

newsletter



St John Plessington
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Issue 24

Learning Programme 4/4

w/c: 16th. March 2009

ICT at the Lighthouse.

Recently 14 year 11 pupils spent the day working on their ICT multimedia coursework at the Learning Lighthouse in Wallasey. The Learning Lighthouse specialises in multimedia software and the day was an excellent opportunity for these pupils to focus on their ICT exam work and take it to the next level.



The day was enjoyed by all and a lot of new skills were learnt – including by Mrs Blackhurst.

Sixth Form Pop Maths Quiz.

On Saturday 7th March Miss Hodges accompanied three of our Sixth Formers, Holly Chrishop, Stephanie Riddick and Lucy Lomax to compete against teams from all over the North West in the Liverpool Mathematical Society's Annual Sixth Form Pop Maths Quiz at Liverpool John Moores University. Although our team was not amongst the winners, it was a fantastic experience and great fun was had by all!

Reminder

All students in Years 9,10, 11, 12, 13 have been given parental questionnaires this week. Please can parents return them to the school by Friday. These will then be assessed, (confidentially), by an outside company who will then report back about parents' thoughts on various aspects of school life at SJP.

Theme for the Week

16th. March 2009 " FOLLOWING JESUS—COMMUNITY"

WEEKLY MASS Wednesday 12.50pm

All welcome!

"Woman, here is your son. Son, here is your mother"

"Community" is one of those buzz words you hear being used all the time in politics and in society in general. We use it to describe faith groups, too. As Christians, we recognise that we form part of a global community, marked out by our rich diversity and uniqueness, but united as sisters and brothers of one God. Because of this we should think about the global community and be in solidarity with one another – especially the poor. Jesus' words on the cross to his mother and to his friend and disciple, John, show the roots of this community – founded on love, support and care for each other

Prayer for the week:

*From the rising of the sun to its setting
your earth gently turns, creator God, a
rich and wonderful place full of life and
colour, full of wonder and beauty.
Send your Spirit to us today, so that we
can help build a community of love.
Amen.*



CAFOD Lent Fast Lunches



Friday, 6th March was **CAFOD Lent Fast Day**, a day upon which we were asked to remember the millions of people around the world that CAFOD are able to support as a result of their fundraising activities.

Here at SJP, staff and students spent time during the week learning more about the work of CAFOD and also reflecting upon and praying for the success of the work of this wonderful organisation.

On Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, staff and students were invited to give up their lunch for one day and to donate £1 to buy soup and a roll, to show their support for the millions of people across our world that CAFOD are able to help.

If you would like to make a donation or find out more about the work of CAFOD you can visit their web site www.cafod.org.uk

Most Improved Specialist School

A celebration of the most improved specialist schools

St John Plessington Catholic College has been presented with an award for being one of the schools in the country with results which are 'Most Improved 5 A* C including English and Maths'. Ms Phillips attended a celebration presentation at the Royal College of Physicians in London, the oldest and most prestigious English Medical Foundation. The key note speakers at the event were Sir James Hill, the chairman of the Specialist Schools and Academies Trust and Sir Mike Tomlinson, a government Chief Advisor in Education to the government. Following the talks, guests were presented with the award followed by an opportunity to talk to other high performing specialists schools to gain inspiration for SJP's future plans.

Attendance

Year 7 attendance 92.2%
Year 8 attendance 92.8%
Year 9 attendance 92.1%
Year 10 attendance 91.5%
Year 11 attendance 93.8%

In the lead this week is Year 11.

World Book Day Celebrations.



The English Department would like to thank all of the Year 7 and 8 pupils who entered the fancy dress competition.

The pupils who featured in this exciting event enjoyed a fun-packed half hour, being interviewed for SJP Live, mingling with other literary characters, and being snapped by the SJP Paparazzi! The library was converted into a world of fantasy where characters such as Dora the Explorer, Minnie the Witch, Pippa Longstocking and Dorothy from the Wizard of Oz came to life to enjoy a French Fancy or two!

The selection process proved to be an extremely difficult task for our esteemed panel of judges. However, after what seemed like days of deliberation, the judges finally arrived at their decision. In first place was Hollie Barber whose accurate representation of Pippa Longstocking won over the judges. In second place was Siobhan Mason who was rewarded for the time and effort which went into making her Dorothy (Wizard of Oz) outfit. Third place went to the energetic Lewis Hagan, or should I say Jamie B!



Thank you once again to all the pupils who participated in this wonderful event! We hope that next year's World Book Day proves to be as successful.

The English Department and Mrs Broom.



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Literacy Corner

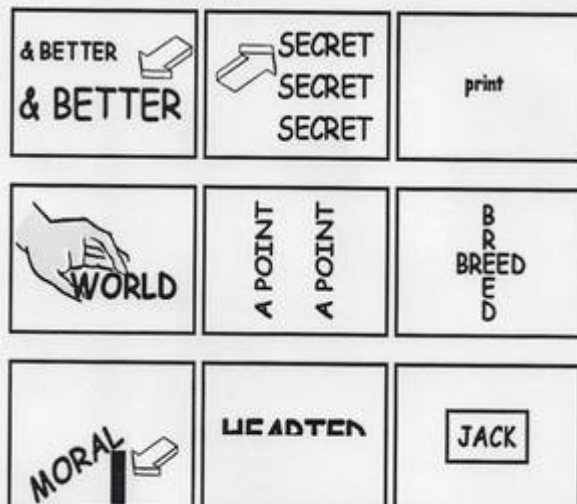
Word of the week

Contemporaneous /k ɒ ntemp ər aɪ n ɪ ss/

- **ADJECTIVE** existing at or occurring in the same period of time.
- DERIVATIVES **contemporaneity**
- **NOUN** **contemporaneously**
- **ADVERB** **contemporaneousness**
- ORIGIN Latin, from *tempus* 'time'.

Literacy quiz – Rebus Puzzles

Can you work out these word picture puzzles?



Answers
1. Bigger and better 2. Top secret 3. small print 4. feeling on top of the world 5. up to a point 6. cross breed 7. moral support 8. half-hearted 9. Jack in the box

Tesco Computer Vouchers

Thank you all for collecting the School Vouchers! This week we have collected **473** voucher's altogether!

It's only week one!

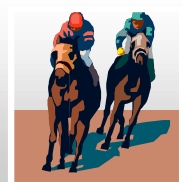
We still need your Help!

Pass your vouchers to Mr Fowles in IT or put them in the The collection box in Reception

PFOP Race Night!

Thursday 26th March 2009
at 7.00pm

ALL WELCOME!



RE Revision Timetable

Revision lessons Year 10 Wednesday evenings

18th March – The Church as a source of salvation etc and a means to J2 (L Holland)

25th March – Ministry / The Pope/ Bishops/ Priests/ Deacons J2 (D McCaughan)

1st April – Celibacy of the clergy and the ordination of women J2 (R Woods)

Revision lessons Year 11 Tuesday evenings With Mrs Davidson in RE 4

17th March – Why people don't believe in God (atheism)
The problem of evil and suffering C1

24th March – Life after death C2

31st March – The sanctity of life / abortion and euthanasia C2

SJP does Fame Academy!



Ingestre Hall staff welcomed our Year 9 Performing Arts pupils last week, for a week of tutorials and an experience that we will never forget! Set in the glorious countryside of Staffordshire we pulled up at what we can only describe as a 'grand mansion' which was once home to the Earl of Shrewsbury and his family from the 17th century.

The excitement continued as we were briefed on the programme for the week which allowed pupils to gain new experiences in Dance, Drama, Design and Music. The theme for the week was 'Panto with a Twist' and our students embraced the opportunities provided with enthusiasm. Each day they were tutored by professional artists who guided them through the process of putting on a show. They created a soundtrack for the performance work as well as working on drama, whole group choreographed dances and an interactive set.



The SJP staff ran workshops in the evening which included a "News Flash" evening where students reported on the events of the day through the medium of drama. A Fashion Show was held where pupils designed costumes for staff to model under the theme 'Who would live in a house like this?'. A Talent Competition which encouraged all students to showcase hidden talents and sport events in which Miss Heraghty revealed a very competitive side!

On the final day of tutorials students performed the work they had created in separate groups and the SJP staff were stunned by the quality of the work and professional attitude of our pupils. This was a very proud moment for us all, particularly when the head of the Arts School applauded the 'outstanding' contribution made by our pupils. Our pupils commented on the week saying it was 'like being a part of a Fame Academy or an Acting School'.

The work created will be edited into a snapshot performance for all to see at our Arts Celebration Festival which is due to take place on the evenings of 31st March and 1st April 2009. We hope you can attend this event and join us in celebrating the talent that we have at our school.

Footage of the week will be appearing on SJP Live and on the website.

Thanks to all those who took part,

Miss S. Heraghty Head of Performance



Hitler on Trial



On Tuesday 10th March, twenty GCSE History students set out to Liverpool with Miss Francis and Mrs Davies to watch "The Trial of Adolf Hitler". Hitler was accused of starting the Second World War and was put on trial as if he had survived the war.

The case saw many leading statesmen of the period questioned and cross examined: Benito Mussolini, Joseph Stalin, Neville Chamberlain and of course, Hitler himself. Many different arguments were put forward such as Chamberlain's policy of appeasement and the way in which other dictators tried to build up their empires in the 1930s.

The jury at the trial were the audience and it was a close decision, which eventually resulted in a guilty verdict. Pupils were extremely lucky to also have the opportunity to interview some of the cast members after the performance and to take part in a workshop to apply what they had found out to the questions they will be required to answer in their examination.

All is all, a really valuable experience.

Footsteps to the Cross

As part of our Lenten preparations, there will be a daily video available on the 'Spiritual Life' section of the website. Presented by a wide range of different members of the SJP community, these Footsteps tell the story of the journey of Jesus to his death on the cross. A new section of the story will appear each school day between now and

SJP Welcomes Bishop Brian

On Wednesday, 18th March 2009 our College welcomes Bishop Brian who will deliver his Lenten Talk at 7pm in the College Hall .

All welcome!!

Healthy Schools

Two of our Year 10 pupils, Daniel James and Siobhan McLaughlin, recently attended the Wirral Healthy Schools Council, where they got the opportunity to discuss issues affecting the health of young people (and other concerns young people might have) along with representatives from other Wirral schools.

Both pupils reported that they had an amazing day and were delighted to meet up with pupils from the other schools.

Group work consisted of coming up with ideas to raise awareness among young people of the health issues affecting them. They also went on to devise a pack to help Year 6 pupils feel more confident when joining their new senior school.

Siobhan and Daniel represent Year 10 on SJP's College Council and will be able to raise some of the ideas and items they discussed when the council meets next.



Numeracy Corner

Ewa's Eggs

Tomek accidentally knocked over Ewa's basket of eggs. Wishing to make amends he offers to pay as they are all broken. Ewa, a mathematician, recognising a fellow mathematician's embarrassment, replies: "I put the eggs into the basket in groups of 7 and noticed that I could easily have divided them into piles of 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 and always have one left over."

What should Tomek offer to pay? (Eggs currently cost 95p a dozen)

