

# NEWSLETTER

*All the news from St John Plessington Catholic College*

## Catenian Speech Competition

George Connolly participated in the Catenian Speech Competition (a Catholic organisation aimed to support the growth and excellence in our young people), where he delivered a 4 minute timed speech on Why Britain should have Proportional Representation. He competed against students from St Anselm's and Upton Hall Girls.

There will be a regional competition as well.



**YR 9 OPTIONS EVENING THURSDAY 13 FEBRUARY 2020 6.00PM**



# We are moving to ParentMail

Go to our website [www.stjohnplessington.com/sjp-news/parentmail](http://www.stjohnplessington.com/sjp-news/parentmail) for more details.

## St John Plessington Catholic College

Old Chester Road, Bebington, Wirral, CH63 7LF  
Telephone: 0151 645 5049 Fax: 0151 643 1516  
Email: [schooloffice@stjohnplessington.com](mailto:schooloffice@stjohnplessington.com)  
Website: [www.stjohnplessington.com](http://www.stjohnplessington.com)



6 February 2020

Dear Parent

### Improving School Communications with ParentMail & Payments to College

Communicating with parents is an important part of what we do, making sure you get the correct information about activities, events and things that really matter is something we care about.

From **Monday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2020** we will be using ParentMail, a service used by over 6,000 schools, nurseries and children's clubs to communicate to parents. ParentMail will be beneficial to you because you can:

- Use a free mobile app on Android and iOS to pick up school messages instantly.
- Receive emails instead of letters
- Top up dinner money or pay for schools trips/items in just a few taps.
- Complete forms, give consent/permissions and give feedback on surveys.
- Keep on top of school meetings and events.
- Book parents' evening appointments.
- And much, much more!

Registering with ParentMail is very easy! Over the next few days you will be sent either an email and/or text message from ParentMail, when you receive this please just follow the instructions in the message.

The launch of the payments part of ParentMail (PayPlus) will be live from **Monday 17<sup>th</sup> February**, so please register now so that you receive our communications. We ask you not to make any lunch payments on ParentPay after **Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February**, as balances will be moved over to the new system ParentMail (PayPlus).

Please be assured that ParentMail is registered with the Information Commissioner and guarantees that all information you provide will be kept private and will not be passed on to any other organisation.

Once registered, if you have an Android or Apple smartphone, we highly recommend you download the ParentMail App for the best user experience. To do this, simply search for 'ParentMail' in your App store.

If you need any additional information or assistance, please visit the help site: <https://www.parentmail.co.uk/help/parenthelp/> or if you have not received any contact from ParentMail within 7 days please contact the school main office.

We have a ParentMail Parent Welcome Pack available on our website (link below). This pack is to help you understand the benefits of ParentMail, what this means for you and to provide you with some tips on getting started. <https://www.stjohnplessington.com/sjp-news/parentmail>

Yours sincerely

Simon Rylance  
Head Teacher



Head Teacher: Mr S J Rylance BEd (Hons) NPQH Deputy Head Teacher: Ms M Sharratt BA (Hons) NPQH  
A Catholic Voluntary Aided Academy, part of Holy Family Catholic Multi Academy Trust



## Criminology and Policing Conference

On Tuesday the 4<sup>th</sup> of February students from the Social Science department attended a Policing and Criminology Conference in Manchester. The day involved interactive lectures from famous figures in the field of Criminology including David Wilson and Jackie Malton.

David Wilson is one of the country's leading criminologists and author of many books including *'My Life with Murderers'*, *'British Serial Killing'*, *'Hunting Evil'* and *'Pain and Retribution'*. He is also the presenter of the award winning programme 'Interview with a Murderer' and 'Crimes Files'. David Wilson started his career as a prison governor and later worked as a criminal profiler, assisted with police investigations and conducted interviews with serial killers. His experience and knowledge of the field captivated the students interest throughout the day.

David focused on the approaches to offender profiling, in particular, he discussed the case and reporting of the Ipswich Murderer. The day also involved the Senior Lecturer of Criminology, Emma Kelly, discussing the spree murderer Joanne Denehey, allowing students to consider whether criminals are born evil or made evil. Professor Graham Pike explored the miscarriages of Justice in the UK including a discussion on the use of DNA evidence in crimes and the unreliability of eye witness accounts. In addition, Jackie Malton, Ex Detective Chief Inspector of the Metropolitan Police, shared her personal journey through the police force over the years and discussed how it has changed since the 1970s. Jackie is the role model of the award winning series Prime Suspect. In addition, students heard from James Treadwell who conducted undercover research on football hooligans in his PHD studies. Nowadays, James travels to prisons up and down the country to investigate how these institutions are not 'crime free' and are often misrepresented by the media. His published work includes '50 facts everyone should know about crime and punishment in Britain; The truth behind the myths'. He raised some very insightful questions on the purpose, role and functions of prisons in the UK today.

Lastly, David Wilson interviewed live on stage 'Noel Razor Smith'; the prolific armed bank robber who spent 32 years of his life in the prison system. Noel spoke about the contributing factors which led him into crime, the failure and cruelty of the criminal justice system during his time in prison, the success of rehabilitative programmes and his positive contributions to society since leaving prison. Throughout the day our students showed the upmost respect, maturity, and dignity. Every student engaged positively with the content and left with an inquisitive mind to discuss the events of the day. In their discussion they showed just how mature and thoughtful they are; well rounded members of our society.

Thank you to all of the students who attended the trip.





## RE students visit two iconic places of worship

One is an architecturally striking, inspired landmark on the Liverpool skyline fondly known as Paddy's Wigwam and the other is a Grade 1 listed Victorian building with elegant and well preserved features and some of our GCSE pupils at St John Plessington Catholic College were fortunate to visit both. On Monday 27th January and Monday 3rd February 2020, the RE department took two separate groups of GCSE students to visit the Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King as well as the Princes Road Synagogue in Liverpool. These trips were organised as part of the RE Curriculum with a view to provide more enriching learning experiences for pupils preparing for their GCSE exams.

The days started with a visit to the synagogue, home of the Liverpool Old Hebrew Congregation, in Princes Road. Here pupils were given a tour of the building with particular focus on the features used in synagogue services. This tour was led by a practising Jew who demonstrated and explained the importance and use of each feature. The pupils were also given a chance to see variety of Jewish artefacts such as the mezuzah and Torah first-hand and gain a more in-depth understanding of how they are used.

Following that pupils went on to the cathedral which is the mother church of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Liverpool. In this iconic place of worship pupils were warmly greeted by a member the cathedral's education staff who took them on a guided tour tailored to the GCSE exam requirements. This served to reinforce what pupils have been studying about features of a Catholic church and sacred objects including the Paschal Candle.

Overall, pupils were able to partake in a wonderful opportunity to visualise and experience two key places of worship which brought what they have learnt in the classroom to life. At both places of worship they were submerged into new spiritual and cultural experiences invaluable to their development and understanding. To top it all off, the trips also afforded pupils the opportunity to make lifelong memories with their peers who went along with them.

Some even brought mementos which will serve as a lasting reminder of this enriching educational experience.



## Oracy Day 2020



Year 8 have all experienced the power of debate and finding their voice.

They know the importance in developing their oracy skills to make them better learners, more employable and increase their chances of success.

## Year 9 Options Evening

Year 9 Options Evening takes place, Thursday 14 February 2020, 6.00pm Alpha (JB MT TL VP) and 6.30pm Beta (BH MK OR SB)

You can download our Year 9 options guide via our website. [www.stjohnplessington.com](http://www.stjohnplessington.com)



PARISH OF ST ANNE, ROCK FERRY

# PROFESSOR POTTS' TIME TRAVELLING TALES

A HOLIDAY CLUB FOR YOUNG PEOPLE AGE 7 TO 12

MONDAY 17TH FEBRUARY TO FRIDAY 21ST FEBRUARY

10AM REGISTRATION  
1:45PM DEPARTURES

5 days of activity filled fun, faith and fellowship!

Craft, sport, challenges, drama and song,  
There is something for everyone!

Lunch will be provided.

All young people must be registered.

Please return the registration form overleaf to St Anne's parish office.

## Harry Potter Book Night

Harry Potter Book Night 2020 was a great success. Thanks to everyone who joined in. It was fantastic to be surrounded by the buzz of excitement the books generate in fans and some pupils' Harry Potter knowledge is extraordinary!

We're just having a short rest before our next library event.



## HAVE YOU EVER CONSIDERED A CAREER IN TEACHING?

School Direct is a one-year, full time teacher training programme. At SJP, all School Direct Associate Teachers (ATs) are allocated a dedicated subject mentor, and guided by specialist tutors. At the end of the year, successful ATs will qualify with QTS and PGCE, which is accredited by the University of Chester.

### What are the entry requirements?

UK university degree 2:1 or above (2:2 for Maths, Physics, Chemistry, MFL) or a recognised equivalent qualification – we also accept applications from final year students due to graduate in 2020

Grade C or above in GCSE English and Mathematics

At least two full days of school observation.

You will be required to undergo an enhanced DBS check to verify your suitability to work with young people.

### What subjects do we offer?

We currently offer teacher training for Biology, Business Studies, Chemistry, Computer Science, DT, Drama, English, Geography, History, Maths, Media, Modern Foreign Languages, PE, Physics, RE and Social Sciences.

If you would like to know more about School Direct please contact the Director of Teaching School, [enquiries@sjpts.com](mailto:enquiries@sjpts.com) or **0151 645 5049**.

**Teaching**   
Every Lesson Shapes a Life.

# Weekly Theme - W/C 10th February 2020

Matthew 5:13-16

“You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its salty taste, it cannot be made salty again. It is good for nothing, except to be thrown out and walked on. You are the light that gives light to the world”.

A city that is built on a hill cannot be hidden. And people don't hide a light under a bowl. They put it on a lamp stand so the light shines for all the people in the house.

In the same way, you should be a light for other people. Live so that they will see the good things you do and will praise your Father in heaven.



## Extra-Curricular Timetables

Check out what Performing Arts & PE clubs are on via our extra-curricular timetables.

Please see Miss Chesters or Mr Nunnery if you are interested in getting involved in any of our Extra-Curricular clubs.

The Full timetables are available to download via our College website.

<https://www.stjohnplessington.com/sjp-news/extra-curricular-timetables>

### Performing Arts Extra-Curricular Timetable

	Monday 12 Assembly	Tuesday 11/13 Assembly	Wednesday 10/7 Assembly	Thursday 10/7 Assembly	Friday 9/8 Assembly
12 - 12.30pm		Year 11 Performing Arts Intervention (SJC)	Year 11 Music Intervention (ALJ) Intervention for Year 11 Music students for support with coursework		
12.35 - 1.10pm		K53 Choir (Year 7-8) ALJ All pupils in K53 are welcome to be part of the K53 Choir.	Musical Theatre Club (Year 7-10) CDD200 this weekly group find, rehearse and perform key numbers from well-known musicals.	LAMDA Performance Extra (SJC) For the completion of performance exams grades.	Spotlight 7 (Year 7 Drama Club) SJC A drama club run by Year 12 for Year 7 only.
1.35 - 2.10pm		National Connections (CDD) By audition to participate in this year's National Connections year 'Changing Rooms'.	Chamber Choir (K54-K55) ALJ Chamber choir rehearsed by Miss Jefferys.	Choir Section Leaders (Year 10-13) L2 & A rehearsal for the section leaders for school choir.	Year 11 Performing Arts Intervention (CDD) Intervention for Year 11 Drama students for support with coursework.
2.35 - 3.10pm		BTEC Intervention (Year 12 and 13) CJC Year 12 and 13 Music intervention for the completion of coursework.	Music Theory Club (Year 7-13) ALJ Learn the key elements of music theory notation to making music.	Year 7 Assembly (DJS)	School Band (Year 7-13) ALJ Rehearse and perform if you want to be part of the school band.
3.20 - 4.30pm		Theatre of the Week Club (Year 9-10) Year 13 SJC Watch a piece of theatre filmed live at a stage show and review the work.	Year 12 and 13 Music Intervention for the completion of coursework.	LAMDA Performance Extra (SJC) For the completion of performance exams grades 1-8.	Theatre of the Week Club (Year 10-13) SJC Watch a piece of theatre filmed live at a stage show and review the work.

### Physical Education Extra-Curricular Timetable

	Monday 12 Assembly	Tuesday 11/13 Assembly	Wednesday	Thursday 10/7 Assembly	Friday 9/8 Assembly
12 - 12.30pm	PE BTEC Club	Year 9/10 Netball (CO) Year 9/10 Basketball (MJH)	Year 9/10 Rugby (JSE) Year 9/10 Badminton (AN)	Year 9 Dance (AN) Year 10 Football (MJH)	Year 10 Dance (AN) Year 10 Football (MJH)
12.35 - 1.10pm	Year 11 Intervention Group (MJH)	Year 8 Tag Rugby (AN) Year 7/8 Basketball (JSE) Year 11 Intervention Group (BDN)	Year 8 Netball (CO) Year 7/8 Football (BDN)	Year 8 Dance (CO) Year 8 Rugby (JSE) Year 11 Intervention Group (BDN)	Year 7 Netball (CO) Year 8 Rugby (JSE)
3.20 - 4.30pm	All Years Football All Years Dance PE Fixtures - Various	Meeting Night	All Years Basketball All Years Girls Football PE BTEC Club PE Fixtures - Various	All Years Rugby (External Coach) All Years Netball PE Fixtures - Various	PE BTEC Club

BOYS CLUBS    GIRLS CLUBS    MIXED CLUBS    INTERVENTION / FIXTURES

## Upcoming Events Week Commencing 10th February 2020

Practical Assessment  
(Hospitality and Catering)

10

11

Paris Trip

Liverpool Everyman  
Frantic Assembly

12

Year 7 Enterprise Day

Paris Trip

Now Fest 2020, Young  
People's Arts Festival

13

Paris Trip

Now Fest 2020, Young  
People's Arts Festival

Year 9 Options Evening

14

PSHE P3

Valentines Bake Off

Now Fest 2020, Young  
People's Arts Festival

Paris Trip