



St John Plessington Catholic College

Issue 13

# Newsletter

w/c 8th December 2014



## Year 8 & Year 9 Experience Savio House

Last Monday pupils from Year 8 and Year 9 travelled to Savio House in Bollington, Macclesfield, for their year group experience. Savio House is a Diocesan Youth Centre, run by the Salesians.

The theme for the Experience which lasted three days, was "Building Bridges". During their time together our young people were encouraged to look at their relationships with their family, their friends and with God.

Our young people had a wonderful time together joining in all the activities, group work and games as well as the challenging hill walk to the top of *White Nancy*, a local tourist attraction.

Well done Year 8 and Year 9.



## Review Day Year 7 & 10 comments from Parents & Carers:

"Excellent experience - thoroughly enjoyed it." "Well informed; any questions were well explained."



## SJP Shoe Box Appeal 2014

Over the last few weeks, pupils and staff have been busy packing shoe boxes for this year's *Operation Christmas Child*. So far we have packed an amazing four hundred and thirty boxes and we are still packing! Soon the boxes will be collected and be on their way to children around the world who have so little.

As we open our presents on Christmas morning, we will know that four hundred and thirty children who we don't know the names of, or where they are in the world, will be experiencing the same excitement that we do as we open our own presents.

Well done everyone.



## Sports Fixtures

**Tuesday - Rugby (Year 8) Tournament (Away)**

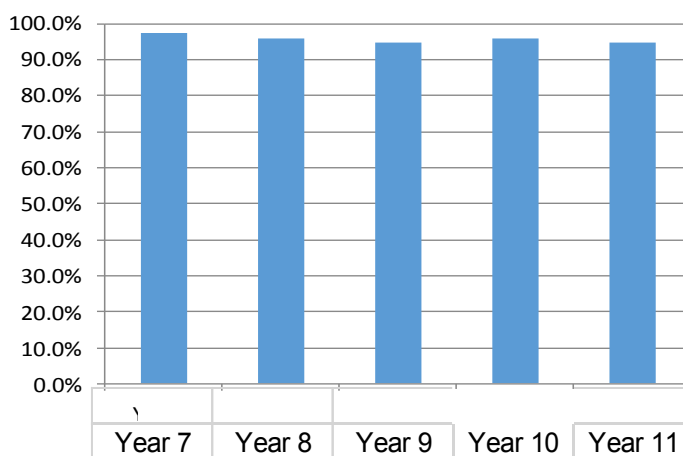
**Tuesday - Football (Year 10) vs Calderstone (Away) 1.00pm leave school**

**Thursday - Netball (Year 7, 8, 9) vs UAB (Home)**

## Coming Up

<b>11-Dec</b>	<b>Yr 9 Vaccinations</b>
<b>11-Dec</b>	<b>Yr 12 Parents' Evening</b>
<b>16 &amp; 17 Dec</b>	<b>SJP Carol Service</b>
<b>19 Dec</b>	<b>Last day of term</b>
<b>5 Jan</b>	<b>New Term starts</b>
<b>5 Jan</b>	<b>Theatre Trip to The Lowry, Salford</b>
<b>14 Jan</b>	<b>Industry Day Yr 9 &amp; Yr 12</b>
<b>16 Jan</b>	<b>Review Day Yr 8 &amp; Yr 9</b>

## Attendance



## SJP Carol Service

**You are warmly invited to our annual Carol Service which takes place on Tuesday & Wednesday 16th & 17th December 2014 at 7.00pm.**

**Tickets are available from College Reception, suggested donation £1, with all proceeds going to Street Child Africa.**

**Please note that all children must be accompanied by an adult. We look forward to seeing you at what is always a very special evening.**

St John Plessington Catholic College  
Christmas Carol Service 2014

# Hope Born in Darkness



TUESDAY 16<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER and WEDNESDAY 17<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 7PM

SUGGESTED DONATION £1  
ALL PROCEEDS TO STREET CHILD AFRICA

## Language Corner

### Which celebrity am I describing?

¡Hola! Soy cantante profesional y tengo el pelo largo, castaño y bastante ondulado. También tengo los ojos marrones. Salgo mucho en la televisión – cada semana en El Factor X. Soy casada pero no tengo hijos. Soy inglesa y cuando era pequeña vivía en Newcastle. Soy muy exitosa – he tenido varios “número unos” en Inglaterra. ¿Quién soy?

**The first person to correctly identify the celebrity to Miss Gaffney will win Vivos!**



## Netball News

We provided four Netball Teams to play against Bebington High School, at home on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December. Our new Year 7 team continued their winning ways with a 3-0 win. The girls should be very proud of their efforts. The Year 8 team had somewhat of a challenge, playing a combination of Year 8 and Year 10 players, and came back to win 3 - 2. Another excellent display by the girls. The Year 9 team played their first game of this netball season. They played a Year 10 Bebington team and although they lost by 7-0, it was excellent to see the girls show sportsmanship and continue playing throughout to the end of the game. The stand out team of the night was a newly formed Sixth Form team. This was the girls' first time playing together and they won 6 - 4. The girls were delighted and we hope that this is the start of a successful season for them. Well done to everyone involved. Onto the next fixtures...

## The Free Books for all Year 7 Pupils have arrived!

At the beginning of the new school term our Year 7 pupils had the opportunity to choose a **free** book of their choice from the twelve specially selected titles that were on display in the library and have been written by some of our favourite children's authors.

This is the eighth year that our College has taken part in this extremely popular campaign aimed at inspiring young people to read for pleasure and discover new books and authors.

All of the Year 7 pupils jumped at the chance to select a free book and have since created a real **buzz** amongst themselves about the books!

The 'Bookbuzz' website, [www.bookbuzz.org.uk](http://www.bookbuzz.org.uk), contains lots of fun activities and is also a great place to discover other exciting books and authors.





## Yr 10 Additional Support Timetable

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>Lunchtime</b>	PE BTEC (Pe3)	Health & Social (Vo1)	Health & Social (Vo1)	Health & Social (Vo1)	English HW club (Ea5)
<b>After school</b> <b>3:20-4:20</b>		English (Ea4)	Maths (Ma3)	RE (RE3)	PE BTEC (Pe3)
		DT (DT rooms)	DT (DT rooms)	DT (DT rooms)	
		Art (Art1/2)	Spanish (MFL)	Art (Art1/2)	
		ICT (ICT2)	PE BTEC (Pe3)	Science (Sc block)	
		Health & Social (Vo1)	Health & Social (Vo1)	Business (BS1)	
			Geography		
			History (Hw5)		

This outlines times when Year 10 pupils can attend lunchtime and after school sessions to receive additional support with homework and class work. They can also be accessed to complete coursework. Sessions are run by department staff and can be used on a drop in basis, unless otherwise directed.

## Maths Corner

All the words in the Snowman language consist of exactly seven letters formed from the letters

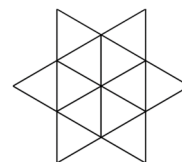
{s, no, wm, an}  
arranged in some order where the paired letters cannot be separated. For example ``snonono" and ``sssanwm" are words in the language but ``sssmwan" and ``ssawmn" are not.



How many words are there in the Snowman language?

### Answer to last week's Maths Corner

**Answer = 20**



## Weekly Theme - Advent - Change

*Mark 1:1-8*

*The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.*

*As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,*

*'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way;  
the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:  
"Prepare the way of the Lord make his paths straight."'*

*John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.*

*Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, 'The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.'*

If each one of us could understand just how much we are loved by God as we are right now, with all the things we like about ourselves and all the things we don't, then our lives and our view of life would be truly changed.

In the Gospel this week we see John the Baptist calling people to repentance and to change. When we change and put God at the centre of what we do then we bring peace and joy into our lives.

Mary is our model for change. Through her saying 'yes' to God, Mary brought about change not only to her life but change for all humanity as well.

Mary understands that in God's plan it is the poor and the humble who are important and not the rich and powerful.

Are we ready for change this Advent?

**Prayer**  
**Ever changing**  
**God, help me**  
**to be open to**  
**change this**  
**Advent.**

**Amen**





The season of Advent is the time when we prepare ourselves to celebrate the great feast of Christmas. Sometimes we get so caught up in the practicalities of Christmas, the buying of presents and the writing of cards and the decorating of the Christmas tree that we forget what Christmas is really all about. Advent reminds us that we should also prepare to welcome Jesus to come right into the centre of our lives.

The more we prepare in this way, the less we will be overwhelmed by the commercialisation of Christmas.

Prepare a way for the Lord!

*Show me, Lord Jesus, how I may best prepare to celebrate your birth into this world. Show me those things I need to put right in my life. Show me how to avoid the greed and selfishness of this season and focus on what is truly essential. Amen.*

Please find below the times for Mass in our local parishes as well as their contact details.

#### **St Joseph's Church**

Parish Priest Fr Nick Kern  
Tel: 0151 652 5767

Sunday: 9.00am and 5.00pm.

#### **Christmas Mass times**

Christmas Eve  
Vigil Mass 7pm  
12 Midnight – with Carols from 11.30pm  
Christmas morning 9.00am

#### **St Michael & All Angels**

Parish Priest Fr Nick Kern  
Tel: 0151 677 4915

Vigil Mass Saturday 6pm  
Sunday 11am

#### **Christmas Mass times**

Christmas Eve  
Vigil Mass 5pm  
9.30pm "Midnight Mass"  
Christmas Morning 11.00am

#### **St Anne's Church**

Parish Priest Fr Bernard Forshaw  
Tel: 0151 645 3996

Saturday Vigil Mass 6.30 pm  
Sunday morning 11.15 am

#### **Christmas Mass times**

Christmas Eve  
Children's Mass 6.30pm  
Vigil Mass 9.00pm  
Christmas morning 11.15 am

**St John the Evangelist** Parish Priest Fr. Bernard Forshaw  
assisted by Fr. Emeka  
Tel 0151 645 3314

Saturday Vigil Mass 5pm  
Sunday morning 9.30am

#### **Christmas Mass times**

Christmas Eve 8.00 pm  
Christmas Day 9.30 am

**St Luke the Physician**

Parish Priest Canon Paschal Byrne  
Tel: 0151 644 7530

Sunday

9.15am (Lower Bebington Methodist Church)

11am (Poulton Lancelyn Primary School)

**Christmas Mass times**

Christmas Eve 8pm (St George's URC Church Thornton Hough)

Christmas morning

9.15am (Poulton Lancelyn Primary School)

11.00am (The Oratory next to St Luke's Parish House.)

**Christ the King**

Parish Priest Canon David Roberts  
Tel: 0151 344 1657

Saturday Vigil Mass 6pm

Sunday 10am and 6pm

**Christmas Mass times**

Christmas Eve Vigil Mass 6pm & 8pm

Christmas morning 10.00am

**St Werburgh's**

Parish Priest Fr. Ray Burke  
Tel: 0151 647 9124

Saturday Vigil Mass 5pm

Sunday 10.30am

**Christmas Mass times**

Christmas Eve

Family Mass 5pm

Vigil Mass 8pm with Carols from 7.30pm

Christmas morning 10.30am

**Our Lady, Holy Cross & St Paul's**

Parish Priest Fr. Philip Mc Govern  
Tel: 0151 652 1074

Saturday Vigil Mass 6pm (Our Lady's)

Sunday

9.30am (St Paul's)

11.00 am (Our Lady's)

**Christmas Mass times**

Christmas Eve

Children's Christmas Vigil Mass 5.30pm (Our Lady's)

Vigil Mass 7.30pm (Our Lady's)

Christmas Morning

9.30am (St Paul's)



## Recycling Centre

Ever wondered where all your rubbish goes? This is an issue that our Year 12 World Development students have been investigating. To get to the bottom of this, the class went to Bidston Materials Recovery Facility, or you may know it as 'the tip!'. The group were welcomed by Kirsty Martin, our guide at the Discovery Centre, a learning zone located within the recycling centre. We started our investigation at the Bidston Moss Nature Reserve, a short walk away, where we walked high up onto the hill with amazing views across Wirral and beyond. Once at the highest point, our guide shocked us by explaining that we were standing on over 60ft of waste! The former land fill site was used as residents across Wirral needed to dispose of their household waste; historically, it was mainly ash from coal and log fires, but as the composition of the waste changed, we were now standing on over 100 years of plastic bottles, cans, textiles and food waste.

Over the last 20 years the site has been awarded over £2.4 million to develop the area as a nature reserve and fishing pond. The ponds, reed beds and marshland are excellent habitats for birds. The increase in the number of wildfowl in winter consists mostly of Mallard with some Teal while Snipe and occasionally Jack Snipe and Water Rail can also be seen. On our way back to the Discovery Centre, we met two workers, who were measuring water levels and the different gases that are produced from the decomposing waste. They showed us how to collect data, and the importance of monitoring levels for both people and the environment. Back at the centre, we used the CCTV control centre to see what happens to our waste. The site was full of machinery and staff who take great time and effort in separating waste so that in Wirral we can reach our target of every household recycling 50% of our waste by 2020. The class were quizzed on their knowledge

of the 3 R's; Reduce, Reuse, Recycle and encouraged to do their bit to reduce their own carbon footprint.

