ST JOHN PAYNE AVITA PRO FIDE



NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2026

St. John Payne Catholic School, Patching Hall Lane, Chelmsford, Essex, CM1 4BS
01245256030 | office@sjp.essex.sch.uk |
Headteacher: Mr Thomas Coen, BA (Hons), PGCE, MA, NPQH

HEADTEACHER REPORT



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

HEADTEACHER REPORT OCT 2026

It is always lovely to welcome the students back to school for a new academic year. We congratulate those who sat examinations last summer, and are delighted so many have remained with us for sixth form along with new students who have joined from a wide range of schools. We offer prayers and warm wishes to all who have progressed to new ventures elsewhere.

Throughout October we have prayed The Angelus daily at midday. We continue weekly Form Masses, so warmly served by our parish priests - Fr Paul of The Blessed Sacrament, Fr Barto, Fr Janos and Fr Shajin of St Augustine, Our Lady Immaculate & Holy Name, and by priests from across the Deanery.

We hosted a hugely powerful day of witness as students from schools across the Diocese visited us for a Caritas Brentwood & Brentwood Catholic Youth Service supported conference following our inaugural entry in the cross-Diocese Young Catholic Influencers' Competition in the summer, which students won upon our first entry.

We were delighted to welcome visitors to our Year 7 & 12 open evenings and to the tours throughout October, and have enjoyed visits from **New Vision English Hub** and **The Philosophy Man** to support our development of literacy and oracy across the curriculum.

We were also selected to welcome the Local Authority Director of Education and a County councillor to experience our culture of inclusion, with particular interest in our support for students with SEND.

We continue our tradition of charity fundraising and giving, with our harvest collection extending year round. Items can be left in Form rooms to be delivered to food banks. We continue to donate to CAFOD, Aid to the Church in Need, Cancer Research, and CHESS.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours in Christ.

Mr T. Coen
Headteacher



CHAPLAINCY & FAITH LIFE



CATHOLIC LAY CHAPLAIN

On Friday 9 October, St John Payne Catholic School had the immense privilege of welcoming students and staff from Catholic schools across the Diocese of Brentwood for our Young Catholic Faith Influencers Day, a celebration of young people, leadership, faith and mission. The purpose of the day was simple but ambitious: to help young people recognise their God-given gifts and understand that Catholic leadership is ultimately about service. Rooted in prayer, witness, Catholic Social Teaching and fellowship, students were encouraged to see themselves as authentic influencers of faith, hope and positive change within their schools, parishes and communities.



One of the most powerful parts of the day was hearing the personal testimonies of our own young people. Noah, Freddie and Mano each spoke from their own experiences and offered honest and deeply moving examples of faith in action. Noah reflected on SJP's work supporting people experiencing homelessness; Freddie shared how Catholic Social Teaching, social justice and care for creation have shaped his leadership and call to the priesthood; and Mano spoke about his experience of Catholic education from the perspective of someone who came from a different faith background. Their testimonies demonstrated beautifully that there is no single way to be a young Catholic leader.



The students also heard a personal testimony about the journey from the world of corporate finance back to Catholic education, reflecting on vocation, discernment and the sometimes unexpected ways in which God calls us to use our gifts in service of others. The central message was that Catholic education is about far more than academic success; it is about formation, relationships, dignity, compassion and helping young people discover who God is calling them to become.

A particular highlight was an outstanding workshop led by Caritas Brentwood, which challenged our young leaders to consider injustice through the lens of Catholic Social Teaching. Working collaboratively, students considered the needs they see around them, the gifts they possess and, crucially, how they can respond. They were challenged to move beyond simply recognising injustice and instead develop practical ideas for putting their faith into action within their own communities.

We were also delighted to be joined and supported throughout the day by the Brentwood Catholic Youth Service (BCYS) team, helping to make the occasion a wonderful expression of our wider diocesan family.

Prayer remained at the heart of the day. Students came together for the Rosary before preparing for the celebration of Holy Mass, with Fr Damian Wade, Episcopal Vicar for Youth Ministry. Having spent the day reflecting on leadership, vocation, service and mission, the Eucharist provided the fitting heart and culmination of the conference. Perhaps the greatest joy of the day was seeing young people from different schools meeting one another, sharing ideas and recognising that they belong to something much bigger than their individual school communities. Our hope was that they would leave not simply having attended another conference, but recognising that they have a voice, they have gifts, and they have a mission.



The day concluded by sending our young people back to their schools as Young Catholic Influencers, called to lead with courage, compassion and integrity and to place their faith into action in the service of others.

"Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven."
Matthew 5:16

What an incredibly positive and uplifting day for Saint John Payne and for the wider Diocese of Brentwood, and what a privilege to witness so many young people recognising that Catholic leadership does not begin someday in the future. It begins with how they choose to live, serve and love others today.

MEET THE STAFF



SENIOR LEADERSHIP



Mr T. Coen
Headteacher



Mr A. Farrugia
Deputy Headteacher



Miss C. Squires
Deputy Headteacher



Mrs A. Williams
Assistant Headteacher



Mr R. Folkerd
Assistant Headteacher



Mrs A. Gosling
Assistant Headteacher



Mr P. Marsh
Assistant Headteacher

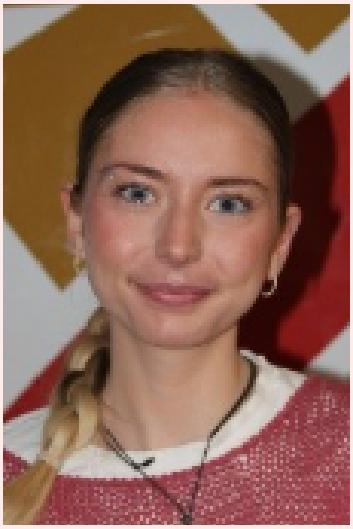


Mrs L. Ferguson-Watts
Business Manager

NEW STAFF



Miss McNeillie
Teacher of English



Miss Goldwater-Spence
Learning Support Assistant



Mr Faulkner
Learning Support Assistant



Mrs Abbasy
Teacher of Science



Mrs France
Administration Support



Ms Van Rensburg
Teacher of Art



Miss Adams
Trainee Teacher RE

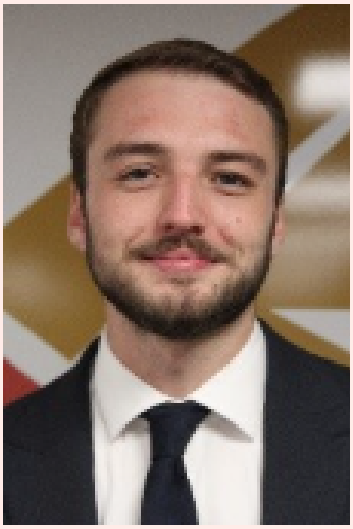


Mrs Farrow
Learning Support Assistant

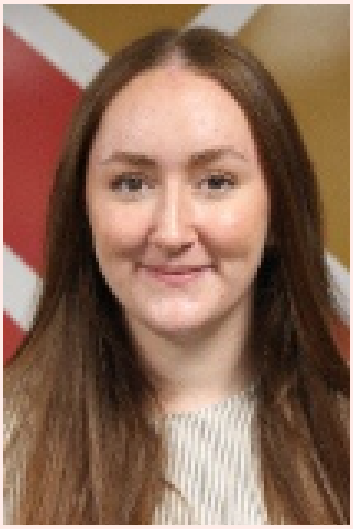


Mrs McCormick
Trainee Teacher RE

NEW STAFF



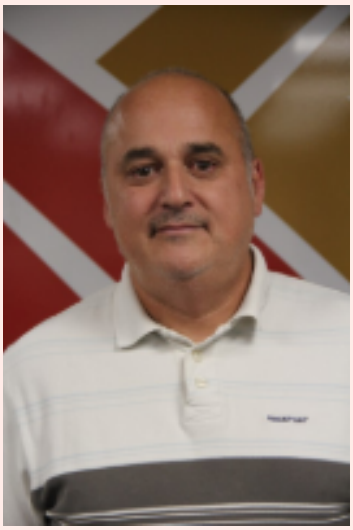
Mr Tear
Reflection Room Manager



Miss Kelly
Pastoral Mentor



Mr Johnston
Teacher of Business & Economics



Mr Hoffman
Exam Invigilator



Mrs Plant
Exam Invigilator



Mrs Grassi
Teacher of Science



Mrs Davis



Mrs Wright

STUDENT LEADERSHIP



STUDENT LEADERSHIP STRUCTURE 2026/27

Our Senior Student Leadership Team serves our school community with humility, compassion, integrity, and faith. They play an important role in supporting students, staff, and the wider life of St John Payne, and in setting a positive example for others through their commitment and sense of responsibility. We are grateful for their ongoing contribution to the school.

YEAR 12 STUDENT LEADERSHIP TEAM

HEAD GIRL
Grace T

DEPUTY HEAD GIRL
Rebecca D

HEAD BOY
Joe T

DEPUTY HEAD BOY
Jonathan S

ADDITIONAL LEADERSHIP
Megan, Luc, Ryan and Olivia

HOUSE CAPTAINS

HOUSE A Niamh M & Evie M

HOUSE B Victoria O & Izzy C

HOUSE C Irven L & Joumana A

HOUSE D Caelyn T & Ash S

HOUSE F Cohen B & Jeremy K

HOUSE S Leah G & Ellen V C

CHAPLAINCY & FAITH LEADERSHIP

HEAD OF CHAPLAINCY:
Heidi C

SENIOR LITURGY COORDINATORS
Dorien J & David W

CHAPLAINCY & PASTORAL LEADERS
Francesca, Khorvash S, Cohen B, Amelia G, Scarlett C, Abibat A, Timi A, Vanessa E, Jose U, Jess S & Amy B

STUDENT AWARDS



STUDENT AWARDS

	Total Year Group Achievement Points	Highest Form Achievement Points	Highest Achievement Points In the Year
Year 7	**14,901**	**7B** **3252 Achievement Points**	**Max H** **154 Achievement Points**
Year 8	**18,650**	**8C** **3757 Achievement Points**	**Flo D** **159 Achievement Points**
Year 9	**14,778**	**9B** **3028 Achievement Points**	**Roisin S** **156 Achievement Points**
Year 10	**15,851**	**10C** **2978 Achievement Points**	**Ayla K** **145 Achievement Points**
Year 11	**8,158**	**11D** **1620 Achievement Points**	**Tiffany W** **105 Achievement Points**







STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



SPORTING SUCCESS



Harry B Shines on the International Stage

Congratulations to Harry B who recently travelled to Budapest to represent his running club in a 5km race. Harry produced an outstanding performance, taking an incredible 1 minute and 40 seconds off his personal best time to finish the race in an impressive 22 minutes and 15 seconds. Representing his club on an international stage is a fantastic achievement, and his dedication and hard work have clearly paid off. We are incredibly proud of Harry and look forward to hearing about his future successes.

Annabel Makes Waves at National Talent Programme

Annabel M competed in the Essex Winter Senior Championships at the London Aquatics Centre, where she raced in the 100m and 200m breaststroke and the 100m and 200m individual medley events.

Annabel has also attended her first swim camp with the National Talent Programme. We look forward to hearing about Annabel's recent successes in these competitions.



THE ARTS SHOWCASE



POSTER COMPETITION 2026

Lions International Peace Poster Competition 2026

The Lions International Peace Poster Competition encourages young people to express their vision of peace through art. This year's theme, "Harmony in Humanity," invites students to explore how people from different cultures and backgrounds can live together peacefully, celebrating our differences and finding common ground.

Students in Years 7, 8 and 9 explored the theme during their art lessons, creating thoughtful and imaginative poster designs. Selected students were then invited to develop their designs into A2-sized posters during a special art workshop.









After half term, representatives from the Lions Club will visit to judge the entries and select a winner to progress to the next round of the competition. Well done to all our students who took part!

The quality of the work was fantastic, and choosing the finalists was an extremely difficult decision. We are very proud of everyone's creativity, effort and enthusiasm!





Y13 LIFE DRAWING







KEY SCHOOL EVENTS



BUSINESS & ECONOMICS

Arsenal and RFU Talks





Year 12 Business students were lucky enough to be joined by Grace Evans from Arsenal and Zoe Pilkington from RFU. The ambassadors delivered talks on their career journeys, the organisational structures of the businesses and what everyday life looks like working in the sporting industry.

Students were given the opportunity to work collaboratively on workplace scenarios to discover their own approach to Grace and Zoe's everyday working lives.

Bank of England

Our Year 12 Economists welcomed Ben Cook from the Bank of England to deliver a talk on Economics in Practice. Students found that their early economics learning came to life with Ben discussing monetary and financial stability, as well as the rise in demand for digital currency.

Ben gave our future economists concepts to consider: how will climate change, the digital pound and artificial intelligence impact banking and the role of the Bank of England?

Ben has kindly shared the following resources for our future economists:

- What is the digital pound? | Bank of England – the UK's central bank - This contains information about the proposed Digital Pound as well as videos answering FAQs.
- What do banks do? | Bank of England – the UK's central bank - This contains an explainer on what banks do and how they make their money.
- Future talent | Bank of England – the UK's central bank - This contains details about the different schemes the Bank has for school leavers. This includes details on apprenticeships, internships, and graduate schemes.

BUSINESS & ECONOMICS

Sixth form Open Evening



This year we had 13 student volunteers at our yearly sixth form open evening, and they were incredible! They created a welcoming environment for prospective students and spoke highly of the Business and Economics department. We hope to see many of you in September 2027 and welcome you on your Business or Economics journey.

Discover Economics workshop - Inspiring Future Economists in the Classroom

The School of Economics and Finance at Queen Mary University of London is offering Discover Economics workshops to state schools as part of a national initiative led by the Royal Economic Society.

On the last day of the half term, we will welcome student ambassadors from the Queen Mary University of London for a workshop on Discovering Economics with our Year 10 students.

- Introduce economics in an engaging and accessible way
- Showcase economics as a dynamic and rewarding career path
- Can be tailored to your school's timetable and curriculum
- Support Gatsby Benchmarks for career guidance

Queen Mary University of London

GAIN Schools Investment Challenge

This year we have two teams who are participating in the international stock pitch competition for young women and non-binary students in Year 10 to 13.
It is a unique opportunity to explore how investment decisions are made, and to experience first-hand what it is like to think like an analyst.

GAIN
Girls Are INvestors

Working in teams of 3–5, students research a real company, analyse its performance and future prospects, and present a pre-recorded video stock recommendation to industry professionals.

Find out more here: **GAIN Schools Investment Challenge**

Congratulations

Vaeh D. (10B)

for winning the poetry competition
and being named
SJP Poet Laureate 2026/2027!

Congratulations

Aida P (10F) - 2nd place

Moreen S (8B) - 3rd place

Marta I (11F) - special commendation

The Architecture of Wonder by Vaeh D (10B)

Wonder dwells within the quiet spaces,
Where sunlight spills through ancient trees,
And silver clouds drift, slow and weightless,
Carried gently by the wandering breeze.

It lingers beneath the midnight heavens,
Where constellations glitter, distant and bright,
Each star a fragment of a mystery,
Scattered through the vastness of the night.

It stirs within the ocean's restless rhythm,
Where waves collapse upon the shore,
Returning endlessly, yet somehow different,
As though the sea remembers something more.

Wonder blooms within the smallest details—
A raindrop trembling upon a leaf,
The delicate unfolding of a flower,
A fleeting moment of unexpected belief.

It hides within the murmuring of forests,
In branches intertwined like veins,
Where shadows move between the emerald leaves
And sunlight fractures into golden stains.

It exists within forgotten places,
In crumbling walls and weathered stone,
Where traces of lives long disappeared
Remain embedded in the world they once called home.

Sometimes wonder arrives without warning,
A sudden breathlessness beneath the sky,
When something ordinary becomes extraordinary
And leaves a question lingering in the mind.

Perhaps that is what wonder truly is—
Not an answer, but the courage to explore;
A doorway opening into the unknown,
Revealing there is always something more.

So pause beneath the endless heavens,
And listen to the world around you.
For wonder is not some distant treasure—
It is woven into everything we do.

And though the years may alter what we see,
And time may soften memories we once knew,
There will always remain a world of mysteries,
Waiting quietly to be discovered anew.

Aida P (10F)

I hear the aching silent cries,
Of forests falling into dust,
Of tear-stained Earth and darkened skies,
And futures broken by unjust.

We watch the rivers choke and bleed,
We feel the burning of the air,
Drowned out by endless human greed,
Leaving us helpless in despair.

And yet-no beauty still breaks to see,
The breathtaking beauty we still hold,
The ocean's quiet majesty,
The morning light a liquid gold.

The fragile home, this sacred gift,
Is slipping softly from our grace,
While deep within, a solemn rift,
Begins to shatter time and space.

We stand trembling on the edge of night,
With weeping eyes and souls bereft,
Do we make a left where there's nothing right,
Or make a right where there's nothing left?

I beg you, hold what's sacred near,
Before the last quiet song is sung,
Protect the Earth we hold so dear,
For every small and helpless one.

Don't let the fading sunlight die,
Don't let our only wonder sleep,
Answer the planet's desperate cry,
Before we fall to endless sleep.

I Will you reach out your hands to guard this light
Before the last soft dawn fades into night ???

Wonder by Moreen S (8B)

What lies beyond the stars at night? What makes the moon so calm and bright? Why does the ocean rise and fall? And who put magic in it all?

A tiny seed, a towering tree, A world of things we cannot see. A shooting star that lights the sky, A thousand questions asking why.

Wonder lives in things unknown, In ancient castles made of stone. In whispered winds and skies of blue, In every mystery waiting for you.

So keep your questions, let them grow, There's so much more than we can know. For every answer brings some more, And opens up another door.

So look around, explore, discover, See hidden worlds in one another. For wonder makes the world shine bright, And fills our minds with pure delight.

NATIONAL POETRY DAY

In honour of National Poetry Day earlier this month, we are sharing a poem that we feel captures the importance of the partnership between home and school. Thank you to all our parents and carers for your continued support in helping our students at St John Payne Catholic School to thrive.

Senior Leadership Team

Unity

I dreamt I stood in a studio,
And watched two sculptors there.
The clay they used was a young child's mind,
And they fashioned it with care.
One was a teacher, the tools he used
Were books, music, and art.
One a parent with a guiding hand
And a gentle loving heart.

Day after day, the teacher toiled,
With a touch that was deft and sure.
While the parent laboured by his side,
And polished and smoothed it over.

And when at last, their work was done,
They were proud of what they had wrought.
For the things they had moulded into the child,
Could neither be sold nor bought.

And each agreed they would have failed
If each had worked alone,
For behind the parent stood the school
And behind the teacher the home.

Author Unknown

Summer Library Adventure Challenge

House points awarded!

Thank you to everyone who took part. Your creativity and effort have been fantastic!

Well done to all participants, and a special congratulations to

Aida (10F) the winner

Alyson (10F) 2nd place

Leonardo (7S) 3rd place

Summer Library Adventure

Students were invited to take part in our Summer Library Adventure Challenge over the summer holidays, visiting a library and sharing their experiences of the books, displays and spaces they discovered. We received some wonderful entries celebrating a love of reading and the many ways libraries inspire curiosity and learning. Congratulations to all who took part, and especially to our winners! 📚✨

During the summer holidays, I took part in the Summer Library Adventure Challenge by visiting a beautiful local library during my trip to Scotland. Stepping inside, I was immediately struck by how bright, peaceful, and welcoming the space felt. The library featured a vibrant international section with colourful displays, which instantly caught my eye.

What I enjoyed most about my visit was the freedom to explore books from different cultures. I discovered an incredible foreign language book filled with beautiful illustrations. Even though the text was in a completely different language, it was fascinating to look at the words, try to pronounce them, and follow the story through the pictures. I spent a quiet hour in a comfortable corner chair deciphering the plot, which made my visit truly unique and memorable.

I think my friends should visit this library if they ever travel to Scotland. It is a brilliant space to relax and discover new stories, proving that you can enjoy a great book even if it is written in a language you are just beginning to learn!

Aida 10F



LIBRARY



During the summer holidays, I visited Asia's biggest library in Chennai, India. The library was huge, I found it surprisingly difficult to find a book that suited my interests; I felt that the library was more suited to university students and their studies.
However, as I wandered into the biography section, a book about Natalie Wood, by Gavin Lambert, caught my eye. Curious, I picked it up, and soon I found myself completely immersed in her story.

This biography follows her journey from being the daughter of immigrants from Russia, through the influence of her ambitious stage mother, to the difficulties of her adolescence and subsequent success as one of Hollywood's leading actresses.
The book covers her complicated relationships and a suicide attempt at the age of 26, including the struggles she faced with insecurities throughout her life and ends with her untimely death by drowning at the age of 43 in 1981.

Since this was my first time reading a biography, it turned out to be an enjoyable and unique experience for me. Going into a different environment and having the opportunity to explore unfamiliar books made the trip especially memorable.
I'd certainly recommend this place to my friends because there are so many books to explore, and you never know what interesting book you might come across. I would love to visit again and discover more.

Alyson 10F

LIBRARY







The Library

I went to the Braintree Town library. I enjoyed finding books that I found interesting. These books include: History of Britain and Tudor Times. The library is peaceful with nice seating areas to relax. The staff at the library are nice and they can help find the perfect book for you.

The library has many displays which include: Local groups display flyers, non-fiction book displays. Created by the staff and free membership – Joining the library cost nothing! I saw a variety of books from up and down the stairs some ks2 and others for ks3. Anything not available can be reserved online from across the country for local collection. The spaces I find most relaxing is the chairs on the upper floor next to the window.
The most fun and memorable moment was when I was in the History section not knowing which book I should pick to read as they all sounded interesting. In the end I think my decision was perfect as I enjoyed my reading.

I would recommend the Braintree Town because of its wide range of books, seating area and so much more. The library has its own kids' area; this is where you get young reader books.
It has many sheets of paper for creative drawings such as make your own monster, create a front cover or find different images around the library. All these things help your child be creative, imaginable and helps them to get out the house and do something.
The library is also a great study area. If your home is very busy with younger siblings it can be a great place to have space to think, collect information from variety of books available.

There is a public computer area upstairs if you need it. Staff can help with basic issues.

Leonardo 7S

MODERN LANGUAGES

SJP Linguastars

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

Term 1a 2026

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 new academic year 2026 in French and German because they have not given up and have continued to ask questions and check their memory.

Year 7 French	Year 8 French	Year 8 German	Year 9 French	Year 9 German
Mark V (7B)	Thomas R (8B)	Ben F (8B)	Declan T (9B)	Deji B (9B)
Angie T (7C)	Noah F (8C)	Michael S (8D)	Nathan W (9C)	Kate T (9D)
Filip B (7D)	Emma M (8F)	Yasmin S-A (8S)	Elsie R (9F)	Lydia B (9S)
Soyer K (7F)	Fabien S (8D)	Eden H (8D)	Jenson B (9D)	Aaron F (9C)
Leonardo M-I (7S)	Xander (8S)	Jessica W (8S)	Anna J (9S)	Isabella M (9S)

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

Daniel M (7A) has shown an exceptional approach to learning thanks to his commitment to and accuracy in homework and high-level concentration in lessons.
Joseph T (8A) demonstrates excellent participation in class and impressive written work.
Ruby S (8A)
Dillon D (9A) has made efforts to participate more in class, showing resilience and a positive attitude to learning. **A GCSE French candidate!**
Eamon M-B (9A) has participated well in class and has been very quick to understand new words and concepts thanks to his building on lexical and grammatical foundations. **A GCSE German candidate!**
Kacper N (10S)
Sophia G (10S) puts masses of calm effort every lesson, concentrating on accurate pronunciation and spellings to communicate a clear message in French. **A-Level French candidate!**
Annabel M (10C) is an excellent linguist who has given of her best this half term.
Marta I (11F) is very resilient. She is an independent learner who strives to do her best at all times. **An A-Level French candidate for sure.**
Gwynfor P (11F) pushes himself both in class and at home, where he often does his own subject research. **A-Level German and French candidate!**
Joseph H (11A) due to his impressive vocabulary recall and commitment to studying at home before each lesson. **A-Level German candidate!**
Aoife (12S) demonstrates exceptional commitment to her French studies thanks to sustained concentration, accurate writing and interest in Francophone culture.
Honor M (12B) has a passionate drive to success thanks to her high-level attention to detail and drive to communicate. **A degree with French and German?**
Faye C (13F) shows sustained improvement in spellings, use of statistics and summary tasks in Paper 1. **A degree with French?**

P.E

Girls Basketball

The girls have made a fantastic start to the season, securing wins in all of their District fixtures so far! Our Year 7s have also enjoyed a friendly against Great Baddow, with plenty of positives and some useful areas to focus on as they continue their development.

Well done to everyone involved. Keep up the hard work and keep getting to training!





Girls Football

The Year 7 and 8 girls have been training hard on Tuesdays after school with Mrs Johnson and Mr Moores. We have been impressed by the students' skills and determination, particularly in game play.

The Year 8 team were unbeaten last year. They played their first game against Chelmsford County High School in September. It was a tough first game and the score wasn't reflected in how well they played.

We have more games planned for the Year 7 and 8 teams after half term and in the new year when we have more light after school. Please continue to train hard. It makes a massive difference to maintaining a strong team.

Year 8 sports captains

Our Year 8 Sports Captains recently supported a Panathlon competition for SEND schools at Shooters, North Weald. This was a fantastic leadership opportunity, giving our students the chance to put Catholic Social Teaching into action through their service to others, demonstrating the principles of the common good and solidarity.

The students showed maturity, encouragement and enthusiasm throughout the event and were excellent ambassadors for the school. We are incredibly proud of the way they represented our school community. Well done to everyone involved!



P.E

Girls Netball

Another great run of fixtures for our netballers! Our Year 7s travelled to CCHS for a friendly, taking an incredible four teams and enjoying plenty of valuable match experience.

Years 8, 10 and 11 have all been busy with league fixtures, while our U16s celebrated a fantastic win in their opening Essex Cup match of the season!

A huge well done to everyone who has represented the school. Keep training, keep improving and keep enjoying your netball!









Y7 Friendly Basketball v GBHS

Our Year 7 basketball team enjoyed a fantastic friendly fixture against GBHS, showing great teamwork, determination and enthusiasm throughout.

It was a brilliant opportunity for the pupils to gain valuable match experience and continue developing their basketball skills.



P.E

Boys Football

A strong start to our football year with large numbers at after-school clubs and some promising results.

Years 7, 8 and 9 have all commenced their Messa league fixtures with all teams celebrating victory at least once. The Year 7 team also won their opening Essex Cup round and are showing signs of really coming together in their latest victory this week against Chelmer Valley. The Year 8s are settling to a team structure but have found it hard to score goals and the Year 9 team are also developing with a couple of big wins but remain inconsistent.

The Year 10 and 11 teams have Essex Cup fixtures shortly after half term alongside the Sixth Form team, who made a winning start to their campaign with a victory over Chelmsford College. All teams have shown potential and contain some talented individuals, so we are hopeful that this and the great commitment and attitude shown will translate into some success later in the season.





Note from Head of PE

As we begin to lose the light in the evenings, our extra-curricular programme will move from **football and rugby to basketball**. Please keep an eye on the **weekly PE Pulse** for the latest clubs and activities available to pupils.

As we also head into the colder months, please ensure that your child comes to PE and extra-curricular clubs **appropriately dressed for the weather**, with suitable warm layers where needed. Thank you for your continued support in helping pupils remain active and involved throughout the winter months.

Physical Education (all kit must be labelled and in a separate PE bag)

Compulsory from Schoolwear Plus	Compulsory from any provider	Optional but encouraged
White polo shirt with school crest.	Plain black shorts (school crest version optional from Schoolwear plus).	St John Payne Quarter Zip top with school crest.
	Black football socks (school yellow and black version optional from Schoolwear plus).	Plain black tracksuit bottoms (no logo/motif).
	White sports socks.	St John Payne Rugby Shirt (boys only).
	Football boots, trainers, shin pads.	
	Gum shield (for hockey & rugby lessons).	

Here at St John Payne, we like students to be involved in all lessons but appreciate there are times when they physically are unable to. To encourage this inclusion, pupils need to be in kit for all PE lessons, regardless of injury (broken bones are an exception) to allow them to officiate/coach.

ARU SCIENCE FESTIVAL

SJP at the Chelmsford Science Festival

Year 9, Year 10 and Year 12 students were very fortunate to be invited to ARU to take part in an exciting series of Chelmsford Science Festival Schools and Colleges Days.

The events were designed to support students in beginning to think about their future options by exploring potential careers and subject choices, understanding the skills and qualifications linked to different roles and experiencing university life.

Students attended a variety of interactive STEM workshops and demonstrations, such as taking images using an infrared camera with global security company Leonardo, completing the clean water challenge in the ARU Engineering department and practising CPR with lecturers from the ARU Nursing degree programme.

This hands-on experience gave students new ideas about possible STEM careers and what subjects they need to think about taking at Key Stages 4 and 5 and beyond to help them on their way to achieving their goals.

We look forward to returning to ARU to explore other subject areas soon - watch this space!











PASTORAL CARE, MENTAL HEALTH & WELLBEING



The Educational Psychology (EP) Helpline for Parents

We know that you might have questions regarding supporting your child through school.

This helpline is here to give you advice, support and signposting. This is a confidential, private and safe service for parents and carers. You don't need a referral—just book an appointment. We're here to help you support your child's unique needs.

You might want help with:

- Supporting your child at home.
- Understanding their needs in school.
- Finding out what extra help is available.

Our team of qualified educational psychologists are here to listen and guide you. The helpline:

- is confidential and personal details will not be recorded and nor will information be passed onto other sources
- is staffed by qualified educational psychologists who listen to parents' concerns and work with them to find a positive way forward
- consists of a discrete piece of work with no follow up

It does not:

- fast-track a visit for your child in school
- make a referral to the EP or any other LA service
- obtain an EP assessment or to diagnose a condition
- accelerate EP involvement with the child
- substitute for an EP working directly with the child

Now Easier to Access: The booking is designed to provide an easier and more convenient experience.

- Available on alternating Mondays and Tuesdays
- 1:00pm – 5:00pm
- 25-minute appointments bookable via MS Teams
- No more waiting – instant booking confirmation

For booking details and further information, please visit EP-Parent-Helpline

Information will also be available on the **Essex County Council Local Offer** Pages

https://schools.essex.gov.uk/special-educational-needs-and-disabilities-send/send-services-and-support/essex-local-offer-website

Essex County Council

SOCIAL MEDIA



SJP SOCIAL MEDIA

These platforms will be your go-to destination for the latest school news, celebrating student achievements, showcasing events and activities, and sharing helpful resources for parents and students.

Follow us to stay connected and be part of our vibrant school community.

Let's make this a year of connection, celebration, and community spirit! Find us on Facebook and Instagram and join the conversation today.





