries. This successful initiative saw countries like Uganda doubling primary school enrolment, through their grant of £715 million worth of debt relief, allowing more money to be focussed on tackling climate change in these poorer countries.

In the heart of this current Jubilee Year of 2025, on the 9th of July, 4 students (from Year 12 and Year 10) were given the amazing opportunity to become Pilgrims of Hope at a time when 1 in 4 countries (a number that has more than doubled since 2015) are facing debt crisis once again, only worsened by the ever-growing issue of climate change. This Mass Lobby 2025 served as a unique opportunity for Catholics (through the vital organisation of CAFOD) across the country to ask their MPs to urgently take action to tackle this growing, entwined issue, with more than 100,000 people having already signed the Church Global Jubilee petition, a campaign to cancel debt. This is a crippling debt, with about 3.3 billion people now living in countries where debt-related payments are greater than expenditure on health or education! A widespread social injustice affecting more than a third of the global population, and that's where the importance of our day in Westminster came into play.

Talking to our local MP, Marie Goldman, we discussed how climate change is causing increased natural disasters (such as droughts, hurricanes, and floods) in low-income countries (the lowest contributors to this huge issue of climate change) are often forced to borrow money to rebuild, increasing their debt, meaning that climate-vulnerable countries are made to reduce spending money on climate mitigation, making a future natural disaster more likely and worse, beginning the painstaking cycle again. The point of this conversation was to campaign Marie Goldman to support the call for debt relief to the discussed low-income, climate-vulnerable countries, debts that are owed to rich-world institutions, starting a ripple effect leading to hopeful initiatives, including calling the UK Government to contribute its fair share towards the New Collective Quantified Goal on Climate Finance. Our climate-focused discussion with our MP also included calling her to further support the environment in other, meaningful ways, from her valuable position, calling on the UK Government to support the creation of a fair global debt system in which debtor countries are properly represented and in which human and environmental rights are prioritised. But not everything we discussed was so far from home, with our conversation turning to improving Chelmsford's public transport (such as by, hopefully, improving bus timetables, so it is easier to get by students leaving school), a vital step in the long journey towards eradicating air pollution.

Adding towards CAFOD's "Act Now, Change Forever," campaign, this educative day saw us also meeting with climate activist groups from Chelmsford, building pathways to strengthen our school's Earth Society and positive environmental goals, as well as learning more about the inspiring work of CAFOD, the WWF, and the Laudato Si' Action Platform, all great springboards towards governmental and global change to cancel debt and cause real, meaningful, global change, all going towards saving and preserving our environment.

The bottom line is that this eventful, extremely hopeful day of campaigning, lobbying, connecting and learning, embodied our role as Pilgrims of Hope, a true inspiration to follow Catholic Social Teaching (as "stewards" of our world-wide environment) and play our part in reducing climate change on a local scale, spiralling to a global one. Thank you to Katy and Mrs Schluter for arranging and facilitating this inspiring, viewpoint-enriching trip, allowing our school community to play our part in this momental Mass Lobby of Parliament!



STUDENT AWARDS



ST JOHN PAYNE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

PRIZE GIVING EVENING

AVITA PRO FIDE



YEAR 7 PRESENTATION

Presentation of prizes by the Head of Year
and Headteacher

Approach to Learning

Progress

For Citizenship

Augustinians

Roisin S
Luke M

Adele B
Connor H

Grace O

Benedictines

Esme Vile
Kamsi E

Lois R
Declan T

Jude N

Carmelites

Eliza C
Kyler K

Jerusha C
Nathan W

Rian H

Dominicans

Kate T
Aidan P

Isha T
Isidore I

Frankie R

Franciscans

Janelle C
Gabriel S

Mia W
Oliver G

Ioanna K

Servites

Lydia B
Robert B

Elizabeth A
Maxwel J

Lucas C

Head of Year Award

Lydia B

ST JOHN PAYNE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

PRIZE GIVING EVENING

AVITA PRO FIDE

YEAR 8 PRESENTATION

Presentation of prizes by the Head of Year
and Headteacher



Approach to Learning

Progress

For Citizenship

Augustinians

Kinga F
Ed D

Emma Chuan S
Kacper S

Jonathan M

Benedictines

Aurana I
Zachary

Fatima H
Alex S

Sebastian Mi

Carmelites

Chloe G
Ralph J

Isabelle M
Caelan A

Michelle B

Dominicans

Charlotte F
Robbie R

Rose C
Daniyal A

Robbie R

Franciscans

Alyson G
Michael J

Pixie C
Broddie S

Jessica D

Servites

Sophia G
Kacper N

Kayla C
Joash D

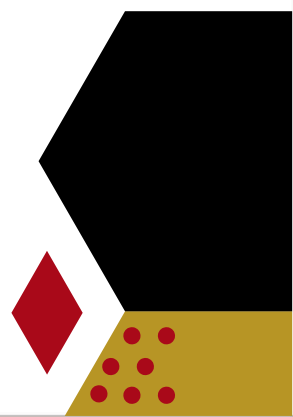
Kacper N

Head of Year Award

Jonathan M

The Emma Hurlbut Helping Hands Award

Aurana I





ST JOHN PAYNE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

PRIZE GIVING EVENING

AVITA PRO FIDE



YEAR 9 PRESENTATION

Presentation of prizes by the Head of Year and Headteacher

Approach to Learning

Progress

For Citizenship

Augustinians

Marho A
Leon S

Sneha V
Shafan C

Anna S

Benedictines

Maya C
Joseph W

Isabella C
Wonuola B

Maddie C

Carmelites

Phoebe D
Zach M

Clara F
Seth L

Cara D

Dominicans

Charlotte B
Oliver B

Aksa J
Daniel A

Oliver N

Franciscans

Eleanor M
Gwynfor P

Orla M
Martin S

Chinedum F

Servites

Abigail K
Aaron K

Sophia A
Tenuj R

Charlie K

Head of Year Award

Charlotte C



ST JOHN PAYNE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

PRIZE GIVING EVENING

AVITA PRO FIDE



YEAR 10 PRESENTATION

Presentation of prizes by the Head of Year
and Headteacher

Approach to Learning

Progress

For Citizenship

Augustinians

Ellie-May R
Joseph D

Sophia B
Robert R

Robert R

Benedictines

Honor M
Jason N

Stella De L
Jacob B

Bradley P

Carmelites

Eloise S
Joseph P

Maisy M
George H

Kelvin P

Dominicans

Erin G
Jayven Dela C

Freya P
Jayden D

Jayven D

Franciscans

Kaitlyn B
Martim P

Carmen M
Benjamin E

Jessica D

Servites

Aoife P
Freddie G

Crystal I
Sixtus C

Freddie G

Head of Year Award

Joseph D

ST JOHN PAYNE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

PRIZE GIVING EVENING

AVITA PRO FIDE



YEAR 12 PRESENTATION

Presentation of prizes by the Head of Year
and Headteacher

Student

Miron Hadi	Art & Design
Sean A	Biology
Victoria M	BTEC National Diploma Business
Otavio L	Business
Rianna A	Chemistry
Kateryna Z	Computer Science
Adam F	Criminology
Ariana P	Drama & Theatre
Amelia S	English Language
Joshua E	Economics
Cezary C	English literature
Charlotte L	Film Studies
Isaac G	Further Maths
Carys C	Geography
Joseph A	Government and Politics
Gabriella K	Health and social Care
Georgia M	History
Tyler P	Cambridge Technical IT
Sophie Hennesy	Maths
Georgia Matthews	Philosophy & Ethics
Franci Baker	Physical Education
Ethan Lowe	Physics
Amy Corby	Photography
Aishat Thompson	Psychology
Xander Patel	Sociology

Citizenship

12 A - Lyla W

12 B - Cezary C

12 C - Aruun S

12 D - Franci B

12 F - Kateryna Z

12 S - Amine G

Head of Year Award

Rianna A

Student Leadership Pledge

As student leaders of the Saint John Payne community, we commit ourselves in service to God, family, school, friends and study. We pledge to be imitators of Jesus Christ in all that we do. We aim to lead, not for our own recognition and glory, but in service to all in this school.

ST JOHN PAYNE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

PRIZE GIVING EVENING

AVITA PRO FIDE

YEAR 12 PRESENTATION



Head Girl

Ariana P

Deputy Head Girl

Franci B

Head Boy

Aruun S

Deputy Head Boy

Amine G

Diversity & Inclusion Leaders

Avni L

Georgia M

Chaplaincy Leaders

1 Carys C

2 Matthew S

3 Rebecca C

4 Lilian G

5 Lola W

6 Paige D

7 Joseph A

8 Matthew D

9 Oliver C

10 Amy C

House Captains

A: Lyla Wand Ameila S

B: Cezary C and Alexandra Odukoya A

C: Alex L and Jesu-Tega U

D: Lacey M and Adam L

F: Georgia M and Lois L

S: Joseph N and Luke G

Brilliant Student Performers Light Up the Prize Giving Ceremony

This year's school prize giving was made even more memorable by three outstanding musical performances from talented students across different year groups, each showcasing their unique abilities and love for performance.

Kicking off the evening's entertainment was Ralph (Year 8), who wowed the audience with a high-energy guitar performance of "I Believe in a Thing Called Love" by The Darkness. His confident playing and stage presence brought rock and excitement into the hall, setting an uplifting tone for the celebrations ahead.

Next, Janelle (Year 7) delivered a touching and emotionally rich rendition of "I'm Not That Girl" from Wicked. Her clear, expressive voice and mature interpretation of the song's poignant lyrics earned her a warm round of applause and left a lasting impression on everyone present.

To close the evening, Charles (Year 9) gave a beautifully controlled and atmospheric piano performance of Erik Satie's "Gymnopédie No. 1." His sensitive playing created a serene and reflective moment, demonstrating both skill and musical maturity.

These three performers were a shining example of the incredible talent within our school community. Their contributions added depth and artistry to the ceremony and reminded us all of the powerful role that music plays in school life.



Student Awards



	Total Year Group Achievement Points	Highest Form Achievement points	Highest Achievement Points In the Year	
Year 7	55,151	7C 11,661	Isaac C 7B 630 Achievement Points	
Year 8	33,690	8S 8,601	Kacper N 603 Achievement Points	
Year 9	29,515	9F 6,950	Rio G 9D 477 Achievement Points	
Year 10	17,441	10S 3,650	Freddie G 10S 540 Achievement Points	
Year 11	7,327	11D 1,595	Ariel O 11A 318 Achievement Points	

Year 10 Prefects

We are incredibly proud to announce and congratulate our Year 10 students who have been appointed as prefects for the upcoming school year. This achievement is a testament to their leadership, dedication, and the positive example they set for their peers. Becoming a prefect is both an honour and a responsibility, and we are confident that each of these students will rise to the challenge with integrity and enthusiasm. Well done to all, your hard work and commitment have truly paid off





Congratulations to parents and students who use the French and German Knowledge Organisers with www.sentencebuilders.com and www.linguascope.com

Term 3a 2024-25

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

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 the start of the next academic year in French and German because they have not given up and have continued to ask questions and check their memory week in, week out.

<u>Year 7 French</u>	<u>Year 8 French</u>	<u>Year 8 German</u>	<u>Year 9 French</u>	<u>Year 9 German</u>
Janelle O (7A)	Annmiya D (8B)	Aurana I (8B)	Mahro A (9A)	Leon S (9A)
Amanda U (7B)	Rose C (8D)	Morayo A (8D)	Lily P (9C)	Lydia B (9D)
Aaron F (7C)	Emily H (8S)	Elle T (8F)	Xavier G (9F)	Eleanor M (9F)
Tiegan T (7D)	Eric R-P (8A)	Finley H (8B)	Sneha V (9A)	Joseph H (9A)
Agnese I (7F)	Caelan A (8D)	Christopher N (8C)	Keyaan K (9C)	Emilia F (9D)

Lydia B (7S) She always gives of her best in lessons and at home. Therefore, due to her effort she is becoming a very talented linguist.

Eva J (8S) Consistent effort and contribution and excellent homework submission.

Olive M (8S) Thanks to a calm concentrated approach to learning in lessons and commitment to excellent homework completion, Olive has achieved very well in her German studies.

Aaron K (9S) Conscientious and enthusiastic approach to his French learning.

Abigail K (9S) Extremely hard-working and she has produced some impressive written and spoken German this term due to effort and focus.

Aoife P (10S) Fabulous resilience and hard work throughout the school year. Excellent understanding of French grammar.

Quynhvy L (10D) Due to her attention to detail, engagement in lessons and commitment to excellence in her homework, she has achieved very well in year 10.

Freddie G (10S) Freddie continues to give 100% to his German studies. His exam results were excellent due to his hard work.

Ella O (11S) Outstanding effort throughout the year. A true linguist who appreciates the language as well as the cultural aspect of French.

Karol K (11C) Karol has worked extremely hard and has produced written and spoken German of an impressive standard.

Lilla P (13S) High level of accuracy due to good use of study periods to consolidate verb endings and synonyms, and impressive well-thought out answers to literature essays.

Lilli O (13F) Lilli has worked very hard to prepare for her exams - and has made particular progress in her spoken German.

St John Payne Culture Day 2025



To mark Culture Day this year at SJP, our Year 10A French GCSE students brought a delicious array of traditional foods from their home countries to share with our French class. It was a wonderful opportunity for everyone to experience a true taste of the World, right here at school!

The day featured culinary delights representing several nationalities, including Spain, Portugal, India, Poland, Ireland, and France.

Students and staff alike enjoyed sampling the diverse foods and we discussed together the different recipes and ingredients used. The event not only satisfied appetites but also deepened our appreciation for the diverse backgrounds that makes our school so diverse.



Science Highlights



The Chemistry Department were delighted to welcome a guest from the Royal Society of Chemistry – a polymer chemist who shared fascinating insights into his career and the exciting world of materials science. Year 12 students were able to hear about the wide range of opportunities that a chemistry degree can offer, from cutting-edge research to real-world impact.



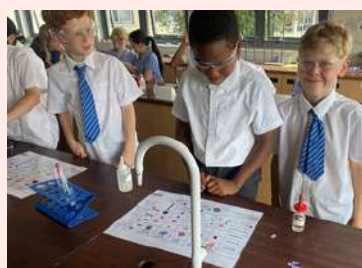
Year 7 Science Stars!

A huge well done to our Year 7 Science Stars – three students from each form who were chosen for their outstanding effort in science lessons. As a reward, they enjoyed a special treat: watching a rocket launch by Mr Lyus out on the school field! With the help of our fantastic Year 12 Science Club mentors, students joined in the fun by guessing where the rocket would land. What great scientists in the making!



Our students had a hands-on experience with life cycles this term as they helped incubate and hatch baby quail in the Science Department. The project brought biology to life and students learned about each stage of their development. A memorable way to explore the science of living things!

During our Year 5 Taster Day, visiting students became young scientists as they explored acids, alkalis, and the pH scale through hands-on investigations.



Mathematics Highlights



Wow – what a busy summer term! Here are just some of our highlights over the past 12 weeks.

Key Stage Four maths Functional skills in mathematics

Over the past 5 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.

We can announce that the students in year 11 Functional Maths class have achieved their L2 (GCSE pass equivalent) and L1 passes – we now wish them all the best for their upcoming GCSE results.



Further maths GCSE - Success of GCSE Further Maths Intervention Programme

We are delighted to report the outstanding success of our GCSE Further Maths Intervention Programme, which ran throughout the spring and summer terms in preparation for this year's examinations.

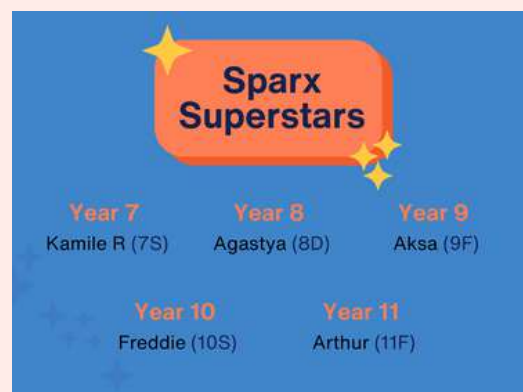
The sessions, held during lunch times on Tuesday and Friday, focused on strengthening students' understanding of key topics such as algebraic manipulation, functions, matrices, and calculus. Designed to provide extra support in a small-group setting, the intervention allowed students to revisit challenging areas, practice exam-style questions, and build their confidence ahead of their final assessments. Of the 18 students that started the course, 14 of them sat their GCSE in Further Maths – this is our highest cohort ever and is a testament to both the students and teachers dedication. We can't wait for the results in August and we look forward to welcoming you back to the SJP 6th form maths cohort!

A Big Thank You to Mrs. Peterson and Mrs Sanal for going above and beyond by running these sessions to make a real difference to our students' confidence and performance. These sessions provided invaluable one-to-one support and gave students the opportunity to ask questions, tackle tricky topics, and prepare thoroughly for their exams. We are very much looking forward to welcoming our next Further Maths GCSE cohort in September 2025!

SPARXS Maths

SPARXS maths is our online learning platform. Students are regularly set homework via this platform but they are encouraged to use the platform to revise for assessments/mock exam. They can do this via the individual learning tab or XP boost. There are also some maths games available on the platform so please encourage students to use it.

Kamile R, Agastya D, Aksa J, Freddie G and Arthur K from year 7 – 11 respectively.



Mathematics Highlights



Over the Summer term there have been lots of opportunities for students to develop their maths beyond the classroom. Thank you to Mr Newman and Mr Acton who lead this.

Enrichment 1 - Maths Masterclasses – Xavier

In January, myself and a classmate were invited to attend a set of Maths Masterclasses at KEGS with some other Year 9 students from a selection of schools across Essex. This enriching set of workshops enabled myself and the other candidates to take an active role in learning Maths from a unique programme which included subjects from the real world, and beyond the school curriculum.

This national network of Masterclasses was run by Professors from the Royal Institution and has inspired me to grow in confidence within Maths. With two and a half hours weekly committed to exploring Mathematics in the following exhilarating subjects of art and sculpture, computer science, design and cryptography, Maths has really been brought to life for myself and the other 50 students at the weekly classes. These interesting and interactive Saturday morning sessions have further opened my eyes to the wide variety of opportunities that this subject holds for my own future.

With thanks to Mrs Sanal and Mr Newman for this great opportunity!

Enrichment 2 – UKMT – Junior maths challenge

Over the course of the year, all year groups have been involved in the individual maths challenge. This summer term was the turn of year 7&8. These students achieved our best results ever with 80 of the 120 achieving a Bronze, Silver or Gold award – congratulations to all students involved.

A special mention to Marco A, Agastya D, Cornelius B and Rose C who achieved a Gold award and were only 1 mark from the next phase of the competition.

Additional Tuition sessions Mrs Machin – Lead i/c Intervention Year 11 Math tutor sessions

Throughout this academic year, if you were to have walked the Bosco Maths corridor after school on a Tuesday or before school on a Monday, you would see groups of Year 11 students working together, with the support of their teachers, on their Maths skills. They were working to improve their recall of important formulas, honing their problem-solving skills when the Maths appears in a totally new context and building confidence in their mathematical ability.

We are immensely proud of the students who have consistently been attending our GCSE intervention. Their continued hard work is a credit to them and will help them achieve their desired grade.

A shout out must also go to those year 11 students who have turned up, bright and early the morning of their exam for that last-minute confidence boost and support before they sit their exam!

And so.....

Maths is **not** like riding a bike; if you don't use it you lose it!

To keep your maths skills up to scratch, and for some intellectual stimulation to keep you going over the summer break, the link below has 42 different maths puzzles to do – one a day for six weeks:

<https://www.teachwire.net/news/42-maths-teasers-for-ks3-4-a-puzzle-a-day-for-the-summer-holidays/>

If you want more, the link below is a curated collection of links to further maths enrichment:

<https://teachingmathsscholars.org/news/mathspuzzlesforthesummerholidays>

A level students may prefer checking out the links at the address below:

<https://amsp.org.uk/students/studying-a-level-further-mathematics/more-maths/>

Enjoy our Summer Holiday Mathematics Enrichment!

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



St John Payne Athletes Deliver Record-Breaking Season



St John Payne students have enjoyed a phenomenal athletics season, achieving outstanding results at both the ESAA Track and Field Cup and the annual District Athletics Championships.

At the ESAA Cup, four teams qualified for regional finals—no small feat, with A final qualification requiring a top-12 finish in East Anglia, and B final needing a top-30 placing.

- The Junior Boys placed 5th in the Regional A Final, with a score that ranked them 12th nationally.
- The Intermediate Boys stormed to 1st place in the Regional B Final.
- The Junior Girls took 2nd in the Regional B Final, while the Intermediate Girls finished 7th, capping off a strong all-round showing for the school.

In the District Athletics Championships, St John Payne continued their strong performances:

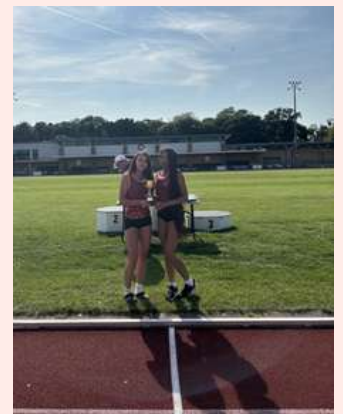
The Boys retained their overall title, and the Girls claimed the overall trophy for the second time, their last win coming in 2017.

Both boys' and girls' teams won the relay trophy, with the girls winning every age group and the boys taking the Year 8 title.

A remarkable four district records were broken:

- Adrian (Year 8) – 200m in 24.04s
- Jasmin (Year 10) – 200m in 25.05s
- Alicja (Year 10) – 100m in 12.15s
- Year 10 Girls Relay Team – 49.88s

These results reflect an exceptional season for athletics at St John Payne and are a testament to the dedication, effort, and countless hours of training put in by the students throughout the year.



Cricket season

Our Y7 boys have performed creditably in their first season together as a team playing 3 fixtures against Anglo, BCHS and Boswells. All 3 games were very close with notable performances from several boys including Tom M, Connor H and Luca W.

Unfortunately, due to circumstances beyond our control, the Y8/9 boys combined team were only able to complete 1 game, against Chamer Valley where they again were on the wrong end of a very tight game. The Y8 boys made up the majority of the squad and showed a lot of potential when competing against the older age group which bodes well for next season. Notable efforts came from Ryan C , Joe W and Daniel A.

Sports day 2025

I am delighted, as always, to report that Sports Day was once again a huge success. It remains one of the highlights of the school year for me, as it brings together our entire school community in a celebration of teamwork, athleticism, and school spirit. To top it all off, hosting the event at Chelmsford Athletics Centre gave our students the opportunity to compete in a professional athletics stadium – a truly inspiring experience.

Throughout the day, students took part in a wide range of track and field events, including sprint events, relays, long jump, high jump, shot put, and many more. The day concluded with the much-anticipated Staff Relay, which saw the whole school cheering with enthusiasm and energy.

The level of participation was outstanding. A huge congratulations goes to Dominican House, who claimed the overall trophy after a series of consistently impressive performances. That said, all houses displayed incredible enthusiasm, resilience, and sportsmanship, making this year's Sports Day a truly memorable event.

Three school records were broken on the day Special thanks must go to Mrs Watson and the PE department for their exceptional organisation and leadership, and to all staff who supported in various roles—from officiating and first aid, to cheering on our students. We are also very grateful to our Sixth Form student volunteers, who played a key role in ensuring the day ran smoothly and positively.

The weather held up brilliantly, and the sense of community and pride in our school was unmistakable.

We look forward to building on this success in 2026!

Mr Folkerd



Year 8	200m		Boys
24.78	Name	House	Time
1st	A Omijie	A	24.72

Year 8	Triple Jump		Boys
11.51	Name	House	Dist
1st	A Omijie	A	12.10

Year 8	Javelin		Girls
24.00	Name	House	Dist



Student Spotlight



We are thrilled to congratulate Jessica on an outstanding performance at this year's Dance World Cup! Jessica competed against some of the best dancers from around the world and brought home an incredible three gold medals and one bronze.

The standard of dances was exceptional, yet Jessica's talent, dedication, and hard work set her apart, earning her the prestigious title of triple World Cup Champion.

We are immensely proud of Jessica, congratulations on your well deserved achievement and we know you will continue to achieve great things.

My netball journey started when I was in Year 5. It wasn't my first sport as I was also playing football, basketball and did competitive swimming. When I first started I was in the first team for a Chelmsford club (Conquerors). We entered a cup competition and participated in the East Essex league in Year 6 and won them both! In Year 7 I trialled for Essex to represent the County and was grateful to get in. Year 7 was the year when I slowly felt the love for the sport. That year we won both the league and cup again and I was awarded coaches player in form my County coaches.

In Year 8 I really found the passion for the sport and knew I was meant to play it. I moved from a goal attack in Year 6/7 to a centre which is now my preferred position. We continued our successes winning the league and cup in Year 8 and a local tournament. We had our first year in Butlins as a team and we came runners up! It was a brilliant experience. We travelled up to Loughborough for competition in the plate and we won it. I was still in Essex and Conquerors playing centre. I have also been team Captain for the club which I have really enjoyed.

In Year 9 things got competitive and we started to secure our place in competitions with teams from across the country. We entered so many new things. We won our league for a 4th time in a row, came 3rd in a U16 ENG National Final, placed 2nd in a championship final, and coming 7th in the country at Nationals! We continued our successes and we won the U14 ENG National Final. This year has 100% been our best and I have enjoyed to be part of such a great team. I also trialled for London Pulse and got a spot in the U19 PDP which is such a great achievement. I have travelled so much with my netball such as places like Gloucester, Sheffield, Loughborough, Hertfordshire and many more to come. My netball journey is continuing and I can't wait for what is still to come.

Sienna

Congratulations to Sienna who has been selected for the Northern Ireland U17 National Netball Academy.



Well done Nancy on your achievements with the VPC Police cadets. You have attended the annual parade at Chelmsford Police HQ, also taking part in various Police Dog events.



My name is **Ellen** and my journey as an Irish dancer started when I was just 3 years old. I had tried other sports such as, ballet and gymnastics. However none of them had the same impact as Irish dance has had on me. My mother when she was younger started Irish dancing as well, and she lead on to dance in a show called Riverdance. My Mother and Father both went on tour together and he was offered a job there as the lighting crew. My auntie has an Irish dance school called McGahan lees who my mum also teaches at, which is the one I dance for. Having people related to you like the same sport as you is beyond the best thing.

My auntie and my mum have both helped me become the dancer I am today whether it's all my achievements, or the times where I hadn't got the results I'd hoped for. They've lead me to achieve:

- Winner of The North American championships (which were held in Montréal)**
- Top 5 in a world class competition**
- 3x Southern England champion**
- Top 5 English person in a world class competition**
- and many more local competitions won.**

My auntie, mum and all the teachers that have ever helped me at McGahan lees Irish dance academy have taught me that no matter the result I get, I always need to work harder and get the result I had wanted in the first place. Dedication is a big part of my dancing career but it's taught me a lot. I have dance classes everyday except on weekends, as it's more likely for me to have a competition. Dancing has made me realise that I have dedication, commitment and desire to dance at the best of my abilities which I wouldn't have known without dancing. I have just danced at the World Irish dancing championships that were being held in Dublin in April. Although I hadn't gotten the result I had wished for, I am still training constantly to win back my title at the North American nationals that are being held in Washington DC in July.

My journey as a dancer has come with its benefits, such as meeting people in my dance school that Inspire me daily, and other incredible dancers along the way. Even though I get may tired after a long day of dancing I always remind myself, others that are less fortunate would do anything to be in the position i'm in, and that pushes me past my limits and out of my comfort zone. As a young dancer , being in classes with world champions, regional champions etc, was the most incredible experience, every single person in that room I was inspired by and I inspire to be them still to this day. However, as I get older I start to try and inspire other younger dancers that are now in the position I was in.

Dance is apart of me and my family and I don't believe that anyone could take that part away from me. The thought of pursuing a career that does not include helping my auntie or even taking over the dance school one day, would personally not feel right as dance is all that I want to do forever. While other career paths may offer success, that sort of success is not one I would want to experience without dance. It is simply irreplaceable.

Athletics – Jake Read Y9

Jake competed in the East Region multi event in a hot 30 degrees in June. Jake came in 2nd place and secured a spot at the national final in September.

Hurdles went so well, shot put and long jump not so great but after 1.80 high jump and 2.14 800 he gained enough points to jump back up the leaderboard. (Still first from the Essex. Jake has worked so hard and definitely left it on the track! We wish Jake the best of luck for the next round in September.

On Saturday 12th July 2025 Jake competed in the English Schools, representing Essex in the high jump. Jake was under hot conditions and the competition was just as fierce. We are pleased to announce Jake has achieved an amazing 1.90m jump winning the competition. Well done Jake!



Ice Hockey – Isabella M Y7

Isabella plays ice hockey for Chelmsford Rattlesnakes under 16 girls team and they have won the league this year, as they did last year. They went to the Women's National Ice Hockey Finals that were held in Sheffield over the bank holiday weekend. They came up against some very strong northern teams and beat Whitley Bay in the final with a sudden death overtime goal. They are national champions for the second year in a row! This is an amazing achievement. Isabella only started playing just over 2 years ago. She has also just signed for Romford U14's mixed team for next season and trains with the Chelmsford ladies team.

Dance – Julia L Y10 & Lois R Y7



Lois R has recently competed in Florida, America her dance school, The Architects Dance Company, where they competed in the Allstars World Dance Championships.

Lois's hip hop team, Thunder, came first and won the gold medal in their division. They were up against fierce competition from around the world so did extremely well. They also had the third highest score across all divisions in the 2-day competition with the 1st and 2nd highest scoring teams being senior dance teams! It was such an incredible experience for her and such a huge achievement at her age to have become a world champion! We are very proud! Julia L was also part of Thunder and also competed in ADC's lyrical team, Serenity, where they also won gold in their division and got the highest score across the competition in the lyrical category! Congratulations girls

Basketball – Sofia K

Congratulations to Sofia K who competed in the intercounty basketball team playing for Essex. Essex A won the whole tournament. Sofia playing now for Essex Charge. Well done Sofia and all the SJP students representing their county.

Rounders

Recently St John Payne organised all age group rounders rallies. The rallies were great fun and we did incredibly well. In the year 7 age group we won overall. The girls played with determination and were very happy to win the overall trophy.

The year 8 rounders team played with enthusiasm and skill. They had some close games and came third overall. In year 9 the players played some excellent games, coming overall third. In year 10/11 age group tried hard and the students faced tough opposition and came 4th. In year 12/13 age group we first overall.



Leadership by Mr Magee

On Monday 30th June, 28 year 7 pupils helped to lead a mini Olympics competition at Chelmsford athletics track. The event saw almost 400 year 2 pupils take part in a variety of sporting events. The pupils from St John Payne were responsibly for running 4 of the 8 events. All of those involved lead with great enthusiasm despite the high temperatures. They also received compliments from several members of staff. Well done boys!!

On Tuesday 8th July, 3 Year 7 pupils assisted in the leading of St. Pius sports day. The pupils were leaders of 3 of the sports day activities. This was a great opportunity for there leadership skills to be used. We had glowing feedback from the St. Pius staff and they were very complimentary of the leaders involved

Over two days a large number of St. John Payne Student assisted with the leading of Columbus School sports day. The students help to run a number of events and support the pupils through the day. Thank you to all who volunteered to help.

On Saturday 5th July 21 pupils volunteered to give up a day of their weekend to assist with the running of the National Athletics Final at Melbourne Stadium. The event saw a number of schools for all over England compete in the highest level of school sport. The volunteers helped to get competitors to their events on time and also ensured they day ran as smoothly as possible. A massive thank you to all of those who gave up the majority of their Saturday to help out.

KEY SCHOOL EVENTS





Geography Department- GCSE Fieldtrip

It has been an extremely busy yet fruitful summer term for SJP Geographers, thankfully blessed with plenty of sunshine! Back in May we had the pleasure of accompanying 42 Year 10 GCSE Geographers to Dorset for three days. Here students undertook two fieldwork enquiries, the first, a Human Geography Study into the impacts of seasonal tourism in Lulworth, as an example of a honeypot site. The second, a Physical Geography study into longshore drift flows and evaluating the impacts of coastal management techniques along Swanage Bay.

The students were exceptional ambassadors for SJP, really throwing themselves into both fieldwork projects, working hard to gather data throughout the days and continuing to do so on the follow up work which continued into the evening! Members of the public in Swanage complemented our staff on how wonderfully our students were conducting themselves, which was lovely to hear. Everyone seemed to enjoy the whole experience of being away and immersed in Geography for a few days, as well as a good game of Frisbee golf in the evening! Students evaluated the accuracy and reliability of their data back at school, and the understanding they gained during their fieldwork enquiries will help them to answer exam questions in their Year 11 GCSE Geography exam. Well done Year 10!

A-Level Fieldtrip

A few weeks later we were back off on our travels again, this time to Southwold on the Suffolk coast with the Year 12 A-Level Geographers. Year 12 Geographers have to conduct an independent fieldwork enquiry project, which contributes towards 20% of their final A-Level Geography grade. We were very lucky this year to be using expertise from Chris at the Geography Fieldwork Academy, who introduced the students to a wide range of possible themes and ideas for their projects and a variety of data collection methods and presentation techniques to choose from. Once the students had designed their projects, they set off collecting their data. Not an easy task to do completely independently and they all did very well, rewarded with some fish and chips on the beach in the evening.



Year 7 Geography RS Cross-Curricular Day

SJP Year 7's also had a turn to be immersed in Geography for the day, through the eyes of Religious Studies. On Tuesday 10th June the Geography and RS department ran a cross-curricular day themed around the Sanctity of Life. Throughout the day the Year 7s took part in three different activities that raised their awareness to injustices around the world regarding trade, modern day slavery and poverty. Each global injustice was examined through the lens of our catholic social teaching principles, with students making a personal pledge on a brick, with something they will try and do to build a better world in the future. Everyone threw themselves into the day productively and there was a real buzz of enjoyment and learning throughout the day. Well done Year 7!



Competition - Prayer for Geography

The Geography Department would like your help in creating a Prayer for Geography.

From September, we will start each Geography lesson with a moment of reflective prayer to advocate as stewards of the Gospel

We would like the prayers to be based on the pillars of Catholic Social Teaching, it is your choice if you would like to submit one or more different prayers, based on the pillars.

Prayer submissions can be made by following this link: <https://forms.office.com/e/YUhkmn4cdk>

Congratulations to Lily, Martha and Michelle for successfully completing the Respect Project. They worked exceptionally hard to achieve this and should be proud of their efforts.

"To sum up my experience of the Respect Project, I would say it was an unforgettable rollercoaster. It was full of ups and downs and growth. I have enjoyed the twists and turns. At the start of the journey, it was a bundle of emotions. I did not know what to expect but was excited for the week ahead and what it brings. During this project, I learnt a lot of new things about myself. I achieved things I never knew I was capable of. I pushed through the week, challenged myself and ended up really enjoying the journey. Now the project is complete, it has left me feeling excited to try new things and put myself out there more. It has opened my curiosity of the rest of the world. Thank you for the opportunity." - Martha.

"I have gained lots of new friends on the trip and memories that will last a lifetime." - Lily.

"At the start of the project I was very nervous of talking to new people that were not from my school but as I went to the Respect Project more, I became more comfortable with everyone. I think that during the week away I became braver and more self-reliant because I did not have my phone with me. Now that the Respect Project is over, I think that I will be open to more challenges in the future as it has inspired me to try new things." - Michelle.

Earth Society Magazine

Hopefully you will have seen the first edition of Earth Society Magazine released in March. The Spring focussed publication was created by our dedicated Sixth Form members and showcased their fantastic skills and dedication. The second edition will be available before the end of the summer term and will share focus on recycling at SJP.

Year 7 trees

For the last three years, SJP Earth Society has purchased a silver birch sapling for each incoming Year 7 form. These beautiful trees are planted at the start of the new school year and identified with a plaque made by Mrs Coleman that shows the Year 7 House and the year the tree was planted. We are excited to see the trees and students grow over the coming years and look forward to planting new trees for each new form in the future.

Inside recycling bins will be purchased by the Earth Society, using donations made by YOU and your families.

Just like any large site, our school produces a large amount of waste. Unfortunately, a significant amount of this is not recycled but instead placed in general waste or worse discarded and left for our wonderful Site Staff to litter pick. As a school we intend to eliminate single use plastic, eventually! In the short term everyone can help make a difference by actively seeking the correct bin for their waste (or holding on to it until they do find the right bin) and choosing to use reusable items where possible (i.e. lunch boxes and water bottles). Reusable, BPA free, biodegradable water bottles are available for £2.50 via Parent Pay or from Miss Dabbs classroom, A116.

From March 31 2025 all businesses in England, including schools, are required to separate food waste and recyclables (paper, card, glass, metals, and plastics) from general waste. These changes are part of a larger national effort to improve recycling rates and reduce environmental impact. SJP Earth Society is leading the way by introducing cardboard recycling bins specifically for paper and plastic recycling and making them highly visible and accessible around the school. Our outside recycling bins are collected by Chelmsford City Council – if the wrong items are placed in the bins they will refuse to recycle the whole content of the bin, it will go to landfill.



Year 7 Earth Society Quiz

On Thursday 26 June 2025, representatives from all Year 7 forms competed in House teams in our 3rd Earth Society Quiz. The Year 7 teams demonstrated excellent teamwork and knowledge and made the event enjoyable for everyone! Special thanks to members of 9C who assisted the Year 7 teams, Mrs Coleman, our outstanding Quiz Master and Freddie in 10S, Student President of Earth Society, for creating the fantastic quiz.

Quiz Results:

1st 7D - 600 HPs

2nd 7F - 500 HPs

3rd 7B - 400 HPs

4th 7S - 300 HPs

5th 7C - 200 HPs

6th 7A - 100 HPs

Dive Down the Rabbit Hole This September with "Alice"!



Get ready for a fantastical journey as the Lower School proudly presents Laura Wade's captivating play, "Alice"! Originally scheduled for June, we are thrilled to announce the new performance dates: Wednesday 17th and Thursday 18th September 2025, both at 7pm.

Fifty-seven of our incredibly talented Year 7, 8, and 9 students have been working tirelessly to bring this imaginative world to life. "Alice" offers a fresh and insightful take on Lewis Carroll's classic tales, following Alice as she navigates the whimsical, sometimes bewildering, landscape of Wonderland. More than just a charming adventure, the play delves into key themes of identity, growing up, and finding your place in the world. Crucially, Wade's adaptation also sensitively explores themes of loss and grief, as Alice grapples with the profound loss of her brother within her journey. These are particularly relevant and resonant themes for our young people, offering a poignant reflection on the challenges, discoveries, and emotional landscapes of adolescence.

We want to extend a huge congratulations to all the students involved for their dedication, hard work, and remarkable maturity throughout the rehearsal process. We understand the postponement was a challenge, but their understanding and continued enthusiasm have been truly commendable. Their commitment to this production has been inspiring, and their performances promise to be truly memorable.

Tickets for this production are available via ParentPay. For those who purchased tickets for the original June dates, please be assured that your tickets have been automatically transferred to the new September dates.

We are incredibly excited for you to experience this poignant yet fun play that will undoubtedly transport us all into the magical and curious world of Wonderland. Don't miss out!



Mrs Nowlan - Head of Drama and Performing Arts

Music Department Awarded Music Mark Recognition

We are proud to announce that the Music Department has been awarded Music Mark in recognition of its commitment to providing high-quality music education and outstanding opportunities for students.

The Music Mark, awarded by the UK's national subject association for music education, is given to schools that show a strong dedication to developing musical talent and offering inclusive access to music for all students.

This recognition comes as a result of the department's continued growth and the wide range of musical opportunities now available. From classroom learning and instrument tuition to other opportunities where students of all abilities are encouraged to explore and enjoy music.

The award also highlights the school's collaboration with local music hubs and visiting professionals, further enriching the musical experiences available to pupils.

Congratulations to everyone involved in making the Music Department a vibrant and thriving part of school life!

Year 8 Boys Explore Music in Gaming with Exciting Workshop

Earlier this half term, Year 8 boys took part in an exciting workshop exploring how music is used within computer games. The workshop was delivered by an external company specialising in music technology, giving students a hands-on experience in this creative field.

The session began with a short introduction to the role of music in games, showing how different soundtracks are used to create atmosphere, build tension, and guide the player's emotions. The boys then worked in small groups to design their own basic video game concept.

As part of the project, each group composed three different pieces of music for their game: one for the main menu, one for gameplay, and one to create a dramatic scene. Using digital music software, the students experimented with rhythm, tempo, and instrumentation to match the mood and purpose of each section. The workshop not only gave students insight into the world of video game design, but also encouraged creativity, teamwork, and problem-solving through music.





Year 12 Visit to Westminster

On Monday 7th July Year 12 History and Politics students, along with members of the Student Leadership Team went to visit the home of leadership at Westminster. We had a tour around both the House of Lords and the House of Commons. We saw staff setting up for Emmanuel Macrons' address to both Houses, walked past Baroness Floella Benjamin and got to sit in the voting lobby. After the tour students grouped together and designed manifestos for their own political parties and voted on who they would elect to power. We were also able to meet with Chelmsford's MP, Marie Goldman, where students grilled her about her priorities for Chelmsford, how she got into politics and the challenges of an election campaign, among other things.

Once our time in Parliament was over we made our way across Parliament Square to the UK Supreme Court. We were then given a tour where we found out about the history of the building, the role of the Supreme Court and a run down of some of the biggest recent cases they have resided over. Students were then given a case that the Court had previously ruled on and were tasked with battling out their opinions over a controversial murder conviction.

The students conducted themselves incredibly well throughout the trip and got well involved in all the questions and activities asked of them. A real credit to SJP.



We are incredibly proud to congratulate our Year 13 students on completing their final exams! This marks a significant milestone in their academic journey, and we commend you for the hard work, resilience, and determination you've shown throughout this challenging period.

Their dedication has not gone unnoticed, and we know just how much effort each of them has put in to reach this point. Whether they are heading off to university, an apprenticeship, or new adventures beyond school, we wish them all the very best.

We now look forward with excitement to Results Day, where we'll come together to celebrate their achievements and successes. Until then, we hope they take some well-earned rest, they deserve it!

Year 12 Visit UCAS Discovery Exhibition – A Successful and Inspiring Day

On Wednesday 12th June, our Year 12 students attended the UCAS Discovery Exhibition and what a fantastic day it was! Held at the University of Essex, the event brought together universities, apprenticeship providers, and employers from across the country, offering students a wealth of information and inspiration for their next steps. Our students made the most of the opportunity, engaging with representatives from a wide range of institutions, attending talks, and gathering valuable advice about university courses, apprenticeships, student life, and career options. It was great to see them asking thoughtful questions and taking such an active interest in their futures. The trip was a real success, with one student describing it as an “insightful trip” and that perfectly captures the spirit of the day and has sparked lots of discussion back at school about future plans and possibilities. A big thank you to the staff who supported the trip, and well done to our students for making it such a positive and purposeful experience.



Year 13 Prom



On Thursday 10th July Year 13 celebrated their Prom at Crondon Park in Stock to mark the end of 7 years of education at St John Payne.

The evening began with welcome drinks in the sunshine within the beautiful gardens at Crondon Park. This was a great opportunity to catch up with friends, admire all of the fabulous outfits and take lots of photos. Once inside, we enjoyed a delicious 3 course meal before the tables were moved aside to make way for the dance floor where we spent the rest of the evening!

It was great to see everyone enjoying themselves and relaxing now that the stress of A level exams is finally over! It was also lovely to see some of our teachers who came along to wish us well.

The Prom was a wonderful occasion and a fitting end to our SJP journey before we all head off to begin the next chapter of our lives. Good luck everyone!

By Tilda C (Head Girl)

Year 12 Work Experience – A Valuable Insight into the World of Work

At the end of June, our Year 12 students completed a week of work experience, finishing on Friday 27th June. This opportunity gave them a valuable taste of the working world and allowed them to explore potential career paths, develop key employability skills, and experience life beyond the classroom. Over the past week, students have been reflecting on their placements during tutor time, sharing what they learned and how the experience has helped shape their thinking about the future. It has been fantastic to hear how much they gained from the week from improved confidence and communication skills to a better understanding of workplace expectations.

We've also received some excellent feedback from employers, who were impressed by our students' enthusiasm, professionalism, and willingness to get involved. It's clear that they made a positive impression and represented the school admirably.

We hope this experience has inspired our students and sparked new ideas about their next steps, whether that's further study, training, or the world of work. Well done, Year 12!

Year 12 'Next Steps' Day – Planning for the Future

On Tuesday 15th July, our Year 12 students took part in a highly valuable Next Steps day, designed to support them as they begin to plan their post-18 futures. The day was packed with engaging and informative workshops, each focused on helping students make confident, informed decisions about their next steps. Workshops included sessions on completing a UCAS application, how to select the best university and course, and top tips for writing a fantastic personal statement. These practical sessions gave students a clear sense of what lies ahead and how to begin preparing now.

We were also delighted to welcome guest speakers from the University of Essex, who talked about the university pathway, and from Anglia Ruskin University, who delivered an insightful session on degree apprenticeships. Both talks gave students a broader view of the options available and what they can expect from different routes. Students are now encouraged to continue researching universities and courses over the summer and to begin drafting their personal statements. They should aim to have a first draft ready to share with their tutors when they return in September.

It was a productive and inspiring day, and we're excited to see how Year 12 build on this momentum as they move into their final year at school.

Please see the two parental pamphlets below for more information titled: 'Preparing for University Applications' and 'Preparing to apply for an apprenticeship'.

Sixth Form Taster Day – A Great Start to the Journey Ahead

We were delighted to welcome our Year 11 students back to school for our recent Sixth Form Taster Day and it was fantastic to also meet so many new students who are considering joining our sixth form in September. The day offered a valuable insight into what life in the sixth form is like, and the atmosphere was full of energy and anticipation.

The day began with an assembly outlining the exciting opportunities that await in the sixth form – from increased independence to new academic and enrichment experiences as well as an honest look at the challenges students will face and how we will support them every step of the way.

Students then attended a series of taster lessons, led by subject specialists, where they had the chance to try out the subjects they are interested in studying next year. It was a great opportunity for them to experience the style and expectations of sixth form learning.

To conclude the day, students were given summer transition work to complete in preparation for September. This work is an important step in making a strong start to sixth form study and can be accessed via the sixth form section of our school website.

We look forward to seeing the students on results day when they will enrol on their chosen subjects and then again in September to begin this exciting next chapter! Please see the parental pamphlet below for more information titled: 'Preparing for Post-16 Education. Have a lovely summer.'

The Sixth Form Team
Mr Hewlett, Mr Keylock & Ms Pellicci

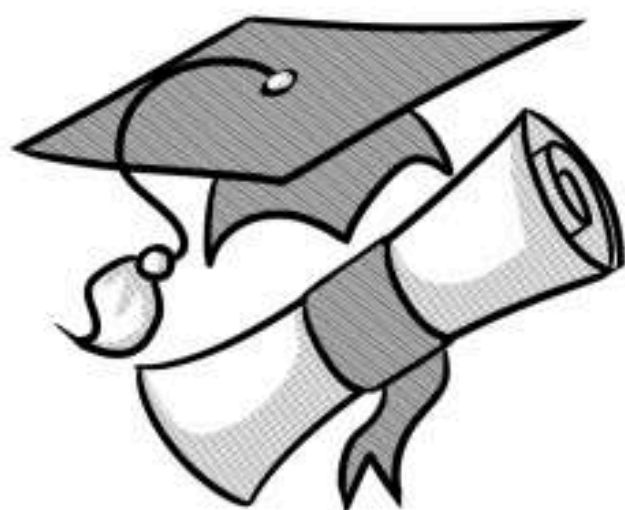
Preparing for University Applications

Information for parents and carers

PiXL6
partners in excellence



Did you know?



Approximately 700,000 people apply for full-time undergraduate courses at over 380 universities and colleges across the UK each year.

The competition for places can be fierce so it is good for your son/daughter to be as prepared as possible.

What can you do?



A key thing to remember is that preparation is **the key** for a successful university application – and that it isn't always just about the grades. Here are some of the things that university admissions tutors will be looking out for, and what we will be doing to help:

A Strong Personal Statement: A student's personal statement should show passion and enthusiasm for their chosen subject area and demonstrate the wider skills and experiences that will enable them to succeed at university. If you can, prompt them to think about things they could do to enhance their application - the sooner the better!

A Passion for their Subject Area: Encourage your child to complete extra reading, engage with TED talks, complete MOOCs (online courses), and think outside the restrictions of the exam specifications. Most of these things are free but could make a real difference to them.

Character Development: The kind of things that will make them stand out from other applicants are the LORIC attributes: Leadership, Organisation, Resilience,

Initiative and Communication. They often find it quite difficult to recognise their own strengths in these areas - it is helpful for you to remind them of their areas of strength.

Work Experience: Successful applications for some courses are enhanced by work experience. If you know anyone who would be willing to have them in to their work for a day or two, this can really help. It is also worth noting that the skills acquired through part-time paid and voluntary work are also valued by many universities; just make sure any part-time, 'small' job doesn't turn into one that distracts from their work.

University visits: Attending university Open Days is invaluable for a variety of reasons – and many are over the weekend so there's often no need to miss lessons. Students will be able to speak to course tutors, test the travel arrangements to and from home, look at the location, accommodation...a whole wealth of things that will ensure that they are making an informed choice. The universities often run sessions for parents at their Open Days.

Preparing to apply for an apprenticeship

Information for parents and carers

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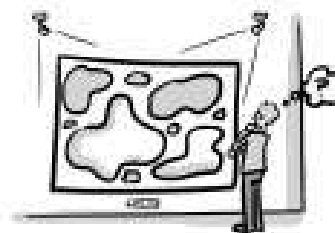


Did you know?



There are a whole range of apprenticeships available, and some provide the opportunity to achieve a full degree. They are increasingly being viewed as a genuine, high-quality alternative to a traditional university degree.

Apprenticeships have undergone significant changes in recent years, extending to a wide range of professions. Entry points are more and more likely to be at 17+ and 18+ in the future.



What can you do?

There are a number of apprenticeship levels:

- **Traineeships:** no formal qualifications
- **Intermediate Apprenticeships:** equivalent to five good GCSEs
- **Advanced Apprenticeships:** equivalent to A-levels
- **Higher Apprenticeships:** can lead to a HND, HNC or Foundation Degree
- **Degree Apprenticeships:** lead to a full undergraduate degree and include study at a university.

Sixth Forms/colleges tend to focus on applications to **Higher and Degree** apprenticeships. Both Higher and Degree apprenticeships offer salaries; they are proper jobs but provide training and qualifications.

Higher Apprenticeships can be accessed in a range of careers such as law, broadcasting, engineering, finance, IT. The list is constantly growing. For example, a five-year Higher Apprenticeship in Law can result in the position of a Chartered Legal Executive, equivalent to a lawyer. The BBC offers, amongst other things, a

Production Assistant Apprenticeship which involves working on live TV programmes, dramas, sport and radio.

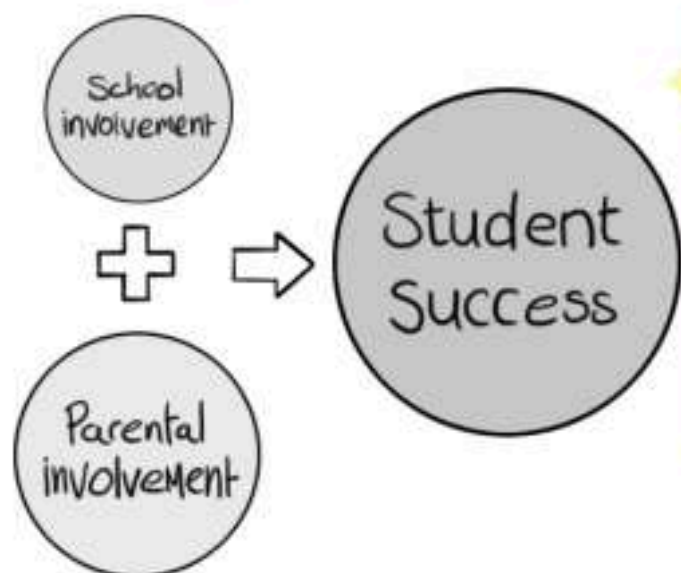
Degree Apprenticeships can result in a wide range of professional careers, from a nuclear scientist to a solicitor. They are developed by employers, universities and professional bodies. Time is split between university and the workplace; the apprentice is fully salaried and, very importantly, pays no university fees.

What can you do?

It is worth being aware of what is available and the following links may be of interest to you as you have the conversations with your son/daughter:

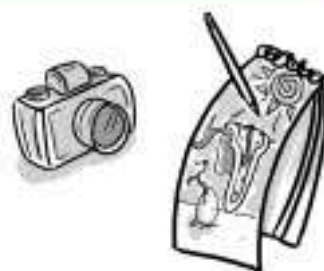
- www.gettingofar.gov.uk
- www.notgoingtouni.co.uk
- A parent's guide to apprenticeship is also available on www.gov.uk
- There is a great deal of information also on the university applications website, www.ucas.com

Did you know?



There is a significant difference between Year 11 and Year 12. The courses are more challenging in the sixth form, and the pressures on students are significant.

However, there are a number of ways in which students can prepare for this change and help to bridge the gap.



What can you do?

Many colleges run a Post-16 Preparation Day soon after the completion of GCSEs and a number of things happen that will help to prepare your child for post-16 education. These may involve taster lessons or taster days where they can sample the lessons and routines of being in a more independent setting.

- The transition to being in post-16 education should start happening over the summer as students await results and prepare for starting courses. It is helpful if you can encourage them to do some background reading on their subject, or perhaps watch some TED talks or documentaries.
- Many schools give out summer work that needs to be completed for the first few weeks back – ask your child if they have this to complete.
- It would also be profitable if the summer break was used as an opportunity for them to widen their experience by visiting museums, the theatre – or absolutely anything that gets them involved more deeply in things that interest them and perhaps pushes them out of their comfort zone. Many museums and art galleries are free, and many others have a reduced student rate.
- Your child may come home telling you they have 'free periods' – most of the time these are actually 'study periods' or 'independent learning' periods where students should be doing wider reading, prescribed work or working independently. Check what the expectations are!
- Be prepared for a dip! The jump from KS4 to KS5 is a big one. Be prepared that your son or daughter may find the new level quite challenging at first, and it takes a few weeks to become comfortable with the new standard of work and expectations.
- If they have summer work, encourage them to do it in plenty of time rather than the panic and dash towards the end of the holidays.



Carnegie Shadowing Group – Final Meeting for this year

Our Carnegie Shadowing Group has now held its final meeting of the year. We've completed reading all the nominated books, and each of us voted for our favourite title – both the one we personally loved most and the one we thought could win the award. All of the nominated books are now available in the school library, so if you're curious about the titles we read, we encourage you to check them out and discover your own favourite!



On Friday 20th June, some of the members of the Book Shadowing Group watched the prestigious Carnegie Medal Award Ceremony. Broadcast from the set of Matilda in London, the ceremony celebrated reading, libraries, teachers and the power of books.

Winning titles:

A huge thank you to everyone who took part this year – you've been amazing!
A very special thank you to Aida (8F), who read all eight nominated books and attended every single meeting. She not only kept up with the reading but also recommended titles to other participants and shared thoughtful, engaging opinions throughout the discussions. Well done, Aida – your dedication and enthusiasm truly stood out! We're hoping to start a new Carnegie group next year, once the 2026 shortlist is announced in March. Please watch the space for posters and details. We would love to see more students to join us on the next Carnegies reading adventure!



The Jewish Experience

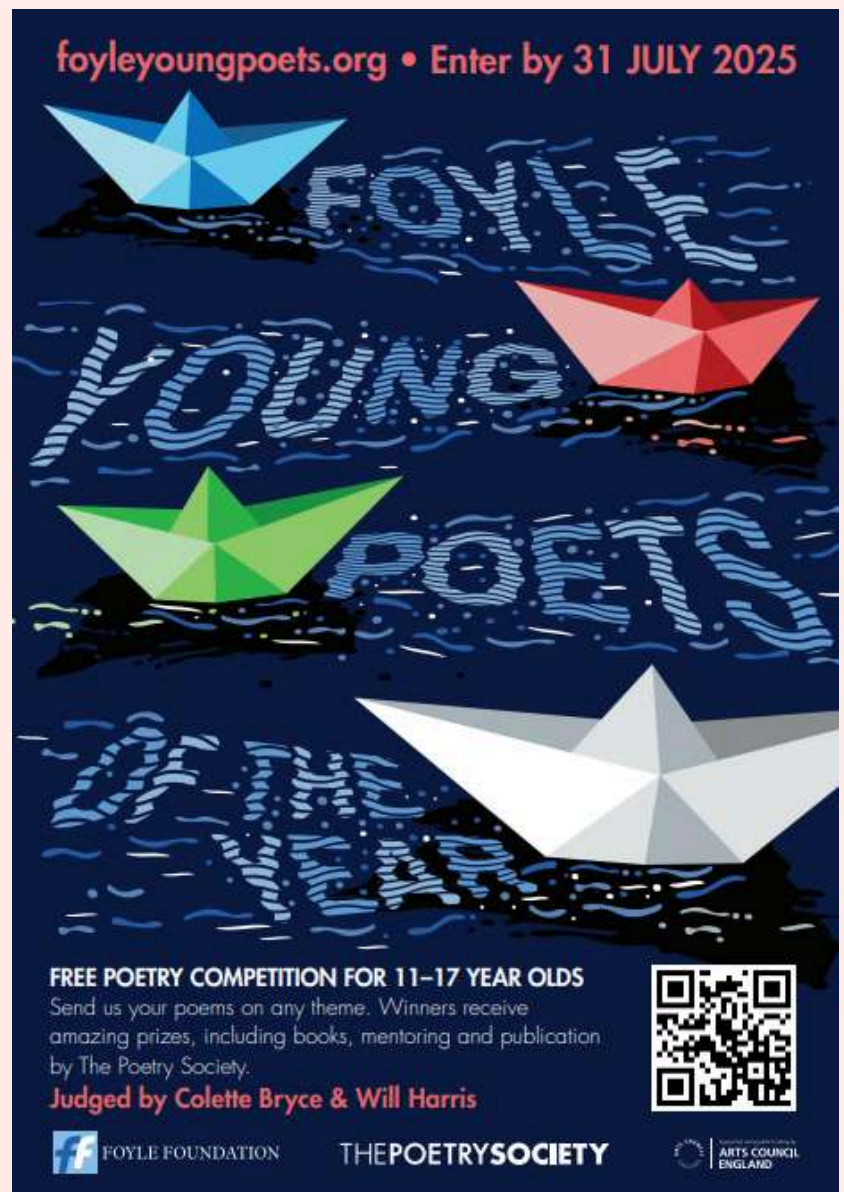
On Monday 23rd to Friday 27th June, we were proud to host the Jewish Living Experience Exhibition in Merici Hall. This interactive and inspiring event gave students across Years 7 to 10 a unique opportunity to explore Judaism as a living faith through real artefacts, stories, and conversations with members of the Jewish community. Across the week, over 600 students engaged with the exhibition, which also formed part of our Year 6 transition programme, welcoming local primary schools into our community for an enriching shared experience. We were also honoured to welcome the Deputy Mayor, who showed interest in the event as a celebration of education, faith, and community partnership.

Students described the exhibition as “eye-opening” and “fascinating,” with many commenting on how powerful it was to hear directly from people of faith and see first-hand how religious beliefs are lived out today. A special thank you goes to our amazing student volunteers from Years 9 and 10, who gave up their time to help run the event. They showed maturity, leadership, and genuine enthusiasm throughout the week. This event has had a lasting impact on our school, enhancing our Religious Education curriculum and supporting our commitment to respect, understanding, and inclusion.



Book Week celebration

As part of Book Week celebration (2nd-6th June), we hosted a series of library activities focused on building empathy through reading and shared stories. There was such a lovely buzz in the library at break time and lunchtime as students participated in creative activities including character roleplay, a postcard writing station, "Empathy is my superpower" craft, and reading positions survey





Chelmsford's Skills Fest welcomes over 1500 local students

Pupils from nine local secondary schools attended a festival-inspired careers event on Thursday 26 June, to help them explore the many job options open to them right here in Chelmsford and Essex.

Returning for its biggest year yet, Skills Fest is organised by Chelmsford City Council to give young people aged 12-13 a fun, innovative taste of the world of work.

Hosted at ARU Writtle campus, students from Beaulieu Park School, The Boswells School, Chelmer Valley High School, Great Baddow High School, Hylands School, Moulsham High School, Sandon School, **St John Payne Catholic School** and William de Ferrers School attended the festival.

During the event, students were introduced to a wide range of industries and job roles, helping them make informed decisions about their education and careers paths. With support from local employers and organisations, the festival creates an exciting bridge between classroom learning and the workplace. Events like this are a vital part of our careers education programme, helping students connect classroom learning with real-world opportunities, and inspiring them to consider a broad range of futures.

<https://citylife.chelmsford.gov.uk/posts/chelmsfords-skills-fest-welcomes-over-1500-local-students>

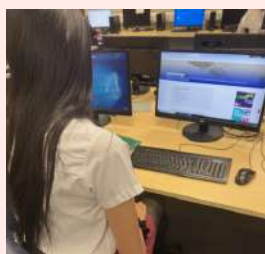


Year 10 Career Interview Experience on Monday, 14th July 2025.

The feedback from students has once again been overwhelmingly positive. Many found the opportunity to engage with professionals inspiring and informative, helping them to better understand the world of work and the pathways available to them. Your openness and encouragement have played a key role in shaping their aspirations and boosting their confidence as they prepare for life beyond school.

We deeply appreciate the contribution to this initiative, especially as we trialled a new format aligned with the updated Gatsby Benchmark guidance.

Mrs Coleman, Mrs Pellici & Mr Farrugia



PASTORAL CARE, MENTAL HEALTH & WELLBEING



**FREE
PARKOUR
HOLIDAY CAMPS
FOR 11-18 YEAR OLDS**MUST BE CURRENT YEAR 7 AND ABOVE**

1:30PM - 4PM

MONDAYS
4TH, 11TH & 18TH
AUGUST

TUESDAYS
29TH JULY, 12TH, 19TH
& 26TH AUGUST

WEDNESDAY
27TH AUGUST

THURSDAYS
3RD JULY
& 7TH AUGUST

FRIDAYS
1ST, 8TH, 15TH, 22ND &
29TH AUGUST


Essex County Council



**LIMITED SPACES AVAILABLE
BOOK TODAY!**




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Foundation





School's Out for the Summer! By Freddie G 10S



Many the great causes, many the cheerful bake sales, many pounds were the sum,
With so much laughter, joy, and love sprinkled on every cupcake, on every bun.
All this while Earth Society soared upon great heights, with lion, donkey adoptions and green turtle too,
And for this, SJP's charitable success, it is all down to generosity, all down to YOU!
With much thanks for your donations proclaimed, school's out for the summer!

We sprinted like lightning through fields of not just academic but sport acclaim,
From netball to athletics, rugby to football and cross country, we lit up the game!
Year 11's splendid servant leadership in the Saint Pius children's sport event, even volunteering joined this long list of sport success!
Many the medals, victorious the pentathlons, and an unforgettable Sports Day leaving all with only joy (about the epic day) to confess...
With much learnt from Sports Readers, and so much pride remaining still from the huge winnings at sport, school's out for the summer!

The whole school danced through Matilda, as if the West End were in our school hall, a fierce, fabulous feat,
Where love and community hugged every one of the marvellous musicians' beats!
Then, a perfect production of Alice, truly a Wonderland, gifted us all amazing dreams,
Our small Aquinas stage grew so large, fabulously on fire with much talent, alight with many theatrical gleams...
Inspired, moved, dancing still, school's out for the summer!

From Walsingham House's perfect palette of fun, friends, and faith to Auschwitz's necessary, undying cry,
A selection of pupils carried their bitter-sweet stories, as we dared to ask why.
In Emmanuel College's courageous courts, our futures stood fabulously tall,
With this year's deep-rooted faith as our transformative compass, we'll answer the call,
But we must rest for next year's adventures once again, school's out for the summer!

Our beautiful library, a centre of many great triumphs: for relaxing, for competitions, for studying: meeting so many demands!
On World Book Day, this place of many joys accompanied us with so many activities and opportunities, taking us on a voyage across many storylands.

From the Tower Poetry competition to achievements from Linguastars in Languages glowing bright,
Imagination, in this great, diverse year of sport, reading, and acting, soared like an almighty comet in flight...
Now to relax, school's out for the summer!

Many the prayers that were prayed over papers, a second of calm in the exam storm,
For GCSE minds and ones of A-Level exam-takers too, in that stressful time, that they did perform...
In such stress, however, we did despair not, as a family, together, we all stayed standing strong...
Strengthened by charity and fellowship, like Earth Society's hot chocolate sales: stopping these otherwise-difficult days from being so long!
Praying for exam success, as one big family, school's out for the summer!

Working towards getting the CAFOD Living Simply Award as the Year 7 trees fill our one spirit with much delight,
Allowing a strong sense of joy for school-centred success, in JMCs AND IMCs, as SPARX Superstars sparkled on each and every half term newspaper with might!

Never silent: the Science Club fizzed and buzzed, their great experiments in our minds did play,
And Year 12's horizons grew so greatly as Work Experience Week journeyed on, a new opportunity gifted to them in this week each day...

But rest now: School's out for the summer!

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But rest now: School's out for the summer!

The inspiring hymns and readings of Lent and Advent services still refuse to fade, many are the thoughtful prayers that were said,

As we now thank the kind-hearted, irreplaceable priests who blessed our days and shared the broken bread!

From beautiful Masses at 8 on Thursdays, to Adoration's quiet, personal flame,

And the Angelus said each day in May's bright light, leaving spirits lifted, never to be the same...

Great faith now true for all, school's out for the summer once again.

At Columbus, many SJP students did lend a loving hand, whilst the SVP lent many hearts,

With an afternoon tea and donations, to retired souls and strangers, we played our parts.

Another victory of the SVP: over the Hospital Radio was the Easter Story optimistically told,

One person with Christ in this unconditional service, we all glimmered with love, pure and bold...

Much service, much good done, much relaxation needed now: school's out for the summer!

CHESS celebrating the goods we raised, food banks were filled by generous hands,

And from our school, at Jack Petchey, beacons of hope and Agape joined the winner stands.

With service and unconditional love key here, many the years dedicated to our faith-blessed school, to Mrs Iciek farewell we bid,

Thank you for all the good, for all the service, for all the wonderful work you did!

As the curtain's close on this year, this rollercoaster of emotions, school's out for the summer!

At a service in Chelmsford's Centre, Holocaust Memorial flames in silence we saw,

In this painful memory's split second of smile and laughter, we honoured their stories, as we heard more.

Then later in the year, hosted by our caring community, Judaism's joys and traditions, a lived experience, were inspiring passed,

This exhibition reminding us deeply: no faith is a barrier, and that love's truth must last...

A dream of ultimate hope, the swan song of a great year: school's out for the summer!

Joining this year to be boasted about, the Bishop arrived with an unmatched, pastoral grace,

A kind shepherd among us, conducting an inspiring talk, God's light on his face.

While, in Biology, quail chicks chirped: this, a new life for our community begun,

As we marvelled at what good this glorious year for all of us had done...

New life, new beginnings, achievements again and again: school's out for the summer!

The dresses dazzled at prom, as many dances were met with a smiling embrace,

A final moment before a beautiful future, these Year 11 and 13s will willingly face.

All this love, all this joy, as the Italy Pilgrimage still glowed from our hearts,

We shall not forget the basilicas, the churches, the marvellous moments with friends: this tremendous trips many hope-blessed parts...

And as we danced and prayed so surely, school's out for the summer!

Tremendous trips (life-enriching jewels) through this year's cheerful calendar shone:

France, Germany, London's Parliament: all marvellous memories that shall live on.

We smiled, indulging on delicious baguettes, saw fish through the aquarium's glass,

As joy overwhelmed us on these delightful journeys, as wonderous moments, like becoming chefs as Hospitality and Catering Year 11s, did pass,

Memories banked like gold, friendships thoroughly deepened, school's out for the summer!

With laughter, nostalgia, and joy for Year 11s in all, the slopes of the ski trip flew beautifully underfoot,

While for some in Year 12 and Year 10, Cambridge gave many dreams an inspiring academic root.

United with our discriminated Christian friends on Red Wednesday earlier in the year, FLAME lit a fire of faith in our hearts, as songs beamed out into the crowd,

And Lourdes, a beacon of hope in this Jubilee Year, left our spirits deeply bowed,

Amazed, brightly future-set and inspired, school's out for the summer!

As one body of Christ, as one Christian community, we thank the many saints who stood beside us, our guiding hands on our way...

Francis with his simple nature, and John Payne with his bold sway.

Aquinas with his blessing of wisdom, and Joseph of Cupertino, giving to exam takers great confidence and might,

May they not leave us, guiding us all through summer's bright light...

And as the year says its final goodbyes, yes, school's out for the summer!

"Let us remember: One book, one pen, one child, and one teacher can change the world."

— St. Teresa of Calcutta (Mother Teresa)

