

Issue No. 33

Week Ending 20 June 2008

Learning Programme Unit 6/3

### The Longest Day 21<sup>st</sup> June

*Just as the sunflower turns  
always to the sun so we  
should always turn to God.*

St. Julie Billiart

For those living in the northern hemisphere, the Summer Solstice is the day on which the earth, spinning on its axis, has its North Pole 'tipped' as far as it will go to face the sun. Because of this 'tipping' towards the sun, the northern hemisphere receives the longest hours of daylight of the year.

So on the longest day, the earth seems to nod towards the sun, just as sunflowers follow the sun. In our busy lives, we often forget to "nod" towards God – to acknowledge his love of us and his presence amongst us. What can we do to remind ourselves that we should always follow God's plan for us?

*Lord God,*

*I often neglect to talk to you  
and to listen to your voice.*

*Help me always to follow  
you,*

*just as the sunflowers al-  
ways follow the sun*

*so that I know my actions,  
thoughts and words are  
guided by your spirit.*

*Amen*

## Duke of Edinburgh Expedition To Loggerheads, North Wales.



During the weekend of the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> of June, 26 pupils from Year 9 and 10 ventured to North Wales for a Duke of Edinburgh award expedition. Accompanying them were Mrs Boyland, Mr Austin, Mr Williams and Mr Shillinglaw. The Year 9 pupils were completing their Qualifying expedition following their practice at Delamere a month ago. The Year 10 pupils were practising for their silver expedition at the Borrowdale Valley in the Lake District towards the end of July.

The first day saw the Year 9 group navigating their way from Loggerheads up and over Moel Famau and back down to the campsite at Kingswood. It was a warm day and the groups made good progress in spite of this. The navigation was good and the groups developed a good team spirit.

The silver group had a more challenging route as they have to walk a greater distance on their qualifying expedition. D of E stalwart Mr Williams was stopped on two occasions by members of the public who commented on how polite and courteous the students were, when asked what they were doing.

Our campsite for the Saturday night was at Kingsbridge Leisure's Colomendy Site, a fantastic facility although Mrs Boyland was unhappy about the hot water being off for her shower! After dinner the group made contact with the other campers from Pensby boys and organised a game of rounders, as if they weren't tired enough from the walk.

A good night's sleep was spoilt by the sun which was out very early and the local sheep and crows performing their dawn chorus.

The Bronze groups all passed their expedition and now need to work on the other areas of the award. Well done to all on a very successful expedition.

visit our College website [www.stjohnplessington.com](http://www.stjohnplessington.com)

### Mass & Morning Prayer

Morning Prayer takes place every Tuesday and Thursday in College Chapel from 8.20 – 8.35.

Fr Nick will be celebrating Mass in College Chapel at 12.50 on Wednesday.

## Sports Day Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> June 2008

Sports Day is fast approaching and competition is already fierce between pupils as they are working hard in athletics lessons to improve on personal performances. Forms have elected sports captains and completed team sheets.

Sports Day will take the same format as last year with events taking place throughout the day. All throwing events, 1500m, Yr 7 high jump and Yr 8 long jump will take place during periods 1-3a. This will only be for competitors in these events. The main sports day event will take place between 12.50-3.20pm. During this time the whole school will be up at the track. Any parents wishing to come and support the students are very welcome to spectate, up at the track, during the afternoon event.

### Pupil checklist

Full, correct P.E. kit.  
Sun cream  
Water

The day is sure to be exciting and enjoyable, with lots of outstanding performances from pupils.

Good luck to all!

## LITERACY CORNER

### Word of the week

#### aberration

/abbə'reɪʃn/

• **noun** **1** a departure from what is normal or acceptable. **2** a mental or moral lapse. **3** Optics the failure of rays to converge at one focus because of a defect in a lens or mirror.

— DERIVATIVES **aberrational** adjective.



### Literacy quiz

Great Novelists – find the hidden clue from the left over letters in the wordsearch.

N A O N L Y W G L S E E K S Y	AUSTEN
O U U N T I N A L N S U M M E	BRONTE
S S E R H I W O Y E L I D A L	CONRAD
N T Y S L R F D P K L Z I R L	DICKENS
E E E W E D R C G C K S N B E	HARDY
V N O N F A A U L I Y T E N H	JOYCE
E R C P H Q R R P D L O U O S	KIPLING
T E W E Z I G L N S G K I R W	LAWRENCE
S T Q E T T I P L O R E D N Y	ROWLING
B O D L T N T L E G C R W M L	SHELLEY
V L F F G N E C Y O J G I M V	STEVENSON
F K O L W W O F Y Z A P L L Y	STOKER
D I Q K O V I R Z V K J D I L	TOLKIEN
U E R Q F O Y H B U C I E H N	WELLS
X N C O H Z W V O U E O O J D	WILDE
	WOOLF

## Aim Higher Roadshow Year 9



Monday saw the College hosting an event for all of our Year 9 pupils. It was aimed at raising the awareness of the pupils as to the career opportunities available to them after leaving Sixth.

The message was delivered through a series of workshops presented by post graduate students and a member of staff from Progress Sports.

Half the year group were also able to take part in activities such as 'Brain Gym' co-ordinated by Steve Morris, a leading expert in this field. Staff accompanying the sessions reported that

'I thought the sessions were excellent. The pupils were positive and enjoyed the activities. Steve's delivery was entertaining, engaging and relevant; the activities encouraged pupils to really think for themselves and develop creative solutions to the tasks they were set'.

Pupils reported that they found the 'Roadshow' helpful and that people running it were interesting and 'understood' them.



## Rounders Season Gets Off To A Flying Start



On Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March, Years 9 & 10 played in their first warm up match of the season against Woodchurch.

Both teams displayed some promising performances, with Danielle Boughey and Jessica Leasor from Year 9 saving their team from a big defeat, with some excellent long distance throws in the deep fielding position. Katie Robinson scored a great rounder, sending the ball out of reach of all fielders.

Year 10 were equally impressive, with some spectacular catches from Erin Lane getting two of the Woodchurch team out. Kate Ashcroft's tactical bowling made it difficult for the batter to strike the ball, but Hayley Dennet had no problems in sending the ball out of reach when she came in to bat.

Well done to the following, who did us all proud. An enjoyable evening!!

Year 9 : Jessica Leasor, Danielle Boughey, Katie Robinson, Megan Gallagher, Olivia Webster, Megan Gouldson, Shannon Reid, Elizabeth Johnson-Eyre, Lauren Dean, Becky Lunt.

Year 10: Erin Lane, Alex Scollins, Charlotte Thomson, Hayley Dennett, Kate Ashcroft, Eimer Tudor, Katie Dickson, Charlotte Doran, Rachel Statham.

### SJP AWARDED A PRIZE AT WIRRAL SCHOOLS FILM FESTIVAL

The Art Department has been informed this week that Year 10 GCSE Students who worked collaboratively on a film-making project to support this year's school production of 'Cinderella' have been awarded a prize at this year's Wirral Schools Film Festival. Students involved have been invited to attend a presentation ceremony accompanied by their parents on 3rd July. The presentation will be made by Lord Puttnam CBE, Film maker, Politician, and Chancellor of the Open University.

### Sainsbury's Vouchers

This is a last request for any Sainsbury's vouchers you may still have lying around at home. Could you please send them in to school as soon as possible? The closing date for orders is approaching. We currently have just over 800.

Thank you to all those who have contributed so far, it will help us to increase our sports equipment.

### EXAM WEEK

Parents of pupils in Years 7-10 will be aware that this week we begin a period of College examinations. Let me take this opportunity to wish all of our pupils the very best of luck with their exams over the coming days. I am sure that they will acquit themselves very successfully and do us all proud. Good Luck to all!

## Cricket

Last Thursday the Year 10 cricket team played their first game of the season against South Wirral. In a very tight game, SJP unfortunately lost by 14 runs.

South Wirral won the toss and chose to bat, with Ashwin Ajay finishing with figures of 2/22/3 and Liam Crossley with figures of 14/1/3. Chasing 118 Ashwin started well scoring 37 before being bowled. But SJP could not keep up with the run rate and finished on 104 runs.

### Year 7

The Year 7 boys played their 1<sup>st</sup> game against South Wirral. This was the first taste of cricket in a competitive situation for all of the 11 players. This did not phase the boys who were looking forward to the challenge ahead. SW batted first scoring an impressive 107. Despite the score the boys bowled well using 8 different bowlers. Most impressive were Lewis Doyle 16/0/3 and Matthew McLean 7/0/2. Unfortunately the batting was not quite as good and our boys only managed to score 51. We need to have more Yr 7s to attend practice on a Tuesday lunch time and to practise on the field on the other days.

### Year 8

South Wirral won the toss and chose to field. SJP's batting was disappointing and we only managed to score 64 runs. 4 batsmen ran themselves out with some crazy calls.

It would be a tall order for the boys to prevent SW from achieving such a low score. But they did it with some excellent bowling. Six bowlers were used and SW only managed to score 43 for 3, meaning SJP won by 21 runs.

### Year 9

Year 9 won their first game of the season. SJP scored 120 for 6, Luke Camden scoring 24 (retired), Liam Crossley scoring 25 (retired) and Arun George 14 not out.

With another very impressive bowling performance SJP restricted SW to 66 for 7. Well done to the lads for producing such an impressive performance.

## Goodbye and Good Luck

We say farewell this week to our Associate Teachers from Liverpool Hope University. Ms Carter, Ms Mallon and Ms Reilly have been working hard in our Music, RE and Science departments since February. On behalf of all the pupils they have been teaching and colleagues they have been working with, I would like to thank them for all their hard work and enthusiasm and wish them all the best in their future careers.

## ST JOHNS HOSPICE

This week St John's Hospice were in school for their 25th Anniversary Car Raffle. On show for Sixth Form students and staff was the car which could be won which includes 10 driving lessons.

Within an hour £147 had been raised which will go towards the new Out Patient Services which is due for completion in Autumn 2008. Watch out for the article and photograph in the Wirral Globe this week.