



St John Plessington Catholic College

Issue 24

Newsletter

w/c 23rd March 2015



Cambridge University Lectures

Eight of our Year 11 pupils recently benefited from the experience of spending a day with a group of Cambridge undergraduates and gained an invaluable insight into what it is like to study at Cambridge University.

The event was held at Goodison Park, home of Everton Football Club. An added bonus was a guided tour of the club, including a visit to the trophy room. Our pupils were also treated to two lectures, given by Cambridge Dons. Dr Gareth Atkins gave a History lecture on artefacts and how factors such as war have affected where works of fine art have come to be stored and exhibited. Dr Walid Khaled then gave a tremendous insight into how Cambridge undergraduates are working with him in the fight against cancer.

The message from both the undergraduates and the lecturers was that Cambridge is accessible to any student who is bright and, more importantly, willing to work hard. This resonated with our pupils and has helped to convince them that securing a place at one of the top universities can become a future reality.



River Alyn

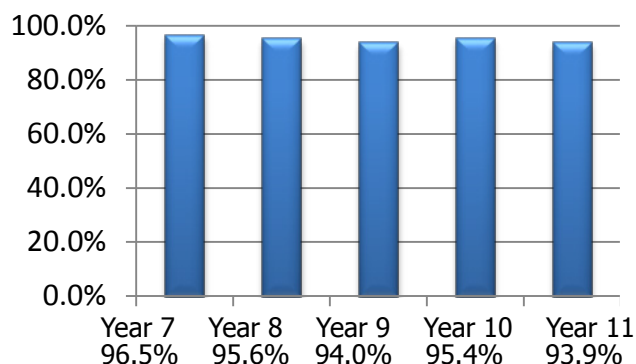
On 18th March, 15 Year 12 Geography students ventured out to the River Alyn in North Wales to complete their AS rivers investigation. They travelled to Loggerheads Country Park to begin the study which will support them in their Unit 2 Skills examination. The students learned a variety of useful skills and had lots of fun along the way, compiling a range of river measurements including depth, width, wetted perimeter and velocity of the River Alyn. A rarity in March, the weather held out and the students were able to enter the river to test its velocity first hand!



Coming Up

26-Mar	Lever Gallery in SJP Workshops
27-Mar	Year 7 Disco
28-30-Mar	DofE Silver Expedition
30-Mar	English & Mathematics Mock Examinations
1-Apr	Primary Dance Festival
2-Apr	'The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas' trip
3-Apr	Good Friday - College closed

Attendance 01/09/14 - 20/03/15



Languages Spelling Bee

On Wednesday, four Year 7 pupils (Sonia Striebel, Aleyah Hannigan, Naomi Martin and Caitlin Steele) made their way to Manchester Metropolitan University to complete in the North West Regional Final of the *Routes into Languages* Spelling Bee.

All pupils delivered an impressive performance; each pupil had 60 seconds to translate a selection of words into Spanish before spelling out each letter individually using the Spanish alphabet. Both Sonia and Aleyah made it into the final 12 pupils in the North West.

Well done - a fantastic achievement!



Literacy Corner

Creative writing stimulus.

Choose one of the pictures below as a stimulus to write a 50 word opening to a story. See Mrs Connolly with your creative work and win a prize!



Fixtures

Results Last week:

Tuesday -Year 7 Cross Country Race - Wirral Girls - Event Cancelled
 Thursday - Sixth Form vs St Mary's (Football) (home) - Won 3-0
 Thursday - Year 7 vs Weatherhead (Girls Football) (Away) Lost 5-0
 Year 8 Rugby and Football fixture to TBC.

Fixtures this week:

Monday - Year 10 vs Christleton HS - Football (Away)
 Tuesday - Year 8 vs UAB - Football (Away)
 Wednesday - Year 7 vs Oldershaw - Football (Away)
 Thursday - Year 9 vs Calday- Football (Home)
 Thursday - Year 8 vs Woodchurch - Rugby (Away)

Language Corner

Match up the Spanish foods to the correct description!



tarta de Santi-ago

Cured ham of the highest quality – whole legs sell for hundreds of Euros!



chorizo

An omelette made with potatoes, often eaten as a sandwich filling



tortilla de po-tatas

The most popular Spanish brand of hot chocolate



jamón serrano

A cake made out of ground almonds



magdalenas

A spicy sausage often eaten for tapas



Small muffins that are often eaten as a snack with milk

Maths Corner

Some petrol stations display prices by sticking segments together to make numbers.



What is the largest number you can make with 10 segments?



Answer to last week's Maths Corner

Put 6 in the centre, then place 1 opposite 11, 2 opposite 10, etc to give totals of 18. You could also put 1 or 11 in the centre since the remaining numbers can be paired off to give totals of 14 or 22.



Weekly Theme - Lent - Joy

John 12: 20-33

There were some Greek people, too, who came to Jerusalem to worship at the Passover Feast. They went to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said, "Sir, we would like to see Jesus." Philip told Andrew, and then Andrew and Philip told Jesus.

Jesus said to them, "The time has come for the Son of Man to receive his glory. I tell you the truth, a grain of wheat must fall to the ground and die to make many seeds. But if it never dies, it remains only a single seed. Those who love their lives will lose them, but those who hate their lives in this world will keep true life forever. Whoever serves me must follow me. Then my servant will be with me everywhere I am. My Father will honour anyone who serves me.

"Now I am very troubled. Should I say, 'Father, save me from this time?' No, I came to this time so I could suffer. Father, bring glory to your name!"

Then a voice came from Heaven, "I have brought glory to it, and I will do it again."

The crowd standing there, who heard the voice, said it was thunder.

But others said, "An angel has spoken to Him."

Jesus said, "That voice was for your sake, not mine. Now is the time for the world to be judged; now the ruler of this world will be thrown down. If I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw all people toward me." Jesus said this to show how He would die.

I remember the first time that I volunteered to work in an overnight shelter. I was scared. Were these people dangerous? Would I say the wrong thing?

I only went because a friend of mine had been helping there before. But I am grateful that I went. I found out I had nothing to fear. I met other helpers there who were incredible people, so full of joy and being able to help those in need. If I hadn't conquered my fears that first night, I would have missed so much.

God has incredible experiences lined up for us. God has some awesome people ready to enrich our lives. We only need to follow the advice given to us by Jesus in this week's Gospel to find it all. Let go of the world's measure of happiness; go where Jesus would go. Serve others. Give up some of the time we would rather use for ourselves. That's what it means to be like a grain of wheat.

Don't let fear stop you doing the right thing and life will be amazing.

Prayer

Lord Jesus, be with all those who are in need. Help us to think less of ourselves and to find ways to do good, to those who are around us. Help all of us to keep a good, holy and joy-filled Lent.

Amen