



St John Plessington Catholic College

Issue 25

Newsletter

w/c 20th April 2015



Duke of Edinburgh's Silver Award

Over the last two weekends, 39 Year 11 pupils completed their Duke of Edinburgh's Award Silver Expedition. Pupils left SJP at 8.00am on the Saturday morning and travelled to North Wales to complete the three day, two night expedition returning to school on the Monday. As we left, spirits were high and all pupils were excited, yet focused on the challenge ahead. When the teams arrived at the start point, the foot of Moel Arthur, the initial climb onto the Moel Famau ridge looked daunting but all pupils climbed it with enthusiasm driven by good teamwork.

On the first expedition, pupils were treated to beautiful weather as they navigated through open fields, farmland and villages in what are simply glorious surroundings. When pupils were greeted at checkpoints they remained confident and enthusiastic. Perhaps a down side to the beautiful weather in the day time was the freezing conditions at night. Both staff and pupils will talk for a long time to come about that freezing night at Colomendy with the grass glistening white with frost.

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Duke of Edinburgh's Silver Award contd

On the second weekend it was quite a different scene. The weather was wet and windy with the rain appearing horizontal at times. Pupils' resolve was tested as on the way up to Moel Famau the wind was making walking difficult. This led two groups to think on their feet and re-route to find an alternative path down.

On the second day pupils were tested again, this time with more of the horizontal rain mentioned above. All pupils however showed resilience and completed the day. When returning to the camp site the weather broke and we were able to set up camp in the dry which was a welcome break. That evening, all pupils gathered to be briefed on the last day's route. On the final day pupils set off on their journey back towards Loggerheads where they were greeted at the final checkpoint with the welcome sight of the school minibus.

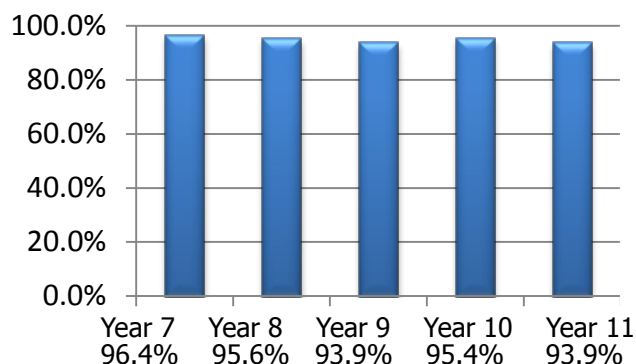
These were two very challenging expeditions; however our pupils showed great skill, leadership and determination to complete them. As a College we are very proud of their achievements.



Coming Up

22-Apr	Dance Moderation Year 11
23-Apr	Visiting Artists 'The Singh Twins' workshop
28-Apr	SJP Dance Show
30-Apr	Junior Maths Challenge
30-Apr	MFL trip to La Viña Tapas Restaurant

Attendance 01/09/14 - 27/03/15



Catenians Public Speaking

The Catenians annual public speaking competition took place last Friday evening at Archbishop Beck Catholic School. This highly prestigious competition is open to all Sixth Formers within Catholic Schools across Liverpool and the Wirral.

Entrants can choose from a range of topics, then must present their speech in front of a full auditorium as well as a panel of judges.

Did this deter our Head Girl, Sarah Dooley? No, it most certainly did not! The standard was exceptionally high and Sarah was last to speak. By this stage, her staff and family were nervously anticipating her performance. Sarah took to the stage and effortlessly discussed the Rudyard Kipling quotation "Gardens do not grow by sitting in the shade." Her manner, confidence and personality shone through.

After the judges had deliberated, we were delighted to find that Sarah had come third. This was a fantastic achievement; especially as we cannot stress how high the standard was, so third place was outstanding. Very well done, Sarah! We are all so proud of you.



Rugby

Our Year 8 Rugby Team were successful in their away win at Woodchurch High School with a score of 22-19.

Tries came from Will Cartmell and Luca Longman, a hat trick. Well done team!

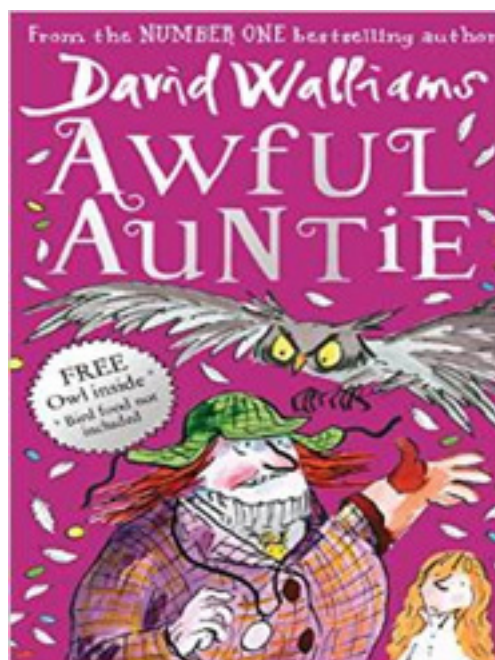


Literacy Corner

Can you answer the following questions about the books of David Walliams?

See Mrs Connolly with your answers to win a prize!

1. What is the name of Mr Stink's dog?
2. What is the loo roll that Mr Spud invents called?
3. What colour hair does the Demon Dentist have?
4. Which other book titles show an example of alliteration?
5. How many books has David Walliams written in total?
6. What is Mr Spud's girlfriend called?
7. What is the name of the shopkeeper in all the books?
8. Who illustrates all of his books?



Fixtures

Results Last week:

Monday - Year 10 vs Christleton HS - Football, Away - LOST 4-3 AET

Tuesday - Year 8 vs UAB - Football, Away LOST 2-1

Wednesday - Year 7 vs Oldershaw - Football, Away WON 5-0

Thursday - Year 9 vs Calday - Football, home. LOST 3-1 AET

Thursday - Year 8 vs Woodchurch - Rugby (Away) WON - 22-9

Thursday - 6 form vs 6 Form College - Football DREW 1-1, Game goes to a replay

Saturday - Year 7 and 8 Wirral Netball Tournament - WON AND LOST A NUMBER OF GAMES

Language Corner

Did you know these facts about Spanish?

- Spanish is the most learnt second language in the world with 20 million students.
- The USA has the second highest number of Spanish speakers with over 50 million inhabitants speaking the language – 40 million natively.
- Spanish is the most used language on the internet.
- The longest non-technical word in Spanish is 'anticonstitucionalmente' – 'anticonstitutionally'.
- The Spanish language is called 'español' by Latin American speakers and 'castellano' by Iberian Spanish speakers.

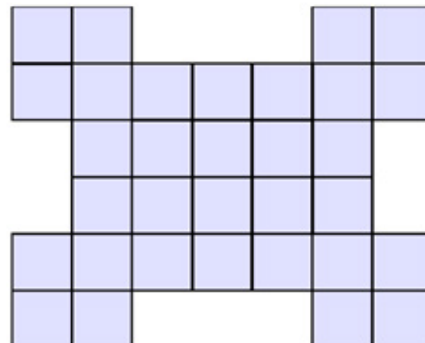
Do you know why this is?

The first five people to explain to Miss Gaffney



Maths Corner

How many squares can you see in this pattern?



Answer to last week's Maths Corner



A good way of showing the importance of place value.



Weekly Theme - Peace

Luke 24: 35-48

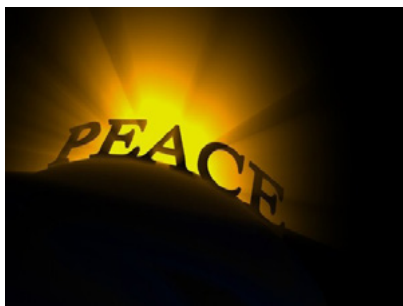
The two disciples told them what had taken place on the way, and how they recognised Jesus at the breaking of bread. While they were still speaking about this s himself stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you."

They were startled and frightened, thinking they saw a ghost. He said to them, "Why are you troubled, and why do doubts rise in your minds? Look at my hands and my feet. It is I myself! Touch me and see; a ghost does not have flesh and bones, as you see I have."

When he had said this, he showed them his hands and feet. And while they still did not believe it because of joy and amazement, he asked them, "Do you have anything here to eat?" They gave him a piece of boiled fish, and he took it and ate it in their presence.

He said to them, "This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms."

Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. He told them, "This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things."



Are you a convincing witness to others? This is this Gospels' challenge. Our faith might be the only "Gospel" that some people read. They'll read it in how you treat friends, family and even your enemies. They'll read it in your attitude towards poor people. They'll read it in how you use your money and choose your goals in life.

That's heavy stuff isn't it? We aren't perfect, and we mess up a lot. But don't worry; more than anything else people will see the Gospel alive when you apologise, admit your failings, and start all over again. We are all sinners, but we are still called to witness to the Resurrection of Jesus by passing the Gospel to our generation and on to the next generation. The Apostles took Jesus up on that challenge, and his word has spread from generation to generation for two thousand years. Now it's partly on our shoulders, but let's not worry. God has put it there because he has so much faith in us.

Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ, on the first Easter evening you appeared to your frightened and disheartened disciples and said to them 'Peace be with you.' Then you showed them your wounded hands and feet, and they were filled with joy. Grant that we who have heard the message of Easter, may be filled with the peace and joy of your kingdom where you live for ever and ever.

Amen