

newsletter



**St John Plessington
Catholic College**

a Specialist Science, Technology and Humanities College

Tel: 0151 645 5049

Fax: 0151 643 1516

Find us at www.stjohnplessington.com

Issue 31

Learning Programme 5/5

w/c: 18th May 2009

Lead up to Project Week

Project week: 29th June – 3rd July 2009



Since September 2008, all of the SJP houses have been planning their "experiences" for some pupils in Years 7,8,9 and 12.

The objective of the week is to improve students' creative thinking, team work, self management and to sow the seeds of enterprise skills through a week of activities based on a chosen theme.

Look out for letters from your child's house which will provide more details on this exciting week.

Theme for the Week

18th May 2009 "LEARNING FROM EXPERIENCE"

WEEKLY MASS Wednesday 12.50pm

All welcome!



"When we really don't know what to do, when no answer comes from any direction, it is then that God inspires us."

St Frances de Sales

How many of us at one time or another in our lives have said, "If Only I could turn back the clock, I would have done things differently"? Learning is not just for the young: each one of us learns a little more about ourselves everyday. We learn for example when it's a good time to talk or be silent and listen. We learn how treat people, to encourage and to affirm them. But sadly we also learn how to put people down. We learn how to turn our backs on certain people and certain situations; we learn how to be bitter and angry with life.

Lord, sometimes life is not easy!

There are too many ways to go and dozens of reasons for each way. Life seems sometimes like a game of snakes and ladders, because if we make the wrong choice, we end up back where we started. Then again if we climb the ladders, are we just showing off? Some people around us seem so sure in what they are doing and where they are going that their confidence can scare us.

But life isn't a game Lord, it is our life and our opportunity to learn. We have to learn to make the right choices in life, otherwise we have to live with the consequences .

We know that, Lord .

Just stay with us whatever happens.

Make sense of what doesn't work out.

Help us to touch some of that wisdom , that you have buried deep within our hearts.

Amen

Year 10 Geography Field Trip

On a bright and sunny Thursday morning 13 pupils Mr Klabou and Miss Smith set off on a two-day adventure in the Lake District. The aim of the trip was to study a range of relevant topics in the field including glaciation, rivers, hill sheep farming and tourism in a National Park.

The group arrived at the beautiful location of Grasmere after a 3 hour mini bus journey to go. They began their Geographical experience with a hike up to Easdale Tarn (passing Sourmilk Ghyll on the way) and then they produced detailed descriptions of the formation of both landforms.

After a rest and picnic lunch in the sunshine the group trekked back down and spent some time exploring the tourist facilities and shops in Grasmere. After a short drive the group arrived at their base for the next two days - Ambleside Youth Hostel. After a brief settling in period and delicious dinner everyone congregated in the conference room and recapped on the key learning of the day.

Free time allowed everyone to socialize and with numerous games on offer including Nintendo Wii, pool, cards and hangman , some friendly Competition ensued.

On day two everyone met for breakfast bright and early and tucked into bacon, eggs and cereal to prepare for the action packed day ahead. A wet and windy start forced another session in the conference room examining the advantages and disadvantages of tourism. Pupils then explored Ambleside with lots of hot chocolate drinking and feeding the ducks.

We then climbed back on board the mini bus and headed off to the River Derwent to participate in some jayaking. Four seasons in one day were experienced during the high jinx of the three team race as pupils battled through high winds and rain. Mr Klabou, Ellie Ruddy, Elizabeth Johnson Eyre, Ashlea Buchanan and Caitlin Hamilton were Triumphant, beating both of the other teams back to the shore.



Finally a wet, exhausted but very happy group boarded the mini bus for the journey back to SJP with an excellent time and very worthwhile time was had by all.



Attendance

Year 7 attendance 92.5%

Year 8 attendance 92.9%

Year 9 attendance 92.4%

Year 10 attendance 91.6%

Year 11 attendance 94.1%

In the lead this week is Year 11.

Year 7 pupil Bowls 'em over!



Alex Finnigan (7BH) has won the Individual Knockout Under 18 Ten Pin Bowling competition at his local Bowling Club, the Bromborough Youth Bowling Club.

Well Done Alex!

British Gymnastics Champion!



Congratulations to Bethan Birch, one of our Year 10 pupils, who won a Gold medal at the British Gymnastic Finals last weekend.

Bethan qualified for the finals in March when her trio came first in the preliminary round in Liverpool. The group then travelled to Stoke-on-Trent for the finals, where they had to perform a 2 and a half minute routine in front of 7 top judges. The trio came 1st out of 13 other groups from around Great

Britain, which is a fantastic achievement.

Walk to School Week

Reminder— it is walk to school week starting 18th May 09. There will be competitions for Year 7 to get involved with and the prize will be free cinema tickets for FACT cinema in Liverpool.

So get walking everyone!

Year 7 Athletics

Congratulations to all pupils who represented SJP in the Year 7 Athletics meet at St Anselm's last week. The team took part in both track and field events, producing some good results.

Particular successes were achieved by Nicole Heffernan (who came 3rd in the girls 150m), Dale Clinton (who won the boys 200m final) and Abby Byrne who came 2nd in the Shot Putt. These pupils will go on to represent Wirral in the Merseyside Games.

Let's hope there is more success to come in our next major athletics event, which is being held on the 23rd June at The Oval.

Year 7 pupils recreate Battle of Hastings

As part of the Year 7 History curriculum pupils study the Battle of Hastings, the last time Britain was successfully invaded. Pupils have this year, for the first time, taken part within classes in mini re-enactments of the battle, taking on the roles of the central figures of both the Norman and Saxon armies and formulating a battle plan. Pupils have made costumes according to their roles and particular type of soldier they were representing, such as archers, cavalry and housecarls. The costumes that the pupils have created were absolutely superb, with many creative and inventive ideas, such as chainmail made from over 1000 paper clips.

Well done to Year 7 for their hard work with this.



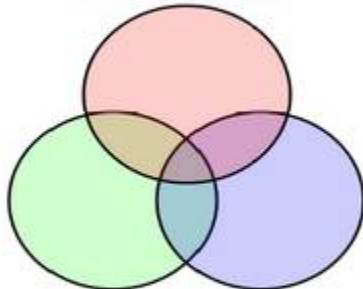
Numeracy Corner

In the town of Ketterby

80% drink cola

70% drink coffee

50% drink tea



Is it certain there is someone who drinks **cola**, **coffee** and **tea**?

Year 8 History Trip

On Monday 11th May, 30 Year 8 students set off to Liverpool Maritime Museum with Miss Francis and Mrs Davies. The purpose of the trip was to compliment the work that students have been doing in class on the British Empire and the Transatlantic Slave Trade. Pupils took part in a workshop run by museum staff which included a talk on the key features of the slave trade and in particular life on the plantations for the slaves. In addition to this they were also able to handle many artefacts from the slave trade era such as punishment collars and branding irons. Pupils also spent time completing research in the International Slavery museum.

The trip was a great success and will become a regular event within the History Department.



Dates to Remember

Date	Event
22nd May 2009	Year 11 Prom
25—29 May 2009	Half Term