ST JOHN PAYNE

AVITA PRO FIDE



NEWSLETTER May 2024

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'S COMMENTS



I am pleased to congratulate Miss Squires upon her appointment as Deputy Headteacher, securing continued strength to ensure our leadership and mission continues to offer the children in our care the very best Catholic education.

The school was full of joy & celebration as we gave thanks for Year 11 & 13 students' contributions to our community throughout their time with us. They have extended excellent devotion in preparing for their examinations, and we continue to hold them in our prayers. They are in good spirits entering and leaving the halls, and it is lovely to see groups gather together joining hands in prayer before entering the halls.

We were delighted that many families were able to join us for our Year 13 Leavers' Mass on 10th May, Fr Paschal celebrating a beautifully joyous service, likewise again this morning for Year 11 as they begin study leave following yesterday afternoon's celebration. We also thank Fr Martin for celebrating Mass for the Feast of St John Payne (6th May). The community has enjoyed uniting in witness to pray The Angelus daily at midday throughout May.

We thank Fr Paschal & Christine Webb for leading our first Youth Alpha course, which concluded recently following a Retreat at Skreens Park. We pray for all involved as they continue to grow in faith, and for all those in recent and coming weeks receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation. May their faith see them serve as witnesses to Christ.

We look forward to our KS3 production of The It in June. Students continue to enjoy their rehearsals under Mrs Nowlan's guidance, and the performances will be sure to display their gifts in great abundance.

We wish our whole community a restful break and look forward to welcoming students back to school when we return on 3rd June.

In Faith

Thomas Coen



CHAPLAINCY FAITH LIFE

As our patronal Feast fell on a bank Holiday this year, we celebrated the Feast of the English Martyrs (as this includes our patron Saint John Payne) – Years 7 & 12 led a celebration Mass with Fr Martin, and the prayer club joined in the Mary Garden to pray the Rosary, all were invited and many attended.

Year 11 revision for RS - the study of religion is in every building at SJP, for some extra visual revision I led sessions in the Chapel. This was very well attended and I hope it gave our students extra confidence going into their first RS exam.

Saint Joseph of Cupertino, pray for us!

Years 11 and 13 celebrated their individual Leavers' Masses with Fr Paschal, each student received a blessed cross and prayer card. Both year groups were well supported by their families and the relationship of Home/Family/Church we hold so dear was felt in an abundance. We continue to hold all exam students in our prayers throughout this time.

During the month of May, the whole community stops every day at the beginning of Period 4 and prays The Angelus - this is being led by both students and staff. Praying the Angelus Way introduces us to the different stages that are involved in the formation of an Angelus prayer intercessor. It enriches within us a greater appreciation of God's love and the breadth and depth of this love he has for those who respond to call.







CHAPLAINCY FAITH LIFE

Thursday adoration is the place to be on a Thursday lunchtime, it is standing room only and the presence of Christ is real! Spending time before the Blessed Sacrament, in prayer and devotion, is exactly the same as spending time before the living God. God is good...ALL the time!

Going Forward: All students in Years 8 & 9 will step back for a day of retreat. We have the Christian theatre company, Rise Up coming into school to lead a day of spiritual reflection, prayer and thanksgiving. All students will be supported by form tutors and myself, school uniform and lunch arrangements will stay the same as a normal school day. The details have been sent home via ParentPay.

I wish all the SJP community a blessed and healthy half-term.

Jack Petchey Award winners for Jan to May January: Aoife Purcell 9S February: Toby O'Brian 12F March: Ariel Omijie 10A April: Niamh Sime 13F May: Logan Barratt 9S

> Lay Chaplain, **Katy Adams**







Student Awards

	Total Year Group Achievement Points	Highest Form Achievement points	Highest Achievement Points In the Year	
Year 7	27,486	7D 6854	Aida P 7F 403 Achievement Points	
Year 8	27,651	8F 5722	Eleanor M 8F 535 Achievement Points	
Year 9	19,206	9F 4661	Freddie G 9S 524 Achievement Points	
Year 10	13,199	10D 2809	Joe T 10C 296 Achievement Points	
Year 11	5,140	11S 1033	Daniel B 174 Achievement Points	

SJP Linguastars- Term 3a





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

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

Year 7 French	Year 8 French	Year 8 German	Year 9 French	Year 9 German
Abigail E (7A)	Stephanie R (8B)	Leon S (8A)	Emanuela D (9A)	Emanuela D (9A)
Haylee S (7B)	Oliver B (8D)	Makayla T (8D)	Kelvin P (9C)	Joseph P (9C)
Agastya D (7C)	Eleanor M (8F)	Aaron K (8S)	Amelia D (9F)	Freddie G (9S)
Dee M (7D)	Amelie M (8A)	Ellen L (8B)	Noah T (8A)	Grace-Rose P (9B)
Amelia H (7F)	Elissa K-S (8C)	Phoebe D (8C)	Jayden D (9D)	Arabella G (9D)

SJP Linguastars- Term 3a





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

Peggy W (7S) Peggy completes all tasks to the best of her ability and has the makings of an excellent linguist.

Aaron K (8S) is displaying resilience and enthusiasm in French and therefore making very good progress.

Eleanor M (8S) She has already excelled in her End of Year target by devoting herself to regular learning at home and 100% focus in lessons.

Jaylen P (9F) A great attitude to learning, Jaylen has developed the confidence to participate in class with good answers.

Holly J (9S) Outstanding attitude to learning completing homework quickly and giving 100% in lessons.

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

Maisie M (10B) has worked hard showing resilience to improve her grammar and her spoken German.

Maame A (11D) Excellent written ability in a variety of tenses due to hard work at home and in lessons. Ideal A-Level candidate.

Natalia G (11F) Is working extremely hard to improve her German grammar in readiness for the final GCSE examinations.

Lilla P (12S) Positive approach to learning and resilient attitude to vocabulary recall and grammar application.

Lilli O (12F) Worked hard to understand the main themes of Goodbye Lenin.
 Hannah Y (13C) Resilient redrafting leading to improved analysis, excellent recall of vocabulary and exceptional attitude to learning. Great at remembering course content and using complex grammatical structures.
 Dola A (13D) Always pushes herself to produce a high-quality of spoken and written German.



Sporting Achievements 🌽



Athletics

Our school took part in the first round of the Schools Track & Field Championships on Thursday 16th May. Although the weather was little to be desired our athletes performed exceptionally well with some outstanding individual performances.

All 4 of our teams have now qualified for the regional final stage of the competition on the 14th of June which will be held at Chelmsford Athletics Stadium.

Archie S – Year 12



Archie continues his progress in 400m hurdles. He won his last competition in the Loughborough Open and is now ranked number 1 in the UK for U18.



Sports day 2024

Our annual Sports Day is on Friday 7th June at the Chelmsford Sports and Athletics Centre at Salerno Way, Chelmsford, CM1 2EH. This is a wonderful opportunity to affirm students' successes in the sporting life of the school. Spectators are welcome at the event but will be sat in the opposite stand to students. Further information has been shared with your child via form tutors and on Show My Homework.

Different to previous years, at the end of the event, all students will depart from Melbourne Athletics Track from 2.30 pm, unless you inform us that your child is to return to school with staff. If you would like your child to return to school, please complete this form:

https://forms.office.com/e/mWiYqcdTw0

All athletics participants are required to attend in full PE uniform. Those not in the correct uniform will not take part in their event and be returned to school. All students taking part in the school competitor's sports day may wear non uniform, however trainers are essential for all years.

Sporting Achievements 🌽



Basketball update

Year 9 boys won district league 2 basketball and have gone unbeaten this academic



Year 7 boys district basketball champions

Year 8 boys are currently unbeaten this year and are due to play their district league 2 final after the half term.







An excellent team performance!

Sporting Achievements 📈



Girls Cricket

This term we have been fortunate to have 2 female cricket coaches for every Tuesday of this term. This coaching expertise has proven invaluable as we entered our first cricket tournament. We look forward to entering again next year.



Netball Superleague match

On Friday 10th May, Mrs Johnson, Miss Cracknell and Mrs Watson took 32 Y7-10 students to watch a superleague netball game at the Copper Box Stratford. It was an incredibly close game (possibly one of the best in the season). The students loved it and were a credit to the school with a member of the public commenting on their behaviour on the train.

We hope to see some of them playing at this standard in years to come.



Sporting Achievements 📈

Youth Sport Trust event

On Tuesday 22nd April, Mr Taylor and Mrs Miller took 11 students to the Chelmsford cricket ground to take part in a Youth Sport Trust Event. The aim of this sports festival was to increase the opportunities available for all young people with additional needs to help them realise their own personal aspirations in sport.

All of our students took part with enthusiasm and did fantastically well, with four of them receiving medals for modelling the Olympic values. These students were:

- Natalia L for Determination
 - Denie C for Courage
 - Sharon A for Courage
 - Shay M for Inspiration

On an additional note, Denie was amazing at archery! Even better than most of the instructors!



PE update

As we enjoy the last of our PE lessons with Year 11, if you have any PE kit that needs a new home, please feel free to pass it to a PE teacher or drop it into the office. Old/unused trainers are also welcome.

I would like to take the opportunity to remind parents and students of the kit requirements for PE lessons. (all kits must be labelled and in a separate PE bag)

Compulsory items can be purchased from any Schoolwear Plus provider.

Optional but encouraged:

-White polo shirt with school crest. -Plain black shorts (school crest version optional from Schoolwear Plus). -Outdoor mid-layer top with school crest.

-Black football socks (school yellow and black version optional from Schoolwear Plus). -Plain black tracksuit bottoms (no logo/motif).

-Football boots, trainers, shin pads. -Black & amber rugby shirt (boys only).

-Gum shield (for hockey & rugby lessons).

Report on The London Mini Marathon April 2024

I had to arrive by 8:30 am to register myself and get all my gear ready for the race. All the participants had a little bit of a warmup so we could be fully prepared for the whole race and then at 9:02 the boys were set off first for both categories Under 14 boys and Under 17 boys. 2 minutes later it was the girl's turn to be set off. I made it to the finish line about 15 minutes later. I came 2nd overall in my category. Then the overall 3 winners of each category got prizes like vouchers medals and trophies.



The best part in my opinion was during the race the crowds that gathered to watch us all were incredible they were just so encouraging and cheering us all on which made my overall first experience so much better and more memorable.





By Natalia L 9D

Dofe



Day 1. Cold, Country and Catholic.

Students ventured out from SJP into Poseidon's unforgiving rainfall to head for camp, trudging through the villainous countryside; by the time the students arrived at Eden (camp) the ground was sodden and spirits gloomy. After the tents were erected and we gathered as a nomadic community under the safety of Miss Baker's Yurt, a familiar angelic voice could be heard in the distance - 'Fr Pashcal!' all exclaimed. He led us through an enlightening reflection, which illumined the joy that had hidden its gaze from the lowly travellers. This was Friday, the first day.

Day 2. Sun, Sidetracks and Solutions.

It's, 5 am and I think I hear birds. No, that's the boys' tents fighting back the sandman, awakening their innocent teachers. Surfacing from slumber, eyes could see the sun create a haze of dew across the once treacherous terrain to reveal a small paradise, filled with life and laughter as breakfast began. As Breakfast was over and the jealous eyes had moved away from staff sausages, we prayed a final committal and sent them out into the wilderness. Throughout the day, many lost their way, one sustaining a thorny injury; gaining back the 99, we go in search of the one remaining lost group. How will they ever make it back in time? Shortcut, Sir! Ah yes, shortcut. Remapped and rerouted all made it safely in time for tea. This was Saturday, the second day.



Year 12 Psychology students get creative with Brain Models

Year 12 Psychology students are starting their journey into Biopsychology; the structure and function of the brain are at the heart of this module. They will learn what structures are responsible for language and vision. They will also consider the interaction of internal and external factors that regulate our biological rhythms like the sleep/wake cycle and dreaming. At the start of this learning journey, they created either a 3-dimensional model of the main lobes of the brain or a 2-dimensional model of the mid-sagittal view.













Year 10 & 12 Theatre Trip

As part of both the GCSE & A Level Drama courses, students are required to devise their own original piece of theatre. To inspire the students and their work, we were fortunate enough to be able to take both year groups to see a Paper Birds production at The Mercury Theatre in Colchester.





The Paper Birds are a devising theatre company, with a social and political agenda. They are recognised as UK leaders in devised verbatim theatre and they pride themselves on taking complex, multi-faceted subjects and making them accessible.'

Feel Me asks, via your mobile phone, who and what you care about from the stories unfolding live on stage in front of you.

A stunning mixture of live performance, film, projection, dance and music, Feel Me explores the different lenses through which we are told, and connect to stories in the modern digital world.

The students loved the production and came away with many ideas and much inspiration for their own drama performance pieces, which alongside a written portfolio is worth 30% of their course.





In March, a practitioner from the world-renowned physical theatre company Frantic Assembly came to SJP to run two workshops for our Year 9s, who have shown an interest in selecting GCSE Drama as an option. 40 students in total enjoyed learning about Frantic Assembly's physical storytelling, all gaining valuable insight into how original and exciting movement can be created and how meaning can be found in this movement. The workshops pushed the students outside of their comfort zone, challenging them to create theatre in new and adventurous ways with a partner. We are so proud of all of the students who took part and we look forward to seeing how they incorporate this physical storytelling into their future Drama pieces.



Year 10 & 12 Devising Performance Exam

Both GCSE & A Level Drama courses require students in their first year of study to work in small groups and devise their own piece of original theatre. This work is for an exam component which requires students to devise their own piece of theatre, perform in their devised piece and analyse and evaluate their work throughout.

For the four GCSE groups, their performance, alongside a written portfolio, is worth 30% of their final GCSE grade. For the A Level group, their performance, alongside a research report and portfolio, is work 40% of their final A Level grade.

Only a couple of months ago the students started their creative journeys by exploring a collection of stimuli. These initial practical explorations lead each group to select one stimulus which they then use as a 'springboard' into creativity and ideas for their devised piece.

The process of devising original theatre as a small company is not an easy one. In depth research is required to provide a constant flow of ideas; excellent collaboration and communication skills are a necessity, as well as resilience and a 'let's try it' attitude.

After an incredible amount of hard work in rehearsals both in lesson and in their own time, the students performed their pieces as part of a showcase evening to invited friends and family – a live audience of 40 people in the Drama Studio. All students performed with such professionalism on the showcase evening bringing such life and creativity to their roles and plays.

Well done to all of our Year 10 & 12 Drama students.

Year 10: Zinachidi, Amelia, Chenell, Ellen, Abibat, Venessa, Charlotte, Victoria, Evelyn, Amy, Maja, Lyla, Thomas, Ariel, Ash, Jonothan, Ryan, Joe.

Year 12: Toby, Theo, Angelina.





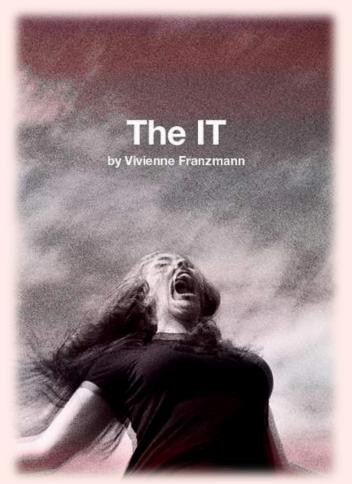
LOWER SCHOOL PLAY 2024 'The IT' TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

Purchase your tickets now to see 55 of our amazingly talented Year 7, 8 & 9 students perform their ensemble version of Vivienne Franzmann's 'The IT'.

Presented in the style of a direct-address documentary theatre, Vivienne Franzmann's 'The IT' is a darkly comic state-of-the-nation play exploring teenage mental health and the rage within."

The IT is about a teenager, who has something growing inside of them. They don't know what it is – it starts in their stomach but quickly outgrows that and takes over the entirety of their insides. It expands. It has claws. No one must know about it. They have to keep its presence, its possession of them, concealed. They pull away from their friends. They refuse to speak, in case 'The IT' is heard. But they can't contain it forever. Sooner or later something's got to give...

SHOW DATES: TUESDAY 25TH & 26TH JUNE 2024 - 7 pm Tickets £6 on ParentPay





Italy Trip 2024



During the Easter break, Mrs Schluter, Mr Farrugia, Miss Squires, Katy and Fr Damien had the pleasure of taking a group of enthusiastic students from Year 10 to Year 13 to the Bay of Naples. We left a cold and dreary Stansted and arrived to warmth and sunshine, which continued for the duration of our visit. After reaching our hotel, we unpacked and settled in. Unable to access the local church, we celebrated Mass with Fr Damien in the hotel. This unusual location reminded students of the importance of the sacrament and of coming together as a community to connect with their faith. The daily evening services which we celebrated added a really special dimension to our trip.

Our adventure began with an exhilarating 1.5-mile hike up the iconic Mount Vesuvius. Reaching the top, we were rewarded with breathtaking views over Naples and the clear blue waters of the ocean. Along the route, students learned about this active volcano. The excitement of standing at the edge of the crater and gazing into the heart of the volcano made the strenuous climb worthwhile. After our descent, we visited Pompeii, where students explored the ancient ruins, walked through well-preserved streets, and visited the Forum, the Amphitheatre, and beautifully decorated villas. They learned about daily life in ancient Rome and the tragic events of AD 79 that buried the city under volcanic ash. Having appreciated the UNESCO World Heritage Site, we headed back to the hotel and celebrated Mass at the small church opposite the hotel. We were blessed that the couple caretaking the church were more than happy to keep the church open each evening so we could celebrate with Fr Damien.



Italy Trip 2024



The next day, we drove along the spectacular Amalfi coastline, with its dramatic cliffs and turquoise waters. Every which way we looked, we were rewarded with scenes of outstanding beauty. We boarded a ferry to Salerno and headed to the Caves of Pertosa, only accessible via a river. The students were amazed by the intricate stalactites and stalagmites that had formed over millennia. Our guide shared the caves' history as we explored this fascinating subterranean world.

The following morning, we visited Sorrento, where the students were captivated by the size and beauty of St. Andrew's Basilica, a stunning example of medieval architecture. Inside, the basilica was filled with beautiful artwork and frescoes, as well as the crypt and relic of the apostle St. Andrew. Housed within the basilica's museum was a fragment of the True Cross. This sacred relic, believed to be part of the cross on which Jesus was crucified, offered students a connection to their faith and history.

After enjoying some free time to wander and shop for souvenirs, we took a boat ride to the stunning Island of Capri. There, students enjoyed the beach before riding the funicular to the top of the island, where they were greeted with yet more stunning views. Some students were even lucky enough to stumble upon the live film set of "Simple Favour 2."





Italy Trip 2024



Our adventure concluded with a visit to the Catacombs of San Gennaro, where we explored the early Christian burial site, including the tomb of San Gennaro, the patron saint of Naples. As we ventured into the catacombs, we observed early Christian frescoes and paintings, some of the earliest in southern Italy. Learning about the history of this religious site and seeing the underground church, complete with a baptismal font, was an enriching experience.

Witnessing the students grow in faith, and confidence, and overcoming personal challenges, was a truly heart-warming experience. The group departed the UK as four separate year groups, but they returned as one. Their respectful behaviour and engagement throughout the trip were commendable. They demonstrated teamwork and friendship throughout, and their positive attitude and willingness to immerse themselves in the cultural and spiritual aspects of the trip were truly impressive. It was a real privilege to travel with such a remarkable group of students.

Mrs Schluter

Bay of Naples & Rome 2025

*The RS & Humanities department is organising a residential seven-day visit to the Bay of Naples and Rome in Italy for Easter 2025, departing on April 4th 2025 and returning on April 10th 2025. The trip is open to all current Year 9-12 students and places will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis.

As part of the trip, we will be visiting Mount Vesuvius, Pompeii, the Amalfi coast, Capri, the Catacombs of San Gerrano, St Peter's Basilica, the Spanish Steps, St Mary Major Basilica, the Vatican and the Colosseum in Rome, along with many other sights in the area. *Further information will follow*



X

Before the Easter break, our Sociology and Psychology Year 12 learners were given a fantastic opportunity to attend an Essex University Outreach event. The Social Sciences Student Conference gave the learners a taste of what a university lecture is like and had a tour of the campus and its facilities. The learners heard from lecturers from the Department of Psychology on topics such as 'How Social Psychology can help us understand the idea of 'Toxic Masculinity', the Department of Psychosocial and Psychoanalytic Studies about the topic 'Psychoanalytic Criminology in The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde' and the Criminology Department on the topic 'Victims of crime and the Criminal Justice System'. The learners were impeccably behaved throughout and were a huge credit to the school community.

Head Girl, Tilda C (12A) wrote the following about the event.

"The Social Science Conference was a really great opportunity where I learnt a lot about sociology at a higher level and university life in general. We had the opportunity to go to sociology and psychology lectures; however, I only do A Level Sociology so went to the two of those lectures. There we were taught about 'Sociology in the City' and how the fortunate and unfortunate are separated in society. The second lecture looked at the criminal justice system and how difficult it is to go through and, therefore how it can affect individuals negatively where they should be supported. While I did not attend any of the psychology lectures, my peers, who did, found them very informative and interesting. We also got the opportunity to have a campus tour which was really great as we got to have an insight to university life. Overall, this was an amazing opportunity."

Sociology and Psychology are offered at KS4 and KS5 levels, and Criminology is being introduced at KS5 from the next academic year.

Mr B Matthews Head of Sociology and Criminology





Literacy & Library News

For May the 4th the Library encouraged Star Wars enthusiasts to participate in SJP's Star Wars Quiz. At the end of the term, the library hosted a Star Wars Movie Week, playing Star Wars movies during lunch and break, for those who completed the quiz!



DURING BREAK AND LUNCH. VISIT THE LIBRARY TO SEE WHAT'S PLAYING EACH DAY OR COMPLETE A STAR WARS THEMED QUIZ!





The Library and Literacy departments are thrilled to announce six young readers will be embarking on a literary adventure with an array of pageturning, never-before-read books... The YOTO Carnegie Awards! Kinga F, Maeve K, Ethan T, Louis R, Isabella H and Betty W will have the chance to join us at a virtual book awards ceremony to find out which book is the winner!



Literacy & Library News



Congratulations to Alexia, Annaise, Annmiya, Aurana, and Ethan from Year 7, who have all had their short stories published by 'Young Writers'!



Congratulations to our shortlisted candidates for the student librarian position! They have all passed their trial period and have been given their librarian badges and certificates. They are now ready to start making the library a better place.

7B: Annmiya, Abigail, Mia
7C: Annabel, Chloe, Ivy, Izzy
7D: Lexi
7F: Aida, Alyson, Ayla
7S: Eva
8A: Connie, Nanaserwaa
8C: Anna, Cara
8F: Abigail, Eleanor, Ellie, Marta
9D: Arabella, Jacob, Maahi
9S: Aoife
12C: Rubie

Thank you to everyone who participated in our sponsored read! It was a huge success, and we were able to get lots of new books for the library and classrooms.



PASTORAL CARE, MENTAL HEALTH & WELLBEING



E-SAFETY

Blocking someone on social media



If you come across someone on social media that you don't want to speak to anymore, most platforms give you the option to **block** them.

Blocking a user can mean different things on different social media sites, but it generally stops them being able to interact with you on that platform. Sometimes it also means they can no longer see anything you post or even find your profile if they search for it.

Users aren't told when someone blocks them so most of the time they won't realise or know for certain.

If someone on social media is pressuring you to do things you don't want to, speak to a trusted adult or report it to CEOP.

Reporting on social media

You can ask for content on a social media platform to be removed by reporting it.

You can report any content, such as a post, image, or comment, that is harmful, misleading or damaging. It might be something that you think is inappropriate or fake. It could also be something that someone has posted about you that you didn't give them permission to post or that has upset you.

You can also report a user or account if they are pretending to be another person or if they are posting harmful content.



"Let all that you do be done in love."

1 Corinthians 16:14