

Issue No. 3

Week Ending 28 September 2007
Learning Programme Unit 1/4

Open Evening 26 September 2007

Theme for the Week:

Celebrating the life of Edmond Arrowsmith

Edmond Arrowsmith is one of our Form patrons (EA). He is one of the forty English martyrs who died during the Reformation. His life was full of struggles – he battled against ill health in order to become a priest and he battled against the law which said it was illegal to be a Catholic. It was for this reason that he was martyred.

Lord, we pray that like Edmond, we will have the strength of mind to battle against the challenges that life puts before us.

We pray also that we will have a strong faith so that we remain Always Faithful to Christ. Amen

As is our usual practice, we will be holding an Open Evening this week for prospective SJP pupils (and their parents!). Last Year, over 600 people came to see the College and we finished the year with a record number of applications. As we are anticipating huge numbers again, the College will be closed to all pupils from 2.00 p.m. on Wednesday, as staff will be engaged in preparations for Open Evening. Those Pupils who are acting as Guides and Assistants for the Evening are requested to complete and return the permission slips supplied by Heads of Department.

Please see the Advertisement below.

Newsletter Winners!



Well done to Adele Nilsen (Y9), Sam Tarpey (Y10) and Emma Tarpey (Y8). These three diligent pupils took up my challenge last year to collect all editions of SJP News. Since all three managed to carry out the task, I am pleased to congratulate them on their achievement and award them with a book token. The race is on now to become this year's Winners!



OPEN EVENING 26th September 6pm - 8pm

St John Plessington Catholic College

a Specialist Humanities and Technology College

St John Plessington Catholic College is a highly successful and oversubscribed 11-18 Comprehensive. We recently achieved our best set of examination results in our history. This year 66% of our Class of 2007 achieved 5 or more A* - C at GCSE.

We are a Christian community which provides a friendly, safe and supportive environment where all students enjoy an excellent standard of teaching, a wide and challenging choice of courses, and the pastoral support needed to ensure success. This involves not only the acquisition of academic skills but also a sense of social responsibility and a growth in spiritual awareness.

Boys and girls join us each year from around forty different primary schools throughout the area creating a happy, balanced and diverse community. We know our children well and report progress to parents nine times a year and feel that this level of monitoring enables all our students to fulfil their potential.

Our modern buildings and facilities provide a purpose built environment where our pupils experience the very best of twenty first century learning. All of our classrooms are equipped with

website enables our children to continue their learning at home.

The College is experiencing an unprecedented period of demand for places both at Year 7 and Sixth form level and we extend an invitation to parents who wish to send their child to a high quality comprehensive on their doorstep. We are sure that you will be impressed by all that you see.

2007/2008 Open Evening Head Teacher talk is scheduled for 7.00pm on Wednesday 26th September 2007. Feel free to call Mr Ian Walker on 0151 645 5049 to arrange a visit or take a look at our virtual tour of the College at www.stjohnplessington.com.



Old
Chester

Road, Bebington, Wirral CH63 7LF Tel: 0151 645 5049 Fax: 0151 643 1516

the latest in multi media technology and the College's unique interactive learning

We welcome applications from all parents who are seeking a Christian education for their child.

Numeracy Brainteaser

Last Week's Solution : 112

Last Week's Winner : Michelle Collins 8JP

This Weeks Brainteaser:

A water lily in a pond doubles in size every day and in 28 days it fills the whole pond. How long does it take to fill half the pond.

Answers to Miss Hodges in Room MA2 by Friday 28th September. All correct answers will be put into a draw to win a £5 gift voucher for WHSmiths

Hydrated students = Happier students!

There is lots of evidence to prove that well-hydrated students are happier and healthier. They are more able to concentrate and so may achieve much more.

Every pupil at the College has now been given a free water bottle for use with the four filtered water machines around the school. Some pupils made generous donations to Christian Aid. This money will go towards building village pumps in the Third World.

Pupils are reminded that they should wash out their water bottle and cap each evening, using hot soapy water followed by a cold-water rinse.

As a 'Healthy School' we are keen to make sure that only water is used in these bottles. Juice and pop is not allowed because sipping these drinks throughout the day causes rapid tooth damage.

Greater water intake has led to an increase in water output, as the body cleanses itself of toxins and waste materials. Mr Quinn relaxed the rules on visiting the toilets in lesson times and students are responding well to this additional responsibility. Extra or replacement water bottles are available from Mr Kitchin for a 50p donation to Christian Aid.

Year 9 Design and Technology Pupils share their work with Industry

Budding entrepreneurs of the future decided their work was good enough to share with industry following their end of module assessment.



After being given a design brief to redesign the corporate image of a national high street store of their choice, students used desktop publishing and hand graphic skills to realize their designs into new products.

Proud of their results, they decided to post the work to their chosen companies to gain valuable feedback from the world of industry.

The feedback received has been impressive. Students have received letters of praise, goods, gift vouchers and plaudits about their work, recognizing the creative flair and imagination they put into the project. Pictured are Declan Evans (Sportsdirect), Ellie Ruddy (Homebase) and Elizabeth Johnson – Eyre (Halfords) with some of the replies received.



Congratulations!

Well done to Adam Vitty who recently won two tickets to watch Everton v Manchester United. Adam was one of 41 Year 11 Pupils in the draw as a result of gaining 3 GCSE passes in the summer. You can see Adam in the photo celebrating with the rest of the higher-flyers who have made such a good start to their GCSE Year Well done to him. Wrong result for Mr.Rylance, although it keeps Mr.Owen looking smug.



Student Voice

With Form Council elections starting next week a brief look back to the successes of student voice seems appropriate. So, in no particular order

- A new school uniform was designed, and copied by other schools!
- A water policy has been introduced – drinking water in classrooms.
- Water bottles – these have just been distributed.
- Involvement in staff interviews.
- The Year 11 prom.
- Menus are on display in the restaurant.
- Prices are on display in the restaurant.
- A Sixth form area has been created in the restaurant.
- Following a college environment audit presented to SMT a major programme of refurbishment has recently been completed.
- ICT facilities in departments and the library have been improved.
- Water fountains have been introduced.
- Skipping and hoops at lunch time.
- Improved toilet facilities.
- Fundraising activities.
- Lockers.
- End of year school trips to celebrate success.
- Mini bus
- P.E. team kit

WEEKLY FOCUS

Next week's focus is:

Learning Programmes : All pupils should make sure they discuss this term's work with Form Tutors and Parents.

College Council Elections

The process to elect all Form Council, Year Council and College Council representatives for the academic year 2007/08 starts in the 'Citizenship' lesson on Monday 24th September 2007, period 2.

This is THE opportunity for any student to be actively involved in decision making at SJP.

You have a voice. Use it!

PE Facilities—Upgraded and Updated

Over the summer holidays the sports hall equipment was updated and new dividing curtains and cricket nets were installed. During the last week, the PE buildings and changing rooms have received a full 'make-over'. New lighting, joinery and a complete re-decoration have really transformed the teaching and learning environment for both students and staff.

Year 7 Family Mass

This was the first opportunity for Year 7 to celebrate Mass at SJP and it was a real celebration of the gifts and talents given by God to our Year 7 pupils. College Hall was crowded with Year 7, their parents and college staff. Every form had prepared a part of the liturgy which helped us to think about the meanings of different parts of the Mass. Some pupils read, other lit candles, some took part in a mine, some gave out prayer cards and everyone joined in the singing, which was led by the College rock band and members of the school choir.

Thank you to Year 7 pupils, musicians and 6th form for your participation and for making the Mass so special. Thank you also to all the staff who had put it so much hard work to prepare the pupils and to Fr. Nick and Fr. Peter for coming in to celebrate Mass with us.



FREE BOOKS FOR YEAR 7's

This summer has seen the launch of an exciting new national programme aimed at encouraging pupils who have recently joined the school to discover books and read for pleasure.

Every Year 7 pupil is able to choose a **free book** from the 12 specially selected titles that are on display in the college library. If any pupil would like one of these free books, please see Mrs Broom with your selection.