



**St John Plessington
Catholic College**

a Specialist Science, Technology and Humanities College

Newsletter

Issue 1

Learning Programme 1/1
w/c 3rd September 2012



Best GCSE Results Ever

**St John Plessington
Catholic College**



Congratulations Year 11 - Best GCSE Results EVER



**The National Performance Measure - five or more
GCSEs at A*-C including English and Maths**

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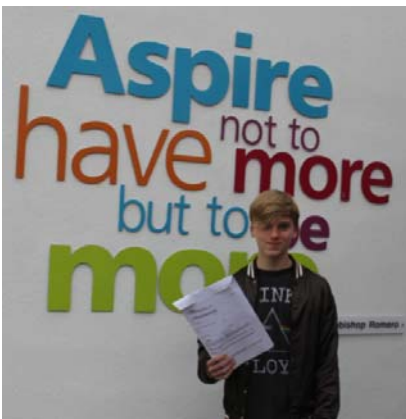


Record Smashed Again!

SJP has once again produced record-breaking results. A phenomenal 76% of our Year 11 pupils, up from 64% last year, have achieved the national success indicator of at least five GCSEs at grades A*-C including English and Maths.



Maths results were at a record high of 81% A*-C (national figure 68%) with 16% of those pupils achieving the top grades A*-A. In English, 82% of the group achieved a grade C or higher (national figure 64%) with 10% achieving the highest A*-A grades. We are in no doubt that these figures, and the fantastic individual success stories they describe, reflect the impact of small class sizes across all year groups, which enable our staff to spend quality time with every individual in every lesson ensuring rapid progress in a secure learning environment.



Small class sizes making all the difference

Year	Average class size	
	English	Maths
7	17	15
8	16	16
9	19	17
10	17	17
11	15	13

The story of our GCSE examination success for summer 2012 does not end with Year 11 because, as in previous years, SJP has continued to enter pupils for their exams when they are ready rather than waiting until the end of Year 11. Currently 46% of all of our Year 10 pupils have already achieved an A*-C in Maths and 53% in English - fantastic achievements. In Year 9, 28% of the whole year group have already achieved a full GCSE result of A*-C in Maths and 24% in English. As well as this, two pupils in Year 8 achieved grade As in their GCSE Maths this summer and we even entered some of our Year 7 as they are flourishing in the subject: twelve of these twelve-year-olds now also have a GCSE grade C in Maths an amazing four years 'early.' These brilliant results are down to the hard work and commitment of pupils and staff.

Outstanding Beyond the Classroom too!

The last week of Summer Term was our annual highlight - Project Week.

Staff and pupils worked together learning about their representative country, based on the theme of 'Olympics'. It wasn't all about work—as pupils also took time-out to try a new sport for themselves. Some of the activities on offer were rock climbing, zip wire, skiing, orienteering and water sports.

On the final day pupils prepared and presented a 'Showcase' of their learning to a panel of judges from businesses and our own Governing body.

Peter Russell (Chairman of Russell Taylor Associates and Project 2012 judge) said: " **Thank you ever so much for the invite for this morning's event. It was fabulous! Not only did it give me a chance to see the school at its very best, but also gave me a chance to meet governors and senior staff.**"



We were delighted this year to be awarded the distinction of **Artsmark Gold**, a prestigious accolade which reflects the huge range of opportunities available within performing arts at SJP.



PTA News - 18.09.12

Join us for An Evening of Cheese & Wine



A great opportunity for new parents to the school to meet the current members of SJP PTA and find out what's coming up in yet another exciting year at St John Plessington!

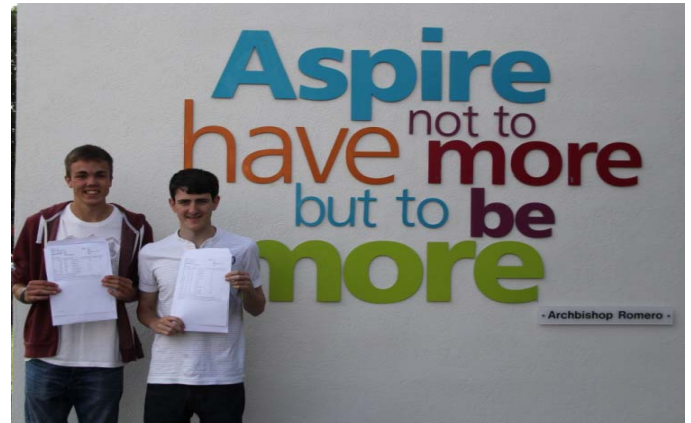
Date: Tuesday 18 September 2012
 Time: 7pm
 Venue: College Atrium

University Here We Come!

2012 was also another year of exceptional A Level results at SJP. A phenomenal 32% of all the grades awarded were either A* or A with 19% achieving the highest A* grade.

These fantastic results across the board have ensured that our Pupils have been able to accept places on their chosen university courses – from Aberdeen to Brighton and even studying with Professor Brian Cox at Manchester University's prestigious Physics Department.

On visiting SJP on results day, Alison McGovern, MP for Wirral South said, **"I would like to congratulate the students of SJP on their excellent results. It makes me very proud to see the great future ahead of us, because of the talented young people in our community."**



The achievements reflect the consistent hard work and dedication of students and teachers and we wish all of them good luck as they head off on their chosen paths.

Weekly Theme - 'Living by the rules'

RULES

1. YOU CAN....
2. YOU CAN'T..
3. YOU CAN..
4. YOU CAN'T

Mark 7:1-8

The Pharisees and some of the teachers of the law who had come from Jerusalem gathered around Jesus and saw some of his disciples eating food with hands that were defiled, that is, unwashed. (The Pharisees and all the Jews do not eat unless they give their hands a ceremonial washing, holding to

the tradition of the elders. When they come from the marketplace they do not eat unless they wash. And they observe many other traditions, such as the washing of cups, pitchers and kettles.

So the Pharisees and teachers of the law asked Jesus, "Why don't your disciples live according to the tradition of the elders instead of eating their food with defiled hands?" He replied, "Isaiah was right when he prophesied about you hypocrites; as it is written:

"These people honour me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me. They worship me in vain; their teachings are merely human rules.' You have let go of the commands of God and are holding on to human traditions."

When we buy a new TV or washing machine or some flat pack furniture, we normally find that in the packing with the goods are instructions or rules that we have to follow to make the piece of equipment work properly or to assemble it together in the right order.

But as babies we don't arrive on this world with a book of instructions. But we know that God loves us and never leaves us to cope by ourselves. In the Ten Commandments he gives us rules to live our lives by.

However he also tells us that the two most important rules that we must live by are first is that we love God and secondly that we love our neighbour as much as we love ourselves.

As we begin this new school year, let's try to keep the rules that God has given us, then we will find that everything in life will fit together perfectly.

Loving Father, as we begin this new school year, fill our hearts with your love, so that we may find happiness by following the rule of love that your Son Jesus gave us to live our lives by.

Amen

Your Child is expected to be on the Yard at 8.30am each morning. After 8.40am Your child is late and will have to enter College by reception where s/he will be met by a Learning Coach.