

Issue No. 22

Week Ending 14 March 2008
Learning Programme Unit 4/4

“AN ACT OF GREAT KINDNESS”

Lent Fast Day

Each year CAFOD (Catholic Agency for Overseas Development) asks people to take part in a Lenten Fast and to donate to CAFOD the money that they save on cutting back on food that day. Sometimes it can be difficult to “do without”, but it is, perhaps, less difficult when we consider the good we are doing for some of the most needy people in the world.

Lord Jesus, we pray that for one day we will live simply, in order that others may simply live.

We ask that we will make this small sacrifice with love and without complaining.

*In your name,
Amen*



Two days ago I received a phone call from a Mrs Kathy Hall, Manager of Woodchurch Court, a sheltered accommodation scheme for senior citizens, in Woodchurch. Mrs Hall was ringing to express her gratitude and great delight at the actions of 5 of our Year 9 Pupils, Joe Mullen, Michael Cain, Sarah Johnson, Alice McMullen and Jonathan Adkins.

These 5 youngsters had shown great initiative, maturity and kindness in helping a Mrs McDonnell, who was visiting her mother at Woodchurch Court, back home after she had slipped over and broken her ankle. Mrs McDonnell, who is recovering following recent surgery, was equally complimentary about our Year 9 Pupils. Describing their actions as an “an act of great kindness”, she contacted local press so that she could pay tribute to the “fantastic youngsters”. Mrs McDonnell has kindly asked to visit us in College next week so that she can thank our Pupils in person. It goes without saying that I am delighted to be able to welcome Mrs McDonnell to the College. I am equally delighted that our Pupils have shown such maturity and put into practice the Christian values they experience each day at the College.

COLLEGE GAINS GOVERNMENT'S LEADING ASPECT AWARD

Parents will be aware that we have already produced three sets of Reports for Pupils so far this year, in line with our intention to provide Parents with the greatest level of detail possible about the progress of our youngsters. You will recall that our Ofsted Inspection last term spoke of our “**outstanding academic monitoring and support systems**” and we were very pleased that they recognized the value of the systems that we have in place. I am particularly delighted, therefore, to be able to relay to Parents that last week we received the news that the Government's Leading Aspect Agency had nominated SJP for an Outstanding Achievement Award for our work in Target Setting and Achievement Planning. This Award recognizes the work the College carries out in reporting to Parents and Pupils via 6 half-termly Reports and 3 Achievement Plans as well as a Review Day. From next term, College notepaper will carry the Leading Aspect logo as a mark of our achievement in this area. The DCFS has asked us to present our monitoring system at a specially-scheduled conference next July so that we can talk to other schools and colleges about how we do things at the College. We are confident that the system that we use here at SJP to keep Parents and Pupils up to date on progress will be of great interest to other schools and colleges nationally, and of course, we are pleased to be asked to headline at a national conference! Let me pass on my congratulations to all involved in the process, from the teachers who work hard to set the targets with Pupils, to the Form Tutors and Learning Coaches who monitor the progress, through to yourselves, the Parents, who contribute so much to the process by your attention and enthusiasm for the information that we provide.

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.

END OF TERM ARRANGEMENTS

Parents should please note that the College will close for Pupils at 2.20 p.m. on Thursday 20 March 2008.

Literacy Corner

Word of the week

Cacophony (*kuh-kof-uh-nee*)

Noun harsh discordance of sound; dissonance; a discordant and meaningless mixture of sounds: the cacophony produced by city traffic at midday.

Literacy quiz – Find the famous authors in this word search:

R	E	T	T	O	P	X	I	R	T	A	E	B	V	N
L	O	U	I	S	A	M	A	Y	A	L	L	C	O	T
E	H	A	R	P	E	R	L	E	E	O	Z	S	W	F
N	X	P	H	I	L	I	P	P	U	L	L	M	A	N
I	G	N	I	D	L	O	G	M	A	I	L	L	I	W
D	P	G	P	M	A	E	S	I	W	E	L	S	C	R
B	A	A	M	I	L	N	E	E	S	Z	G	R	O	F
L	Q	P	N	J	G	U	N	F	Z	O	P	Z	I	Y
Y	N	Y	I	M	L	I	C	I	L	C	W	I	S	T
T	C	H	A	R	L	E	S	D	I	C	K	E	N	S
O	T	E	V	E	J	K	R	O	W	L	I	N	G	M
N	H	O	U	V	L	H	A	D	D	L	A	O	R	F
G	M	Q	R	E	G	N	I	L	A	S	D	J	V	H
E	A	E	M	O	S	N	A	R	R	U	H	T	R	A
J	U	S	H	I	R	L	E	Y	H	U	G	H	E	S

Numeracy Brainteaser

Previous Week's Solution: 2 days

This Week's Brainteaser:

Three consecutive numbers multiplied together give 3360, what are the numbers?

Answers to Miss Hodges in Room MA2 by Friday 14 March. All correct answers will be put into a draw to win a £5 gift voucher for WH Smiths.

Y11 Maths Revision Classes

The following Year 11 Maths revision classes will run on Tuesday 11th March

FOUNDATION

Using Index laws to simplify and write answers in index form with Mrs Bell in MA5

HIGHER

Plotting graphs of lines, quadratics and cubics with Mr Gatrell in MA6

Round 4 Reports

As we have now reached the mid-point in our Reporting Schedule for the year, I have asked teachers and Pupils to take a look at the targets we set for ourselves back in September. Many Pupils have made such good progress over the first three Reports of this year that I would like to raise their targets in one or two subjects. As ever, our expectations of our Pupils and their progress are high and ambitious, and so our targets for them must continue to be stretching.

We will be publishing the Round 4 Reports shortly after the Easter Holidays. Parents will see in these Reports some new targets which form the basis of the College's commitment to "celebrate the achievements" of our Pupils as the College Mission Statement outlines. Parents, as ever, should feel free to discuss progress towards new and existing targets with subject teachers.

AA MILNE

CHARLES DICKENS

HARPER LEE

JK ROWLING

ROALD DAHL

ARTHUR RANSOME

CS LEWIS

JACQUELINE WILSON

LOUISA MAY ALLCOT

SHIRLEY HUGHES

BEATRIX POTTER

ENID BLYTON

JD SALINGER

PHILIP PULLMAN

WILLIAM GOLDING

Auschwitz Visit

On a glorious afternoon, 25 Sixth Formers, Miss Watters, Miss Smith and Mr Lally set off to Liverpool airport, destination Krakow, Poland. We arrived on a freezing evening at a tiny, desolate airport. We were met by Eva, our enthusiastically patriotic tour guide who took us to our hotel where we were greeted with soup, eggs and chicken!

An early start in the morning saw us on the coach to Auschwitz concentration camps in the freezing cold. On arrival, we were taken straight to the first gas chamber in which thousands of prisoners were exterminated during the war. Seeing such a moving piece of history so closely immediately reminded us what our trip was all about. We left the chamber and its neighbouring crematorium in

silence, each of us reflecting on the harsh reality of what had happened there. We were then taken to buildings in which prisoners were kept, told stories of the brutality of the concentration camps and also the 'block of death' in which many prisoners were tortured and starved, including Maximilian Kolbe, one of our College House Patrons. Next, the group were taken to Birkenau, a vast camp in which at least 7000 people were killed then burned every-day. The scale and devastation silenced us for many hours. The whole day was an experience none of us will ever forget.

The next day was filled with visits to synagogues and viewing the personal effects of those murdered. The history of Krakow was extensively recalled by Eva, our guide. We arrived back home with memories that will never leave us.



SPORTS STAR OF THE WEEK:

Tae-Kwon-Do Champion



Did you know we have a Year 10 pupil who is a black belt in tae-kwon-do? Jessica Cadden in Year 10 has been committed to the sport and her training for two and a half years. In that relatively short time, she has worked her way up through the ranks all the way to the top – the black belt.

Along the way Jess has won many trophies, including Blackbelt Student of the Year and Blackbelt Tournament Winner, where her skills and fitness level were tested against some of the best.

In April, Jess is traveling to Chesterfield to compete in the regional rounds of the competitions and we wish her every success. Her dedication to training and hard work is extremely commendable and Jess is now utilizing her

skills further by assisting with the teaching of others in her club – well done!!

Y9 Maths Revision Classes

All Year 9 are invited to attend Revision Classes as advertised in the posters in the Maths corridors. They take place every Thursday, 3:20-4:20.

WORLD BOOK DAY

A big thank-you from Miss Broom and Miss McGowan to our library book readers. World Book Day was made even more interesting due to their fantastic effort and input!

CAFOD Soup lunches

This coming week pupils and staff are invited, for one day, to pay £1 to have soup and a piece of bread for lunch instead of having their usual meal. The aim of this is not just to raise money for CAFOD, but also to feel a little bit hungry for the afternoon – in a small way sharing some of the experience of people around the world who suffer hunger every single day.

Year groups are invited on the following days:

6 th form	Friday 14 th March
Year 11	Thursday 13 th March
Year 10	Wednesday 12 th March
Year 9	Thursday 13 th March
Year 8	Friday 14 th March

Merseyside Fire and Rescue Service

We are running a twelve week programme with the Fire Service for some of our Pupils. During the course they have lessons on fire and safety awareness. Here they have visited the Fire Academy in Croxteth, where they carried out various fire exercises, such as entering a fume filled room and searching for bodies. Last week they visited Birkenhead fire station and in April they have to take part in an onshore rescue being demonstrated at the local swimming baths. In previous weeks they have gone around the school with Mr Kitchin and Jo Seddon our Fire officer and done a Risk Assessment on the school. Well done to all!



YEAR 10 SPORTS LEADERS



While our Dance Leaders have been busy in local primaries running dance clubs, the remainder of Year 10 have also been developing their leadership skills. They have been following the Sports Leaders Award Level One, or the Junior Football Organisers course during general P.E..

Both involve courses learning about how to plan and lead sessions for younger pupils and the skills required to do so effectively. Year 10 pupils have responded very positively to the courses and we are nearly ready to invite primary pupils to SJP to participate in the activities planned.

At present they are developing their knowledge and skills through planning activities and leading their peers during lesson time. The results so far have been very impressive, with a real display of maturity in both the delivery and evaluation of sessions. Feedback provided by participants has helped leaders to analyse their delivery and plan for improvement.



DON'T FORGET:

Rewards trips are coming up towards the end of the summer term. To be eligible to go, you need to have at least 90% of your effort grades as 1 or 2 (for PAD 4 and PAD 5) AND attendance of at least 92%. Good Luck!

Football Update

Year 7 (Ridgeway 0 – 6 SJP)



The Year 7 football team produced an outstanding performance to maintain their 100% record this season. The boys dominated the game from the outset and rarely looked like conceding a goal. With a four goal lead at half time the boys cruised through the second half but still managed to add to their tally thanks largely to the goal scoring talents of Cy Longstaff and Lewis Hewitt. The pair have managed 11 goals between them in their last three games. A fabulous record which will stand the whole team in good stead for the remainder of the tournament. Well done boys and good luck in the next round!

Cy Longstaff and Lewis Hewitt who are forming an excellent partnership up front for SJP.

Year 8 (Ridgeway 5 – 0 SJP)

A Year 8 team hampered by injuries suffered a disappointing defeat at the hands of Ridgeway. Missing several key players the boys battled hard but were unable to prevent a convincing scoreline in favour of the hosts. The 5-0 score did not reflect the effort on display from the boys in blue. Although they were beaten by a better team on the day, they still managed to represent the College excellently.

Year 9 (Ridgeway 3 – 4 SJP)

The Year 9 team took part in a thrilling game away to Ridgeway in the Wirral Cup. Match preparations were hampered by a series of injuries but the team pulled together to produce an outstanding performance. From the outset it was clear that the Ridgeway defence was unable to cope with the pace of Andrew Bennett. The boys recognised this weakness and continually supplied the striker with several top class passes. With an excellent supply from winger



Ryan Bennett, the opposition defence seemed unsure how to deal with SJP's continued threat. As a result we found ourselves 2-0 up at half time. The boys didn't stop there and continued where they had left off netting a third in the first minute of the second half. After eventually racking up a 4-1 lead, including a hat-trick from Kurtis Darling, the battle was on to stay focused and not concede. Unfortunately Ridgeway battled well and pulled the game back to 4-3 with six minutes remaining. Luckily the team spirit and determination was enough for our boys to hold out for the win. Well done boys and good luck in the next round.

Kurtis Darling who netted a hat trick for SJP in their win over Ridgeway

Year 10 boys can hold heads high after close defeat to national finalists

Last week the Year 10 football team travelled to Liverpool to play SFX in the Merseyside cup. SJP took the lead against the cup holders in the second minute after a pinpoint cross from Tom Belton found John Skipsey eight yards out. SJP's striker finished impressively to give the visitors a dream start. SJP continued to press and created a number of chances in the first 25 minutes. SFX eventually found an equaliser before the half time whistle.

After the break, SFX, the 2007 national finalists, drove on and found a second ten minutes into the half after a controversial penalty decision. They quickly found a third after SJP failed to clear from a corner. However, SJP's spirit and determination was still strong and they pressed hard to get back into the game. A glimmer of hope was restored with fifteen minutes remaining when a wonderfully executed ball from midfield found Adam Mazier clear through on goal. The speed of the SJP striker took him away from the chasing defenders and he finished confidently, curling the ball around the oncoming goalkeeper to make it 3-2. SJP continued to pursue an equaliser, pushing men forward and playing some exciting football. However, a cruel blow was dealt when SFX hit us on the break with five minutes to play. The task of pulling two goals back proved too much for the boys in blue and the game finished SFX 4-SJP 2. Let us not forget that our lads were playing the Merseyside champions and the National finalists. The message from the SJP coaching staff (Mr. Davies and Mr. Holmes) is bring on the Wirral cup!

