

Issue No. 4

Week Beginning 29 September 2008
Learning Programme Unit 1/4

“ A DEFINITE FIRST CHOICE”...

THEME FOR THE WEEK:

“Sheep or Goat ? That’s the choice”

Our theme for this week is based on Matthew’s gospel about the ‘Sheep and the Goats’. We are all called to see the face of Christ in each person we meet and to serve them as if we were serving Jesus himself.

This coming Friday 3rd October is CAFOD Harvest Fast Day, and our prayers this week reflect our calling to serve our brothers and sisters throughout the world.

Just one sentiment which was repeated continually throughout Open Evening on 25 September.

We had the pleasure of welcoming **over 1000** visitors to our College last Thursday evening.

These are just a few comments that were shared with us:

“This school is fabulous”

“The Head Teacher and staff show real passion and commitment”

“A warm, welcoming school with impressive facilities”

“Demonstrations were wonderful”

“A real up-to-the-minute, switched-on school”

**For another chance to see SJP , we are holding our second
Open Day on 2 October 9.30—12 noon
Come and see us at work during the day.**

Outstanding Results Once Again!



The Staff and Governors at St John Plessington Catholic College would like to congratulate all of our Year 11 and Year 13 Pupils on their first class examination results this summer.

A tremendous 82% of our Year 11 Pupils achieved 5 or more GCSE passes at A*- C

With our record results at A-Level too, this has been the most successful year in the College’s history.
Well done to all on their hard work and dedication.

Comprehensive Education at its best

- 82% of our Year 11 Pupils achieved 5 or more GCSEs at A*- C (16% above the National Average)
- Our value added score **again** places us in the top 10% of all schools nationally
- “Students benefit from ... an excellent curriculum that meets their needs and aspirations.”
- “Exemplary and rigorous assessment ensures all students know how well they are doing.”
- “I am happy in the knowledge that my child’s education is in the best possible hands.” (Ofsted)

Co-educational Practice at its best

- 80% of our Boys achieved 5 or more GCSEs at A*- C (20% above the National Average)
- 81% of our Girls achieved 5 or more GCSEs at A*- C (14% above the National Average)
- “Students get on very well with each other and with staff. Behaviour is exemplary.”
- “Relationships throughout are very positive; students show respect and consideration for others.”
- “In this school, it is both acceptable and expected to do your best.” (Ofsted)

A snapshot of just a few Open Evening demonstrations...



African Drumming—Music



Clay Work—Art



Jelly Bean Experiment—Science

ALSO FOR YOUR DIARY...

‘JOSEPH’ Production
8th and 9th October
at 7 pm
Tickets on sale from Tuesday

Next Week... Year 11 Geography GCSE Group visit The Lakes



Next Wednesday and Thursday, 28 Year 11 pupils are set to embark on the geographical experience of a lifetime as they travel north to the Lake District. Here, they will study post glacial features including Easdale Tarn, and the tourist villages of Grasmere and Ambleside. Upon returning to College, Year 11 pupils will put into practice what they have seen and learned in the final weeks of Learning Programme 1 – Tourism in a glacial environment.

The Geography Department are crossing their fingers for a sunny day!

Year 7 Family Mass

“Let your true colour shine”



It was a wonderful sight to see 220 Year 7 pupils and their families gathered together in the College Hall to celebrate their first Mass. It was a great pleasure to welcome everybody there into the family of SJP.

Fr Ned Quinn, who is Parish Priest from St Anne's in Rock Ferry, celebrated Mass with us, and it was good to have with us Reverend Les Arch, who is a Deacon at St. Joseph's Parish.



Many Year 7 pupils were involved in the Mass, either reading or helping in the preparation of the liturgy.

This was a very special celebration, and one which we hope our Year 7 pupils and their families will always remember.

A promising start where Year 7 pupils' colours truly did shine!

Mass

Mass will be celebrated on Wednesday at 12.50pm in the College Chapel. All are Welcome

English Corner

Hello young and talented writers!

Here are some more external competitions for you to enter:

H.E. Bates Short Story Competition

Inspired by H.E. Bates, Northamptonshire-born master of short stories, write a short story on the subject of your choice. Entries must be no longer than 2,000 words. **1st Prize £200, 2nd Prize £150, 3rd Prize £100.** A prize of £50 will be awarded to the best story by a writer under 18-years-old. The entry fee is free for people under 18. For more information, visit <http://litnorthants.wordpress.com/opportunities/>

Closing date: 6 October 2008

Please see Miss McGowan for any further information or help.

Duke of Edinburgh Award Goes Bananas!

Summer finally arrived in time for the final expedition of the year. The award is gaining so much popularity that an extra weekend was organised for the 19th - 21st September. Mr Williams supervised the Silver Group from Friday to Sunday as they journeyed through the Clwyds, covering thirty miles over three days! Three Bronze Groups were also out and about and the high point was completing the ascent of Moel Famau and taking in the unusual flora and fauna.



Yes, the camera never lies, there was a **Super Lamb Banana** grazing next to the Jubilee Tower at the summit! All groups showed great teamwork in the way they navigated around the course. Their conduct at the campsite was exemplary. We camped at the Kingswood Colomendy Centre and the second day's walk took the groups past the High Wire Adventure Area. Judging from the shrieks of delight from pupils at the centre, our Year 7s are in for a treat when they attend their residential in October. The Bronze Award will be introduced to Year 9 pupils soon. Thanks also go to Mrs Stewart and Mr Austin who helped out during the weekend.

B Shillinglaw
D of E Coordinator

Attendance

Year 7—11
92.9%

Year 7	93.8%
Year 8	93.9%
Year 9	92.9%
Year 10	91.6%
Year 11	93.2%

In the lead this week is Year 8—Well done!

Remember that good attendance is vital for success

Punctuality

You should be on the yard **no later than 8.35 a.m.** every day.

PUPIL FOCUS:

Find your Learning Programme on SJP's website under 'Curriculum'.

ALSO NEXT WEEK:

Year 11 Geography Field Trip

CAFOD Fast Day

Friday 3 October
'Buy a Footstep'

European Day of Languages at SJP!

Pupils from Years 7 – 10 have been taking part in activities to celebrate European Day of Languages. This is an event held all across Europe to highlight the need to learn a different language, and to celebrate cultural diversity in Europe and the world.

During the week, Year 7 pupils were invited to a quiz in the Modern Foreign Languages Department and took part in presentations and class discussions about the importance of learning a language. Year 8 pupils have been preparing and filming role-plays to be shown on SJP L!VE. Year 9 had a French breakfast with the Modern Foreign Language staff, Year 10 had taster lessons in French, Italian or Portuguese and Year 11 had a Tapas tasting day. What an amazing week! The MFL Department is impressed by the enthusiasm and effort of so many pupils.

Year 7 pupils said they thought learning a foreign language is important because:

- It can improve your social skills.
- It's polite to talk to people in their own language.
- It could be important if you need help in a foreign country.
- It is helpful to understand menus and order food in a different country.
- You may wish to live abroad one day.
- Languages can be useful in a future career.



Year 9 enjoying croissants and jus d'orange at the French Breakfast

Su Doku Challenge – 3

Number 3 of your weekly Mathematics Department Su Doku Challenge

Are you getting better or are they getting easier?! Remember you have to put all of the digits from 1 – 6 inclusive in the six boxes but no number should appear twice in one set of six, or twice in a row or twice in a column! Good luck!

Puzzle

6					4
	5			2	
		4	5		
		2	4		
	3			4	
1					3

Solution

4		1		2	6
5		2		1	3
3		6		5	4
1		3		4	2
2		5		6	1
6		4		3	5

PFOP AGM

The AGM is on 11 November 2008 at 7 p.m. All Welcome

GCSE Geography 'Coursework Clinic'

All pupils in Year 11 are invited to attend the Coursework Clinic which takes place on Wednesdays after school for any support with coursework. An overview detailing revision classes, deadlines and useful dates for Year 11 Geography this Academic Year is available from Miss Smith and will go on 'SJP LIVE'.

BOOK ZONE

If you're into reading and enjoy meeting new people, pop into the library on Friday lunchtimes for our new reading group!

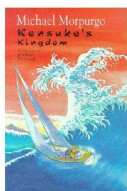
Feel free to come on down to the library to discuss your favourite books, get suggestions for some other great books and even get a chance to write about them in this newsletter! It's open to all years from **12.30-12.50** on Friday. Starts 3rd October, so we hope to see you bookworms there!

BOOK OF THE WEEK!

Kensuke's Kingdom by Michael Morpurgo

This book is definitely a great book to read on a rainy day. Kensuke's Kingdom tells the story of Michael and Stella's shipwrecking incident after falling overboard. Losing all hope of rescue on a tropical island, Michael gives up only to find a new friend at hand and the beginnings of an adventure to get home.

Like the sound of it? Feel free to rescue it from the Library.



History Revision Sessions

Revision Sessions will take place every Wednesday from 3.20-4.20. A-Level Revision Sessions Thursday from 3.20 - 4.20.

Please contact Miss Francis if you require further details.

Literacy Corner

Word of the week

Laudable (LAW-duh-bul)

Adjective: Worthy of praise; commendable.

Origin: *Laudable* comes from Latin *laudabilis*, from *laudare*, "to praise," from *laus*, *laud-*, "praise."

Related forms: laudability, laudableness, **noun** laudably, **adverb**



Literacy quiz

Find the 10 letter words in this word search:

F N W E F R E N O I T S E U Q
I R L K W X L W P X E E G B D
N O R S A D E X L C K N S T Z
A F F E C T I O N S I I E Z F
N K U I V H K E S T D L C H X
C W N R A O R C N B E E I U I
I F I O Z E L U O V O D F S A
A U V G F U O U I I V I I T U
L T E E G C O S T Q W U R K Y
Z H R T C V I T A I P G C Q I
V W S A R O F Q T N O V A R S
X Z I C N R T D O M Q N S O V
L X T N U E B H U E B O Q V L
W O Y S Z O R A Q F S Z Z D U
N I K J U U N O W B K F H S Z

ACCOUNTING
AFFECTIONS
CATEGORIES
FINANCIAL
GUIDELINES
QUESTIONER
QUOTATIONS
REFERENCES
REVOLUTION
SACRIFICES
TELEVISION
UNIVERSITY

Now see how many words you can make out of these words.

E.g. Accounting = count, out, can, tin etc.

ACCOUNTING:
AFFECTIONS:
CATEGORIES:
FINANCIAL:
GUIDELINES:
QUESTIONER:
QUOTATIONS:
REFERENCES:
REVOLUTION:
SACRIFICES:
TELEVISION:
UNIVERSITY:

BRAINTEASER

Mr Wrinkle spent one quarter of his life as a boy, one-eighth as a youth, and one-half as an active man. If Mr Wrinkle spent 10 years as an old man then how many years did he spend as an active man?

