



# Plessington Catholic Technology College

Issue No. 12 Volume 1  
20<sup>th</sup> January 2006  
Learning Programmes Unit 3/3

*Theme: understanding*

*If today*

*If you planted hope today  
in any hopeless heart*

*If someone's burden was lighter  
because you did your part*

*If you caused a laugh  
that chased some tears away*

*If tonight your name is named  
when someone kneels to pray*

*Then your day  
had been well spent*



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## *Plessington News*

### YEAR 11 INTO 12 TRANSITION PROGRAMME 2006

Our Year 11 students are now entering a very important time when informed decisions need to be made regarding their future education and career.

Your support in helping your child in their decision is crucial and a description of events and support sessions your child will be following is outlined below. Should you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact Mrs McMahon, Mrs Singleton or Mr Dolan.

**13 January** – Year assembly focuses on Sixth Form, revision, planning and deadlines.

**Week beginning 16 January** – All pupils attend a 2 hour study skills workshop.

**17 January** – Special year 11 assembly on Sixth Form at Plessington

**23 January** – Your child will have a personal interview by Senior Staff of the school to focus on Sixth Form and post 16 choices.

**26 January – 6.30 – 8.30 p.m.** Sixth Form Open Evening. Please attend the Open Evening to receive presentation, discuss with departments and students courses and content of courses available.

**27 January** – Progress Grades to parents. Please use this information to discuss with your child their progress and areas required for further effort and improvement.

**17 February** – final closing date for applications to Mrs McMahon for Sixth Form. Application forms available at Open Evening on 26 January.

**18 February** – individual interviews for Sixth Form student applicants to commence.

*NB 14 school weeks now remain before external exams begin. Please assist your child in their revision and completion of coursework over this period.*

This is an extensive programme of support for your son/daughter. If you wish to discuss any aspect of the programme please do not hesitate to contact Mr T Dolan.

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Visit our new e-learning portal – <http://www.samlearning.com>

Congratulations to the following Year 10 pupils who have been appointed to the following positions in the School Bank:

Rachael Dale – Bank Manager  
Aaron Casey – Assistant Manager  
Michael James – Marketing Manager  
Leon Churchill – Assistant Marketing Manager  
Amal George – Account Opener  
Emma Donnelly – Head Cashier  
Joseph Furey – Cashier  
Tom Finnegan – Cashier  
Hollie McGregor – Cashier

The School Bank will be open for business soon. See Miss Hodges or Mrs Penny for details.

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#### SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING

The School Council invited Mrs Gallagher, Catering Manager for Aramark, to the meeting held in the library during PSHE on Wednesday 18 January. The Sixth Form Council and Year Council had raised questions about the 'mosaic restaurant' generally and Mrs Gallagher was pleased to be available to answer them.

As the Catering Manager, Mrs Gallagher's job is not straightforward as she has to listen to what the government has to say on school dinners, what Plessington wants its pupils to be able to buy from the restaurant, what Aramark want and also people like Jamie Oliver!

Items that were covered included:

- *Dinner Cards* – these were introduced by Plessington as part of the cashless system to improve safety for pupils. Replacement cards are £5 because they are bought in at £2.50, the ribbon costs £1 and the staff who deal with them and maintenance costs mean that a replacement card is £5. Money from an old card is always transferred over and old cards can be 'blacklisted' by Mrs Gallagher.
- *Reliability of the cashless machines* – the machines are emptied once a day and they tell the staff exactly how much money should be in them. The staff then count how much money is in them with any surplus being returned to pupils who come forward with a complaint. However the machines do have a problem if money is put in too quickly.
- *Relocation of the cashless machines* – they were removed from the corridor to improve safety.
- Mrs Gallagher wants to sell more fresh fruit and fresh salad options and is looking into ways of promoting these.
- Mrs Gallagher is impressed with the work done by the Sixth Form students who work in the restaurant at lunch times.

Mrs Gallagher is very keen to receive all compliments as well as any ideas for improvement – a suggestion box will be placed in the restaurant in the near future.

The next item on the agenda for Form/Year/School Council to consider will be a new anti-bullying policy for the school. It is important that everybody gets a say in this so please make a contribution.

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#### NUMERACY BRAINTEASER

Robert's rally car goes up hill at an average speed of 40 miles per hour.  
It goes downhill and on the level at an average speed of 60 miles per hour.  
After 10 hours it has covered 540 miles.  
For how long was it going uphill?

Give your answer slip to Miss Hodges in Room B12 by Friday 27 January  
All correct answers will be entered into a draw to win a £5 gift voucher for W H Smiths

Last week's solution:  
Jade used 50p, 20p, 20p, 5p, 2p, 2p, 2p, 2p

Last week's winner: Liam Crossley – 8MC

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#### YEAR 9 OPTIONS EVENING

At this crucial information evening, scheduled for 7.00 p.m. on 9 February 2006, we will be providing details of the curriculum to be offered to pupils beginning Year 10 in September 2006. Information will be available on both compulsory and optional subjects. Heads of Department will be present during the evening and will talk about the courses on offer, some of which will be new to pupils currently in Year 9. Please make every effort to attend this information evening, which will be a big help in making important choices about the future.

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#### RUGBY

Congratulations to Year 7 who won their first match this week 28 – 7 versus South Wirral, losing 7 – 0 at half time the team put in an excellent 2<sup>nd</sup> half performance scoring 4 tries.



#### BASKETBALL

Year 11 failed to qualify for the finals of the Wirral Cup this week, despite strong performances at Woodchurch. The team played excellent defence but failed to turn attacking opportunities into points. This week Year 10 take on Woodchurch, Oldershaw and St Anselms in the qualifying competitions.

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#### MISSION WEEK IS ALMOST HERE!

##### When is it?

Monday 30 January to Friday 3 February

*Our vision for the school mission is:*

*To inspire new faith  
To encourage tired faith  
To challenge comfortable faith*

We are letting you know that we will be welcoming the Cross Purposes Mission Team into our school. The team will be lead by members of the Sion Catholic Community for Evangelism. The Mission will be held at our school from 30 January to 3 February 2006.

During their stay, members of the team will work in classrooms and with year groups, exploring the Gospel message with our young people. They will also lead assemblies, prayer times, celebratory liturgies and an evening event.

As the Mission is intended for the whole school community, staff, pupils and parents, I am writing to you, regardless of your denomination of faith, to the following evening event during the Mission.

##### 7.30 – 9.00 p.m. on Thursday 2 February 2006 in the New Hall

We are asking for families in the Bebington area to host some of our Mission Team from 29 January to 3 February. If you are able to do this please contact Reception at the school.

I would be grateful if you would keep our forthcoming Mission in your prayers, which will mark a very special time for our school.

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learner and the school as the learning environment – hence the name *PASS*.

The *PASS* results are now with us and they show a very positive picture for year 7 as a whole. There is very little difference between boys and girls and the overall picture shows that feelings about school are well above the national average. The results did highlight that some pupils would benefit from some specialist support, for example from our learning mentors, from the *BEST* team, from Konectabus or from our peer mentoring programme. Parents/carers of these children will be contacted in the very near future about how the school intends to support their son/daughter.

**PASS QUESTIONNAIRE RESULTS FOR YEAR 7**

In a recent issue of *Plessington News* information was given about all year 7 pupils completing an on-line questionnaire, the results of which would allow us to assess each pupils' attitude towards themselves as a

We are also very interested to know what you as parents/carers think about our school and its community. In the near future all parents/carers will be invited to complete a questionnaire to allow them to express their feelings about Plessington – look out in future issues for updates.

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**MENU**

<b>WEEK 3</b>	<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>FRIDAY</b>
<b>Pasta Dish</b>	Tuna Pasta Bake	Meatballs in Carrot & Tomato Sauce	Italian Pepperoni	Spaghetti Bolognese	Tomato & peppers
<b>Rice Dish</b>	Beef Balti	Chicken Chow Mein	Chicken Supreme	Chicken Korma	Chefs' Special
<b>Main Course</b>	Chicken Wraps	Savoury Mince with Scone Topping	Roast Turkey Dinner	Corned Beef Hash	Battered Fish
<b>Vegetarian Choice</b>	Veggie Wraps	With Scone Topping	Roast Nut Loaf Dinner	Cheese Omelette	
	Potato Wedges Mashed Potato Veg of the Day Beans Gravy	Potato Wedges Mashed Potato Veg of the Day Beans Gravy	Potato Wedges Mashed Potato Veg of the Day Beans Gravy	Potato Wedges Mashed Potato Veg of the Day Beans Gravy	Chips Mashed Potato Veg of the Day Beans Gravy
	Pizza	Burger	Pizza	Burger	Pizza
	Sausage Sausage Roll Fish Cakes Cheese Pastie	Sausage Sausage Roll Fish Cakes Cheese Pastie	Sausage Sausage Roll Fish Cakes Cheese Pastie	Sausage Sausage Roll Fish Cakes Cheese Pastie	Sausage Sausage Roll Fish Cakes Cheese Pastie