

newsletter



**St John Plessington
Catholic College**

a Specialist Humanities and Technology College

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Issue 19 February 2009 Learning Programme 3/5

w/c: 2nd February 2009

Helping your child to succeed

Last Tuesday evening, a cold, rainy and windy night, our first cohort of parents braved the elements to attend the first of a series of workshops introduced specifically for parents of Year 7 pupils, focusing on helping your child to succeed. They were introduced to a variety of topics, ranging from help and guidance working with the VLE to learning about their children's progress in Maths.

All of the parents were very positive about the sessions describing them as '**very worthwhile**' and '**really helpful**.' It was fantastic to welcome them into the College and support them in supporting their children. If you are a parent or guardian of a Year 7 pupil and are concerned that you have missed this opportunity, there is still time to sign up.

The sessions run for the next three weeks and cover lots of different subjects. On Wednesday, the whole of 7 were given further copy of the form you received on Review Day. All you have to do is return that form to your child's form tutor with the appropriate information filled in. We will contact you on the day of your session to remind you! Similarly, if you have not received the form, you can contact me at school on 645 5049 or carolineyouds@plessington.wirral.sch.uk and I will send you a copy.

I look forward to seeing you there!

Theme for the Week

2nd February 2009 "SPEAKING OUT FOR WHAT IS RIGHT"

WEEKLY MASS Wednesday 12.50pm

All welcome!

**Poverty and Homelessness
Action Week**

31st January - 8 February 2009

All too often these days we turn on the television or open our newspapers to be confronted with words and images of peoples who are suffering from starvation and despair in many countries across our world. When we are asked to help, as Christians we have a duty to respond.

Sometimes, however, we forget the needs of the thousands upon thousands of people in our own country who suffer on a daily basis through poverty and homelessness. In a civilised society each person should have the right to the basics of life, food and a place to live.

This week is Poverty and Homelessness Action Week. Through our prayers and reflections, we can as a college community "Speak out for what is right" in our society. This is what the message of the gospel is really all about and calls each one of us to play our part.

"This is what Yahweh asks of you, only this:

That you act justly, that you love tenderly, that you walk humbly



L.I.P.A. Hopeful

Congratulations to Abbie Randles (Yr 13) who attended an audition at L.I.P.A in Liverpool and impressed enough to be called back for a second audition.

We wish her the best of luck or should it be break a leg?

J.Owen Head of Drama

Remembering the Victims of the Holocaust



Each year on the 27th January people come together to remember those who were victims of the Holocaust and people who continue to be victims of genocide and ethnic cleansing across the world today.

This week pupils in Key Stage 3 have remembered the victims of the Holocaust in their history lessons. They have also learnt about those who were brave in the face of hatred and attempted to stand up to it by looking at groups such as the "White Rose Movement" and individuals such as Oscar Schindler. As part of the lessons pupils have also visited the College chapel and laid a stone on a memorial to mark the Jewish way of commemorating the dead.

Pupils have commented on the importance of learning about issues such as these to make sure that they stand up to hatred and learn from the lessons of the past. Later on this term the school will also be visited by a survivor of the Holocaust where they will learn first hand about the horrors of the Second World War.

Merseyrail Young Person's Achievement Award



One of our Year 13 pupils, Sophie Mitchell, has been shortlisted for the Academic Achievement Award by Merseyrail Awards Committee. Sophie was nominated for this award as she was amongst the top ten students in the UK to achieve the highest overall marks in her AS level Art exam. Sophie will find out whether she is the recipient of the award at a special presentation, on Friday, 27th February at the Liner Hotel, Liverpool. Good luck, Sophie!

Attendance

Year 7 attendance 91.9%
Year 8 attendance 93.1%
Year 9 attendance 91.7%
Year 10 attendance 90.1%
Year 11 attendance 94%

In the lead this week is Year 11.

Literacy Corner

Word of the week

profligate /ˈprɒflɪɡət/

- **ADJECTIVE 1** recklessly extravagant or wasteful. **2** licentious; dissolute.
- **NOUN** a profligate person. **profligacy**
- **ORIGIN** Latin *profligatus* 'dissolute', from *profligare* 'overthrow, ruin'.

Literacy quiz – Anagrams

Guess the famous children's authors

- tiny blonde
- am alien
- had dollar
- a banned win
- kick midnights

Answers

Endr Blyton AA Milne Roald Dahl Nina Bowden Dick King Smith

Learnwise!

A group of older students took part in team building exercises this week, which proved to be most enjoyable for all and ultimately very successful.



SJP LIVE Semi Finals

Semi-finals for SJP's Got Talent is on Thursday 5th February in the afternoon. 20 pupils have been selected.

There will be singing, instrumental playing, gymnastics and more... this time it is the pupils' votes that will deciding factor as to who goes into the Final (on 11th February!)

Watch SJP Live for the highlights of the semi-final.

Eco Schools.

The application for Eco- Schools Green Flag Award has been posted. This journey has taken 4 years and has seen developments in our energy and water consumption, recycling of paper, food and drink and transport and travel plans and buildings and grounds.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to the changes.

The next stage:

An assessor will visit SJP to speak to staff and students. If successful, we will be the first secondary school in Wirral to receive this award.

Basketball News

Year 8 played in a tournament at St. Anselm's on Monday. They defeated St. Anselm's 19-14, drew with Calday 16-16 and beat Oldershaw 16-8. It was a fine athletic performance, with man of the Match going to the top scorer **Adam Kitchen**.

The Year 9 team defeated Ridgeway 18-4 and this was followed by Year 11 victory over Ridgeway team 28-4 on Tuesday.

This was a fantastic, dominating performance by the teams, well done.

Netball News

The Year 10 girls have been playing in The Birkenhead Netball League on a Tuesday evening. The past 2 weeks have been very successful for the team, coming away with a 9-7 victory last night. The girls have really improved in speed, skill and performance and are very tough competition for those they play against.

Squad: Megan Gallagher, Katie Robinson, Shannon Reid, Rebecca Lunt, Danielle Boughey, Sian Bilko, Alex Collins, Olivia Webster and Fay McCulloch.

Well done!

History Revision Sessions

GCSE History Revision Sessions for Year 11 will take place at the following times:

Day	Time	Room
Wed	12.30pm-13.20pm	History 2
Thurs	3.20pm-4.20pm	History 2

Maths KS3 Homework Club - A Reminder!!

Maths A Level students are available to help any pupils in years 7, 8 and 9 with their Maths Homework in Room MA5 every Wednesday 12.00 to 12.30.

St John's Infants Pupils visit SJP.

On Friday 23rd January 2009, sixty Year One children from St John's Infants School made a journey to our College Chapel to celebrate finishing their "Journey" module in the schools "Here I Am" programme. Along with the teachers and Gerard our College Chaplain, the children took part in a liturgy during which they presented several dramas about the journeys that Jesus made in his life.

They also talked and sang about different journey's that they themselves had been on. At the end of the celebration, the excited children made one more journey to our College restaurant for orange juice and cookies.

A truly wonderful time was had by all.