



St John Plessington Catholic College

Issue 14

Newsletter

w/c 15th December 2014



SJP Panto - Alice in Wonderland

It was a wonderful time in wonderland for our annual pantomime at SJP. Laughter, shouts and cheers were the order of the day for a fantastic performance.

Over 500 audience members were left speechless as our pupils captured their imaginations and took them on a journey through Wonderland on a quest to defeat the jam stealing Jammerwocky. The show was a sell out for both evenings, reflecting the high quality of acting, dance and music on display.

The audience left fully in the Christmas spirit, praising the achievements of all of our cast. A massive well done to all involved in the show – it was a fantastic pantomime - Oh yes it was!



**Please note SJP will close early at 2.20pm on Friday 19th December for the Christmas Holidays
however Merseytravel buses are available at the normal time of 3.20pm
Pupils are to return to College at 8.40am on Monday 5th January 2015
We wish you a very merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!**



Tate Gallery Liverpool Visit

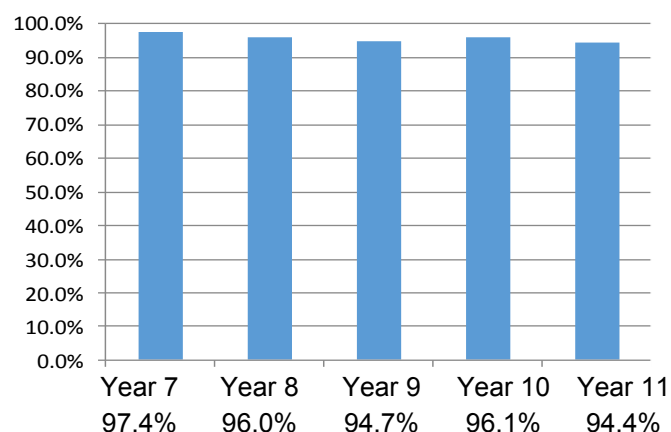
GCSE and A Level Art students recently enjoyed a fascinating weekend visit to the Tate Gallery's latest block-buster exhibition entitled 'Transmitting Warhol'. The exhibition displayed more than 100 works by Andy Warhol who was one of the twentieth century's most influential artists, and included his iconic images of Marilyn Monroe and Elvis Presley. Entry to the exhibition was preceded by a highly informative and entertaining lecture and slide presentation delivered by the gallery's education team. Students were able to gain an invaluable insight into Warhol's techniques and methods of working, and discover first-hand how his work has made a lasting impact on our world today through art, pop music, mass-media, fashion, and celebrity culture.



Coming Up

16 & 17 Dec	SJP Carol Service
19 Dec	Last day of term
5 Jan	New Term starts
5 Jan	Theatre Trip to The Lowry, Salford
8 Jan	Yr 10 Vaccinations
14 Jan	Industry Day Yr 9 & Yr 12
15 Jan	Bronze DofE Awards
16 Jan	Review Day Yr 8 & Yr 9

Attendance 01/09/14 - 05/12/14



St John Plessington Catholic College
Christmas Carol Service 2014

Hope Born in Darkness



TUESDAY 16th DECEMBER and WEDNESDAY 17th DECEMBER 7PM

SUGGESTED DONATION £1
ALL PROCEEDS TO STREET CHILD AFRICA

Literacy Corner

Can you find examples of words that follow spelling Rule 1 and 2 in the passage below?

If you can, see Mrs Connolly and win a prize!

Spelling rule 1, adding an e, lengthens the preceding vowel.

Spelling rule 2, remove the e, to add ing.

Winter is one of my favourite seasons. The cold weather is amazing (especially if it snows!). We all wrap up warm and see exciting Christmas treats set out in a line in shop windows. It becomes dark much earlier but I do not hate this; I quite like feeling cosy and warm in my home!

Spanish Exchange Reciprocal Visit

On the 28th of November we welcomed pupils and staff from our exchange partner school in Pamplona for the second leg of our exchange programme this year. The 14 Spanish pupils spent a week with their partners experiencing life in Great Britain. They got to spend the weekend with their exchange families before experiencing lessons on the Monday morning. On the Monday afternoon the Spanish students visited Port Sunlight and the Port Sunlight museum. During the rest of the week the exchange party visited Liverpool, enjoying the 'hop on, hop off' tour bus to see the sights.

On the Wednesday the Spanish pupils and their SJP partners visited Chester to experience the Roman Museum, explore the walls around the city and enjoy the Christmas markets. Everyone then had a fantastic evening at the Panto. The week's activities ended with a visit to Conway castle before heading to Llandudno ski slope to try tobogganing and 'snow tubing'.

The exchange was an extremely positive experience and all involved, both Spanish and English pupils, had a great time and are already making plans to see each other in the summer. We are looking forward to putting plans in place for our next exchange in 2015!



Maths Corner

Suppose you are a bell ringer holding a rope and you look around the church tower and see the faces of 3 friends, all about to start change ringing.

To ring a 'round' each bell is rung in turn (123412341234....).

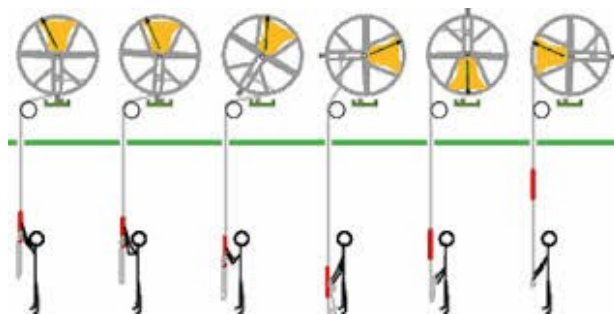
The bells can be rung in any order and changing the order is known as a 'change'.

As your bell goes round on its wheel you can slow it down, or speed it up, just a little but not much, so you can only change places in the ringing order with the bell just before you or just after you.

The following example shows very simple 'bell music' starting with a round and ending with a round of 4 bells, showing 8 of the 24 possible permutations, or orders.

1234
2143
2413
4231
4321
3412
3142
1324
1234

Can you find the changes so that, starting and ending with a round, all the 24 possible permutations are rung once each and only once?



**Answer to last week's
Maths Corner**

Answer = 217



Weekly Theme - Advent - Witness

John 1:6-8, 19-28

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light.

This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, 'Who are you?' He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, 'I am not the Messiah.'

And they asked him, 'What then? Are you Elijah?' He said, 'I am not.' 'Are you the prophet?' He answered, 'No.' Then they said to him, 'Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?'



He said, 'I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness. "Make straight the way of the Lord" as the prophet Isaiah said.'

Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. They asked him, 'Why then are you baptizing if

you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?' John answered them, 'I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal.' This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

In our Gospel this week John the Baptist is introduced as a witness to the light that is Jesus. He is an example of someone with that broad vision of life. He answers the question that we are all invited to answer: "Who am I?"

In what he said and did, he pointed to Jesus whose light enables all to see clearly. John saw what God wanted him to do and it set him free to take on his mission with courage and enthusiasm. He rejoiced that Jesus was near.

He was also humble enough to fade into the background and let Jesus take centre stage. It is the wisdom of someone who knows that great things can be done so long as we don't mind who gets the credit.

What does God want for us this Christmas?

Can we be witnesses to Jesus being the light of the world in Wirral this Christmas?

Prayer

Jesus, Light of the World, may you shine in all the dark places of our world this Christmas.

Amen