

Issue No. 21

Week Ending 7 March 2008
Learning Programme Unit 4/3

World Day of Prayer

The World Day of Prayer exists to help people to re-focus on their faith. It takes place during the first week of March each year and is an international event.

1 Thessalonians 5:17 tells us to *pray without ceasing*. We might not believe that a person can pray all the time, or we might think that a person who does pray all the time will be a boring person. Prayers do not have to be words, but they can be actions. Everything we do can be done in the spirit of prayer – considering other people and God at all times.

*Lord,
Help us to pray.
We ask that every word we speak,
every thing we do,
will be done in your name.
Amen*

EDUCATION MINISTER NAMES SJP AS ONE OF THE COUNTRY'S BEST!

We were delighted to hear yesterday that Education Minister, Jim Knight, had named SJP among 4 Merseyside schools leading the way nationally in pupil progress. Mr Knight was speaking to the Daily Post about schools achieving spectacular progress at Key Stage 3 on a national scale. He quite rightly quoted our record-breaking SATs results from last year and told journalists that we were amongst the few schools able to “set the benchmark for other schools to follow.” We were invited to speak to the Daily Post and to provide them with some background and photographs and you can find details in the edition of Thursday 28 February. I thought it might be worth sharing some extracts from the Daily Post article (see below) so that so that



Parents and colleagues can view the highlights of the Minister's statement. I am sure that the whole College community will feel a tremendous sense of pride in the achievements of staff and Pupils at SJP, particularly when these achievements are being commended in some quite high places!

Grant, Hannah, Andy, Sarah and Ryan achieved Level 8 in Mathematics – the highest grade available in the country!

Region's best schools become beacons for rest of the country

Feb 28 2008 by Laura Sharpe, Liverpool Daily Post

FOUR Merseyside schools are being used as a benchmark for many others around the country. Schools Minister Jim Knight singled out the schools from Liverpool, Wirral and Sefton for their top ranking among the country's most improved schools after results were published today.

The Key Stage Three results for 14-year-olds look at how pupils are doing in maths, English and science. Four Merseyside schools are within the top 75 in the country, having improved most in the three key subjects over the past four years.

XXXX High School, in Bootle, improved its aggregate score by 72 points, making it the fifth most improved school in the country.

XXXXXXX College and XXXXXXXX School in Liverpool, and St John Plessington Catholic College, Wirral, are also singled out for special praise. St John Plessington, which specialises in humanities and technology, is the most improved school in Wirral.

Mr Knight said: "I am delighted to see the excellent sustained improvement at the schools in Merseyside over recent years.

"How pupils achieve at Key Stage 3 provides a firm foundation for their future achievement, whether they go down the academic path to GCSE, A-level or university, or if they take the vocational route via the new diplomas or apprenticeships, to their chosen career. The results at these four Merseyside schools set the benchmark for other schools to follow."

GEOGRAPHY COMPETITION

Well done to all the winners of the Geography Story writing competition "Journey to the centre of the Earth" All entries were of a very high standard and it was really difficult to judge. Several pupils even produced actual prototypes of the rockets they would use to travel to the Earths core.

First place Chris Paisley 7MW, Second place Gabrielle Emmerson 7MW, Jacques Verkade 7EC.

Runners up Daniel West, Emily Ward, Lucinda Ward, Lauren Lefebvre, Siobhan Walsh, Natasha Johns, Lydia Kearns and Tom Lloyd

Photos will follow of the Prototype models!

Mass & Morning Prayer

Morning Prayer takes place every Tuesday and Thursday in College Chapel from 8.20 – 8.35.

Fr Tony Elder from Holy Name will be celebrating Mass in College Chapel at 12.50 on Wednesday.

Year 9 SATs Booster Classes

Pupils in Year 9 are invited to Maths Booster classes from 3.20-4.20 p.m. every Thursday in the run up to the SATs. We will be looking at key topics in Level 8,7, 6 and 5. Students need to look at the revision schedule carefully, choose the topics they are experiencing weaknesses in and then go along to that class for additional tuition. There will also be a number of support staff available at each event.

There will also be support available to pupils who are working towards Level 4. These pupils need to visit Mrs Griffiths in the Maths Department to book yourself in!

If you have any further questions or queries please see Miss McGagh in Maths 3.



30 Year 7 pupils visited the Liverpool Empire Theatre to watch "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat" on Wednesday. Pupils had studied the Old Testament Narrative in their RE lessons and enjoyed front stall seats singing along to Any Dream Will Do, Close Every Door and the many other songs from the Show.

The Star of the Show "Joseph" was played by Craig Chalmers who along with Keith Jack the narrator reached the Television show final of "Any Dream Will do."

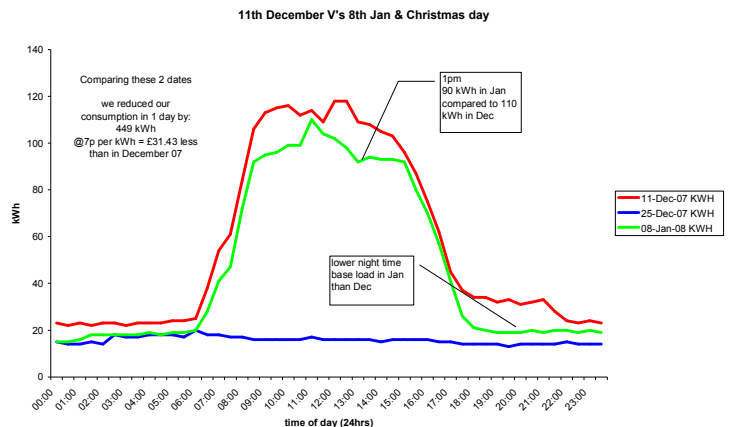
Many of the audience alongside and behind us commented on how smart SJP pupils looked and how their behaviour was a credit to the school.

Well done Year 7!!

Support 'E day'

The UK is using more and more energy each year. As result, we are building new **power stations** to meet the increasing demand and guarantee future supplies, spending more money on **energy bills** and releasing more **greenhouse gases** and pollution into the atmosphere. These trends can feel inevitable and overwhelming, but **cheap and simple** ways of saving energy, such as leaving things off, are available to almost everyone.

As you are aware SJP are currently running our 360 project, a project to reduce our electricity consumption by 6% monthly. Our first month has seen a significant drop in electricity demand by changing small things like turning class room lights off when not in use and shutting computers off. The graph below shows the impact SJP has made in 1 month of small acts by everyone.



SJP: protecting the environment for future generations

LITERACY CORNER

Word of the week

Bonhomie (bɒn'ə-mē')

Noun meaning frank and simple good-heartedness; a good-natured manner; friendliness; geniality

DERIVATIVES: **Bonhomous** Adjective



Literacy quiz

Unscramble the tiles to reveal some famous Shakespearian quotes:

TH ION OR BE TO TO BE NOT
AT IS THE EST QU

OD P L A Y E I C . E O N T H
U S I F F M L O O F O B V E

Y R E A M E R S O M O U N . R Y C
O U S . A N L N T N D S . E N D
R I E M E F R

Answers:

1. To be or not to be, that is the question.
2. If music be the food of love, play on.
3. Friends, Romans, countrymen, lend me your ears.

Key Stage 4 Information Evening 3 March 2008 6.00—8.00 p.m.

Parents of Pupils in Year 9 should note that we have our annual Information Evening for Pupils about to embark upon Key Stage 4 in September 08. The Evening will provide details about all aspects of College life at Key Stage 4 and, in particular, will provide lots of background about choices and progression through the different subjects available next year. Pupils will also be introduced to some of the wider expectations that the College has for them as they move into a new phase as young adults. I would be grateful if Pupils and Parents could arrive promptly for the 6.00 p.m. start, with Pupils in full school uniform.

R.E. REVISION LESSONS

Year 10—Wednesday Evenings

5 March—Love of God and love of others—Parable of the Sheep and Goats J1 (Miss Wilson) in RE4

Year 11—Tuesday Evenings

4 March—The search for meaning and purpose / The existence of religion C1 (Mrs Davidson) in B4

PARISH NEWS

St John's Parish

Calling all Year 8 and above Pupils from the Parish of St. John's. St. John's New Ferry is starting up its confirmation program for this year. If you would be interested in being confirmed this year please speak to Alison.

Watch this space for the date and time of the first meeting! (Remember this is for pupils only from St. Johns)

St Anne's Parish

If there are any Pupils in Year 8 or above from St Anne's Parish who wish to make their Confirmation this year, there will be an introductory meeting for both candidates and their parents in the Church on Sunday 9th March at 7.00pm. Further details from Fr Ned 645 3996.

PFOP BIG SCREEN RACE NIGHT

Forget Aintree, Epsom and Newmarket—it's coming to SJP!

Friday 14 March 2008 7.00 p.m. in College Hall.

ALL WELCOME

YEAR 11 GCSE SPANISH REVISION

Coursework help and revision classes will take place every Wednesday from 3.30—4.30 p.m.

HISTORY REVISION CLASSES

History Revision classes will begin for Year 11 every Tuesday (3.30—4.30 p.m.) from the 19 February 2008

SCIENCE CLUB

Science Club is on Wednesday at 3.20 p.m. in SC9.

Football Update



Year 7

Congratulations to the Year 7 football team who put in a convincing performance in their 6-1 win at Bebington. The boys showed a great team spirit and togetherness, although special congratulations must go to Cy Longstaff and Lewis Hewitt who each netted a hat-trick! Well done boys and good luck in next week's Wirral Cup game against Ridgeway.

Year 8

The Year 8 team also put in a quality performance when they too met Bebington this week. The first half was a battle against the elements as a strong wind contributed to the boys going 4-1 down at half time. The team rallied well despite this setback and practically set up camp in the opposition half for the remainder of the game. Unfortunately they were unable to turn this possession into goals and the game finished 4-2 to the hosts. Good luck to the year 8 team who also face Ridgeway in next week's Wirral Cup fixture.



Year 9

The Year 9 team were the latest SJP team to be invited to the Liverpool Football Club academy tournament. The boys took part in a total of three matches against teams from around the North West region. In their opening game against Wallasey School they started brightly and were soon in control with a 3-0 lead. Once in front they never looked back and managed to control the game and keep a clean sheet. In their second game they also played very well against an organised Parklands team. Despite creating several chances they were unable to score and lost the game 1-0. With results going their way in other games they were left with the task of winning their final game to win the group overall. Unfortunately the effort put into the

first two games had taken its toll and the boys ended their day with a 2-0 defeat and third place overall. Despite the result the boys thoroughly enjoyed the experience and now turn their attention to the Wirral Cup.

YEAR 10 MATCH REPORT

The Year 10 Basketball team took part in a KS4 tournament at South Wirral High on Tuesday. All teams there were mainly Year 11 players and had a considerable height and speed advantage, yet no other team played with such consistent skill. The tone for the tournament was set in the first minutes of our game against Oldershaw when Jamie Flynn hit a fade away jump shot in the face of a much taller opponent. Our team attacked hard and working together they started to control the play more towards the last few minutes but ended 14-10 down.

South Wirral thought they would easily defeat us in the second game, with their 6'7" centre, but Craig McMahon and Chris Kane had other ideas. Chris' defence and Craig's shot off the drive led our side to a 12-12 draw, putting us in a good position for the rest of the tournament. Another close game followed against Wirral Grammar. Tom Critchley and Adam Morgan battled with impressive skill and athleticism against a strong Year 11 side. Unfortunately we narrowly lost 16-12 in a well fought game, creating a fiery intensity in the team to win our last match against Bebington.

With the muscle of Luke McKenna and the moves of David Varney we showed ourselves to be the team with the best depth of talented players in the tournament, culminating in scoring a last second dunk to win the game 14-12. This placed SJP as 3rd on the Wirral at Year 11 and determined to beat 2nd place Oldershaw in a full game! Congratulations to all players.