# St John Plessington Catholic College

A Specialist Humanities and Technology College

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Issue No. 26 Week Ending 25 April 2008 Learning Programme Unit 5/3

Walk humbly with your God.

What does the Lord ask of you? That you act justly and love mercy and walk humbly with your God.

#### Micah 6:8

The theme of last week's mission and this week's Mass at the Cathedral remind us about our calling. We are all called to act with justice - therefore, not exploiting others, giving people a fair chance, speaking out against oppression, to love mercy - so be forgiving and compassionate, and to walk with God. Our faith life is to be acted out not just by occasionally saving a prayer (although prayer is an integral part of faith), but in the way we treat other people and respect the world in which we live. Life is a walk with God and also with our fellow human beings. How can we make every step a step of justice, mercy and humility?

#### Father God,

Help me to walk with you and with all the people I come into contact with – those I know and love and those who are strangers with me. Teach me to act with justice and mercy and to humbly allow you to be my guide and companion throughout my life. I make this prayer in Jesus' name. Amen

### MASS FOR THE COLLEGE COMMUNITY AT THE METROPOLITAN CATHEDRAL OF CHRIST THE KING 23 APRIL 11.00 A.M.



Our annual College Mass takes place this Wednesday and promises to be a joyous event for the whole of the College community and will act as the closing ceremony for our College Mission Week. As you might expect, all Pupils and staff will be attending the event and we will be joined at the Cathedral by Governors and representatives from our Partner Schools and Parishes. I should like to take

this opportunity of extending a very warm invitation to all those Parents who are able to be with us as well. Mass begins at 11.00 on the 23 April, and I would respectfully ask Parents to take their seats by 10.50 in order to accommodate the huge numbers we are anticipating on the day.

I am confident that our trip to the Cathedral will rapidly become an integral part of our annual celebration of the Catholic Mission of the College and I will be very pleased, therefore, to welcome all Parents able to be present at this inaugural visit. Please see back page for letters.

## National Curriculum Tests Tuesday 6 May to Friday 9 May

Parents of pupils in Year 9 will shortly receive a letter outlining details of arrangements for our National Curriculum Examinations scheduled for Tuesday 06/05 to Friday 09/05. Pupils are all now working very hard on the final preparation sessions being organised in English, Mathematics and Science. Parents will recall that last year's results were so successful that they led to comments from Education Minister, Jim Knight, about the spectacular progress made by SJP pupils. I am very confident that our current Year 9 pupils will make us equally proud. Good luck to all! Parents should note that I have asked HODs to suspend homework for Year 9 pupils except for SATs revision.

## **COLLEGE CLOSED TO PUPILS THURSDAY 24 APRIL 2008**

Please see back page for letter referring to arrangements for Thursday 24 April. College will be closed to all pupils on that day.



# LITERACY CORNER

Word of the week Superfluous // Pronunciation Key /[/ Pronunciation Key soo-pur-floo-uh s] MEANING: being more than is suffi-



cient or required; excessive, unnecessary or needless DERIVATIVES: Superfluously adverb; superfluousness noun ORIGIN: Latin super- + fluere 'to flow'

#### Literacy quiz

Fill in the blanks with the correct antonym (a word opposite in meaning to another):

	presence		
accept			
	inaccurate		
	disadvantage		
alive			
	never		
ancient			
	question, query		
approval			
	deny		
arrival			
	descend		
asleep			
ally			
	disagree		
	good		
danger	safety		
dark	light		
deep	shallow		

## Presentation to Year 12 Students by Cambridge University

Two undergraduate students from Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge University, came into College this week to give a presentation to a number of Year 12 students.

The presentation gave the students an idea of what life would be like if they came to study at Cambridge University. We learnt that life at Cambridge is based on a collegiate system in which each student is primarily a member of a College.

The talk also covered the admission process and the financial support available for students. Many of our own pupils left the meeting giving serious consideration to an application later this year.

# **R.E. REVISION LESSONS**

#### Year 10—Wednesday Evenings

**23 April** — Sacraments of initiation and healing J3 (Miss Wilson) RE4

#### Year 11—Tuesday Evenings

**22** April — Biblical / Christian teaching on the role of women C4 (Mrs Davidson) in B4

## MATHEMATICS REVISION CLASSES

GRADE C MATHEMATICS REVISION CLASSES TUESDAY 3:20 - 4:20 WITH MISS MCGAGH AND MRS BELL IN MA3 AND MA5

GRADE A/A\* MATHEMATICS REVISION CLASS WEDNESDAY 3:20 - 4:20 WITH MR GATRELL IN MA6



# PFOP PLANT SALE



This year's PFOP Plant Sale will take place on Saturday 10 May 2008, 10.00 a.m. until 12.00 p.m. in College Hall.

# SJP Pupils help out Primary Schools at Polish Cultural Celebration

On Wednesday last week, five pupils from SJP attended the Polish Cultural Day at Rock Ferry Library to work with St Anne's and Well Lane Primary Pupils.

Angelika Dobosz, Megan Clark, Bart Kot, Gerard Mazurek and Jan Kacperek had a great time helping primary school Pupils explore the myths and legends surrounding the creation of Poland along with an award-winning Arts Company called Yellow House. Pupils delighted in acting out the stories along with creating their own impressions on paper of how the mythical beasts involved could be represented.

Throughout the day, our Pupils worked tirelessly and with great humour with the youngsters and were a real credit to the College. They received presents, thanks and great praise from the staff at the library and the youth workers from Yellow House Arts Company.

Well done to all.



The Mission, themed *Walk Humbly with your God* gave both pupils and staff the opportunity to reflect upon their journey and to consider those who walk with us on that journey – our friends, family, teachers, colleagues, and of course, God. Pure Creative Arts led the opening session each day with a presentation, using music, drama and testimony to encourage participants to consider themselves as wonderful, beautiful and unique people created by God. Pupils then followed a series of workshops to help them think about various aspects of life. Part of the Mission was to prepare ourselves for Mass at the Cathedral this week, which will be on the same theme. Pupils and staff contributed towards making a banner to be carried at the Cathedral and also spent time preparing themselves for the penitential rite. A number of organisations were represented in the Mission. Sessions were led by CAFOD, the Bible Society, Lepra and the Salesian Sisters. They were all very thought-provoking.

Pupils responded really well to the Mission, behaving with respect towards the mission leaders and by seizing the opportunities that were put before them.

The Mission was a wonderful opportunity to take time out of the busyness of our usual day of lessons and the pressures that this brings. It highlighted for our youngsters that, while our lives are full of pressures and things that drag us away from God, or drown out his voice, he is always there guiding, supporting and loving us.

# P.E. Extra Curricular Timetable

Year/Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
CHANGING TIME FOR ALL YEARS : 12.00 - 12.15					Cross Country -12.45
K54 12 - 12.40	Yr 10 Cricket Nets	Yr 7 Cricket Nets	Yr 10 Rounders	Yr 9 Cricket Nets	Yr 10 Football
KS3 12.40 - 1.15	Yr 7 Rounders	Yr 7 Cricket Nets Yr 8 & 9 Rounders	Yr 8 Cricket Nets Yrs 7-9 Netball	Yr 9 Cricket Nets Yrs 7- 9 Fitness	Yrs 7-9 Boys' Indoor Football Tour- nament
3.20 - 4.30		Yrs 7-9 Girls' Tag Rugby Yrs 7 & 8 Cricket Prac- tice	All Years Badminton Yr 8 & 9 Football Practice Rounders Team Prac- tice - All Years	Yr 7 Football Yr 7 Trampolining Yrs 9 & 10 Cricket Practice	Staff Activities
FIXTURES					

TPQ/hc 17<sup>th</sup> April 2008

## **ALL PARENTS / CARERS**

Dear Parents / Carers

#### MASS FOR THE COLLEGE COMMUNITY AT CHRIST THE KING CATHEDRAL, WEDNESDAY, 23<sup>RD</sup> APRIL 2008, 11.00AM

#### SCHOOL CLOSURE - THURSDAY, 24<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2008

Our annual College Mass takes place next Wednesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2008 and promises to be a wonderful event for the whole College community. This will act as the closing ceremony for this week's College Mission week.

Pupils and staff will be attending the event and will be joined at the Cathedral by Governors and representatives from our partner primary schools and parishes. Pupils should attend the College as normal on Wednesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2008, in full uniform, and will be transported by coach from the College to the Cathedral.

I would like to take the opportunity of extending this invitation to all parents who are most welcome to join us. Mass will begin at 11.00am and I would ask parents to arrive by 10.50am, to enable us to allocate you in a designated seating area.

After the Mass pupils will travel back to the College for lunch and finish the College day at 2.00pm.

Furthermore, as you are probably aware, the National Union of Teachers (NUT) is holding a national strike the next day, on Thursday, 24<sup>th</sup> April 2008. As a result of this, the College will be closed for the day for all pupils. The reason for closure is that the safe supervision of pupils on the day will not be possible.

The College will re-open to all pupils on Friday, 25<sup>th</sup> April 2008.

I hope that the advanced notice will help you to organise child care arrangements.

Thank you for your co-operation in this matter.

Yours sincerely

Mr T P Quinn Head Teacher