



St John Plessington Catholic College

Issue 15

Newsletter

w/c 12th January 2015



Hope Born in Darkness

At the end of last term our College Community celebrated our annual Christmas Carol Service in the College Hall. The pupils communicated the story of the birth of Jesus through a moving service of words, song and drama.

The evening also reflected upon those who lost their lives in the trenches

during World War I. Despite the harsh realities of conflict within the world, the evening reminded us that "hope can be born in darkness."

It was a lovely service in which our College Community joined together to celebrate the true meaning of Christmas.



Review Day Year 8 & 9 - Friday 16th January 2015

Years 7, 10, 11 & Sixth Form are to complete set work at home

Boxing Champion

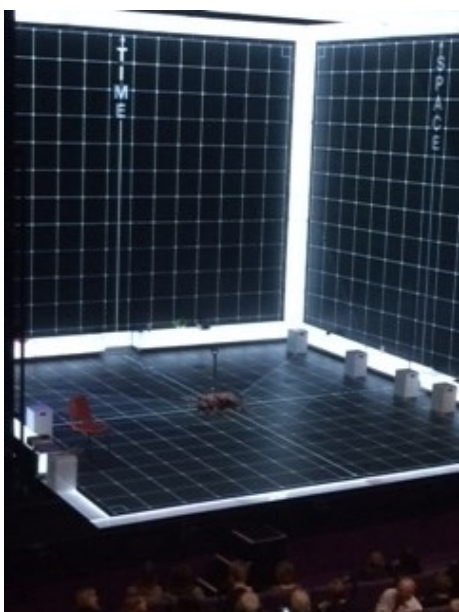


Our congratulations go out to Leon Dettlaff in Year 11, who has recently become the English under 16 Boxing Champion for his weight category (under 60kg). Having won a tough semi-final bout against Dylan Faye (Lancashire), Leon travelled down to Kent for the final, accompanied by his trainer and close family members, including his proud father. As the other contender, Bobby Cole, lives in Kent himself, naturally he had the support of the large local crowd.

Leon was nervous as the first round began but steadied his nerves by relying on his lightning jabs to loosen up and keep his opponent at bay. Mid-way through the second round, Leon knew he would prevail as long as he kept his composure. As the third and final round began, Leon's opponent knew he had to chase the fight and as he did, the gulf in class between the two boxers widened, with Leon dominating the latter stages. After being pronounced the winner on points, Leon will now represent England in the Four Nations Championships. Watch this space and good luck Leon!



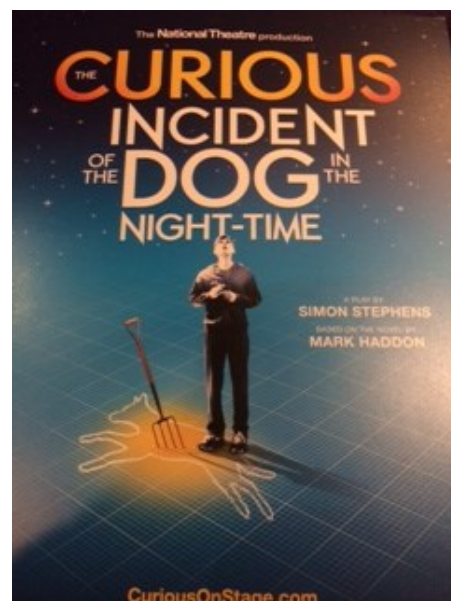
Theatre Trip to the Lowry, Salford



What a way to start the term! A fantastic production of the award winning adaptation of The Curious Incident Of The Dog In The Night-time, was enjoyed by all who attended.

The play follows the perspective of Christopher Boone who struggles to make sense of the world around him due to his autism. This, at times, funny yet moving story revealed theatre at its best. The staging and set design was spectacular, as was the sound and lighting, exemplifying how Theatre requires all these elements to work together in order to create entertainment.

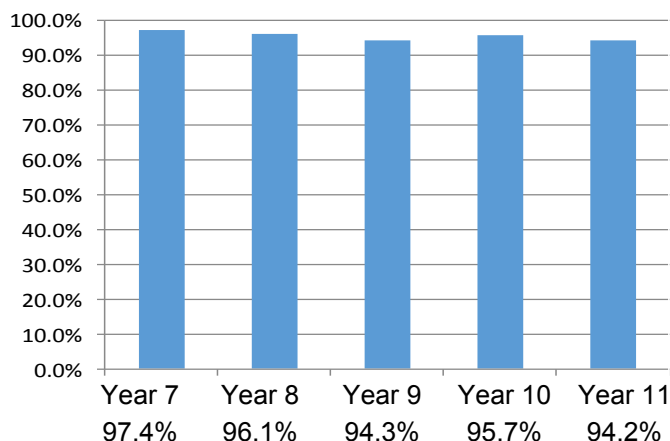
The students thoroughly enjoyed this experience and, as usual, were a credit to themselves and the school.



Coming Up

14 Jan	Industry Day Yr 9 & Yr 12
15 Jan	Bronze DofE Awards
16 Jan	Review Day Yr 8 & 9
21 - 23 Jan	Conway Residential Yr 7
28 Jan	Yr 9 KS4 Information Evening
30 Jan	Yr 7 Enterprise Day

Attendance 01/09/14 - 19/12/14



A Prayer for All Affected by Paris Shooting

Gracious God, by the light of faith, lead us to seek comfort, compassion, and peace, in the face of escalating violence around the world.

As we read news reports describing the horrifying situations in Paris, we offer our heartfelt prayers for those who were injured; for the emergency response crews and police officers who are working toward providing security and safety for all; for the people of Paris who are mourning the death of loved ones.

Loving Father, we humbly offer you our pain, our disbelief, and our cries for peace, seeking your gift of transformation and your promise of hope.

Amen.



Sports Fixtures

- Tuesday** - Year 7 Rugby v Woodchurch at SJP 3.20pm - 4.30pm
- Wednesday** - Year 8 Rugby v Woodchurch at SJP 3.20pm - 4.30pm
- Wednesday** - Year 7 Football Tournament at Woodchurch 3.20pm - 5.15pm
- Thursday** - Year 10 Football v Whitby High School at Oval Playing Fields 1.20pm - 4.20pm

Language Corner

What comes to mind when you think of Christmas? Most of us would think to a huge turkey dinner, beautiful Christmas trees and, above all, Father Christmas bringing presents in his sleigh. However, whilst Christ's birth on the 25th of December is still celebrated in Spain, it is the 6th of January - the Epiphany - that is the biggest day of festivities.

Spanish children are taught that it is Balthazar, Caspar and Melchior that bring their presents, just like they brought gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh to Baby Jesus. Just like English children, they often leave milk and biscuits for the Kings (and some hay for their camels!) They awake to find presents in their shoes rather than under the tree. For breakfast, they eat a 'roscón de reyes', a sweet bread cake decorated with fruit and sugar that is often dipped in hot chocolate. Whoever finds the bean hidden inside is the 'King' and must wear a crown.

In their lessons on 6th January, Year 7 learnt about the three Kings and how Epiphany is celebrated in Spain. To mark the Spanish feast day, they then decorated pictures of the Kings and wrote a special prayer to celebrate the dedication of the Kings in journeying to greet the Christ child. Their work will be decorating the willow tree in the College Atrium during the month of January.

¡Feliz día de Reyes a todos!



Literacy Corner

Find an eight letter word in the grid.

It can be spelled out by combining adjoining letters: sideways, backwards, up and down.

The first letter is in **bold** to help you.

D	S	I	M
L	T	O	M
R	U	N	S
E	U	E	I

Good luck!

Give your answers to Mrs Connolly to win a prize!

Maths Corner

New Year
Party



There were three times as many men as women at the New Year party.

After 4 men left with their wives, there were four times as many men as women.

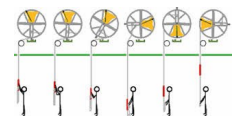
How many men and how many women attended the party?

Answer to last week's Maths Corner

Bell Ringing Rounds

1234 2134 3124 4123

(The answers in red are



1243 **2143** **3142** 4132 the ones which were

1324 2314 3214 **4213** already given.)

1342 2341 3241 4231

1423 **2413** **3412** 4312

1432 2431 3421 **4321**

Weekly Theme - Making A

Mark 1:7-11

He proclaimed, 'The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.'

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.'

With billions of people living in the world today, it seems ludicrous for any of us to think that we can make a difference that will have an effect upon all humanity.

But we can. In fact as Christians we are called to make a difference, we are called to be the eyes, the hands, the mouth and the face of Jesus.

So how can we do this? How can we make a difference in our communities, families and in our town this week?

Prayer

**God grant me the serenity
to accept the things I cannot change;
courage to change the things I can;
and wisdom to know the difference.**

Amen

