



**St John Plessington
Catholic College**
a Specialist Science, Technology and Humanities College

Newsletter

Issue 14

Learning Programme 2/7
w/c 12th December 2011



Careers and Industry Experience—Breakfast Meeting Event

Last week SJP invited local companies into the school with the objective of developing partnerships to bring the world of work into the classroom. We were delighted that the Mayor of Wirral, Cllr. Moira McLoughlin and Phil Davies, Council Cabinet Member for Regeneration and Planning Strategy could also attend.

The event was organised alongside *Invest Wirral*. Invest Wirral is Wirral Council's inward investment and local business support team, which offer support services to companies and provide relevant information, guidance and support to help their growth and development.

Roy Jones, Community Liaison Manager of Scottish Power, provided an informative talk on the benefits of businesses linking with schools. Aiden Harper, Managing Director of TFL Education Ltd provided further information on our Teacher Future Leaders programme for all teachers of KS3 students; blending leadership, personal development and skills for life.

The aim of the breakfast meeting was to encourage the businesses to sign up for the SJP Ambassador Scheme. This scheme lists a number of opportunities of how they could become involved with the school, including employer-led seminars, site visits, focused internships and mentoring by local industry ambassadors.

Comments by the employers included:

"I think that the work to encourage enterprise in SJP is truly inspiring"

"I was impressed by the school environment and the pupils who showed us around"

Mrs McMahon Head of Work related Learning said, "I was delighted so many companies could attend. My aim is that pupils develop a realistic idea of the world of work from an early stage and leave SJP with more confidence to succeed in their chosen career path."



End of Term Arrangements

Please note that College will be closing at 12 noon on Friday, 16th December 2011.

School buses will not be available - please make alternative arrangements.

We wish all our pupils and their families a Happy and Holy Christmas.

A reminder that pupils will return to College at 8.40am on Wednesday, 4th January 2012.

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Go Global Workshop

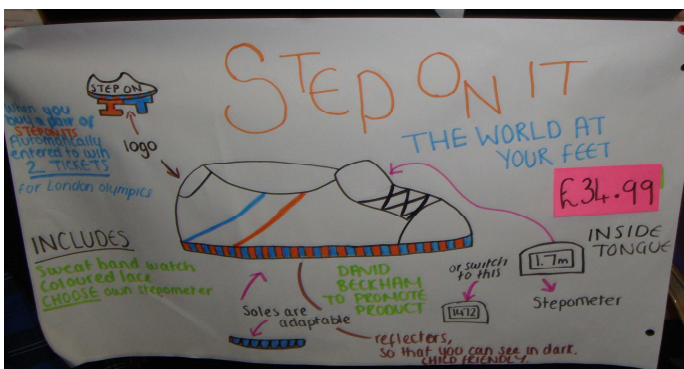


A number of Year 12 students attended the workshop with Claire Young, finalist in the BBC's *the apprentice*

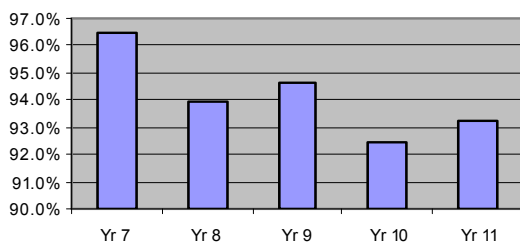
The aim was to develop students as global entrepreneurs by exploring their ability to be creative, innovative and to think big.

The task: Come up with an original idea for a new product which could be sold by a sports company. Their target market was students aged 11 to 16 years. Clare gave them tips and hints throughout the session including how to deliver a good presentation.

The students identified the skills they will need to action their own ideas on how to make a difference to the lives of others in communities around the world. They will use this experience to set up a social enterprise team in school to look at enterprising ideas to help raise funds for Street Child Africa.



Attendance - 09.12.2011



Year 7 - 96.4% Year 8 - 94.0% Year 9 - 94.6%

Year 10 - 92.5% Year 11 - 93.2%

Exams Information

GCE & GCSE exams in January 2012

All students with GCE or GCSE exam entries for January 2012 should have received an Individual Pupil Timetable from their Head of Learning, Learning Coach or Form Tutor. **If you think you have been entered for an exam, and you have not received a timetable, please ask for the Exams Officer at the Reception Desk.**

A booklet entitled **January 2012 Exams Information** for Parents & Pupils? is available via the school website. Hard copies are available on Reception. This booklet contains an exam timetable and important information about exam requirements and regulations: please read it.

Morning exams will begin at 9.00 am. Afternoon exams will begin at 1.30 pm.

Students must assemble in School Yard at 8.30 for am exams, and 1.00 for pm exams, where they will receive further instructions from staff.

Please bring the correct equipment to each exam

- calculators and geometry sets to Maths exams
- calculators to Science exams
- black ballpoint pen to every exam.

Seating plans will be displayed in the foyer, and from the DT classroom window overlooking the school yard. You should be able to spot them - they will be printed on bright green paper.

Exams run very efficiently and smoothly at SJP, thanks to the excellent conduct of our students. **If you have any queries or questions about your forthcoming exams, please ask your subject tutor, or the Exams Officer.**



SJP Website

Next PTA meeting:

7pm Tuesday 17th January 2012
in the College Staff Room.
All are welcome.

Netball News



Congratulations to the Year 7 & 8 netball teams who both added another victory to their impressive results so far. Both teams played against University Academy Birk-enhead at home last Thursday with the Year 7 team winning 4-3 and the Year 8 team winning 8-0. The Year 8 team have played 9 games this half term only losing 1 which is a very impressive record. Well done girls! Player of the match: Natalie Maxwell

What's Advent All About?



Whenever we do something important, we can't just turn up. We can't just roll up un-prepared and expect to have an amazing experience.

If we are going to a party, we can't just turn up without getting dressed up and bringing a present for the host. If we're going out for a meal, we have to make sure that we haven't already eaten.

Okay, so sometimes surprises can be nice, but most of the time something special needs properly preparing for it. We need to make sure that we are prepared and that we are worthy of doing what it is we are about to do. At Christmas, we celebrate something totally amazing: we celebrate the fact that our God loved us enough to come down to earth and live among us. He loved us so much that he had to come and live as one of us and show us what it meant to love and serve one another and to truly believe in him.

If you stop and think about it, it's pretty amazing. And that's why the Church gives us Advent. It is a way of preparing for Christmas by making sure that we realise what it's about, making sure we are worthy and healing anything in our lives that's stopping us from having our share in the joy that it all brings.

College Scarf

College scarf- An SJP College scarf is now available from Wirral Uniform Centre.

This is optional but if pupils choose to wear a scarf, **only the College scarf is**

Design Your Future



On Tuesday 29th November A group of students from year 12 were given a opportunity to design their future. There was an exhibition of Universities and Colleges that specialise in Art and Design based courses. The students were able to talk to lecturers and students about the course contents and also the admissions policies for those courses. This first hand information will be very useful when deciding which universities and colleges to apply for.

Design courses do have different entrance requirement from other courses.

This information will also be useful to students after GCSE results day to help them decide on their A level courses.

There were also a range of different workshops to attend such as *how to create a portfolio* and *managing student finances*. What amazed the students was the sheer number of different courses available within the Design Sector, including ; Architecture & Landscape Architecture, Art, Art and Design, Applied Art, Ceramics and Glass, Community and Public Arts, Crafts, Digital Media Art and Design, Fashion, Fine Art, Furniture, Graphic Design, Illustration and Book Art, Interactive Design and Media, Interior, Spatial and Structural Design, Jewellery and Designed Metal, Photography, Video and Lens Media, Product Design, Textile, Fabric and Pattern Design, Theatre, Scenic Arts and Set Design, Three Dimensional Design, Visual and Vision Arts.

Sixth Form Information Evening

Sixth Form information Evening will take place at 6.00 p.m. on Tuesday 17th January 2012. During the evening Year 11 pupils and parents will have the opportunity to meet the director of sixth form, sixth form heads of learning, the sixth form learning coach, representatives from higher education institutions, specialist subject teachers and current sixth form students. Our SJP careers officer and a connexions representative will also be available to give you advice. You will be able to view exhibitions and speak to staff about choosing relevant sixth form courses. This will enable you to make an informed decision on how best to choose courses and plan for your future career.

If you have any queries, please contact the Year 11 Head of Learning in the first instance.

Language Corner



Can you match up the following Christmas themed French words with the correct English words?

Les anges	The donkey
La dinde	The three Kings
Les Rois Mages	The turkey
Le Père Noël	The Christmas tree
Le sapin de Noël	Father Christmas
La Nativité	The star
La crèche	The Nativity scene
L'étoile	The manger
	The angels

The first five correct answers brought to Miss Kingsland in LA2 will receive a house point!

Puzzle Corner

Four Twos Make Ten ☆☆ 16

There are lots of ways of making 8 with four 2s using standard mathematical notation. For example:

$$2+2+2+2, \text{ or } 2^{2+2} \div 2.$$

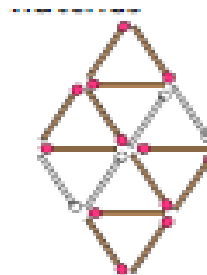
Can you find another way?

Can you find a way of making 9 with four 2s?

What is the biggest number you can make with four 2s?

What is the smallest number you can't make with four 2s?

Solution from last week



Weekly Theme - 'Finding Happiness'

Human beings come in all different ages, shapes, colour's and sizes, but they all share one ambition; everyone wants to be happy. But how to find happiness? And then how to keep it? When Nelson Mandela visited Britain, we experienced a happy man; a sincere man who had suffered that others might be free; a man who found happiness through working for others. That is the message of this week; if you want happiness, find it for others and then you will have found it for yourself also, and that happiness will remain

Thessalonians 5:16-24

Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

Do not quench the Spirit. Do not treat prophecies with contempt but test them all; hold on to what is good, reject every kind of evil.

May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul

and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do it

Father, the whole world looks with eagerness to the celebration of the birth of Jesus. May we, in our lives, know the real meaning of happiness and find it in the peace that your Son promises to all who follow him.

