

NEWSLETTER

Issue 4



Arts Showcase 2022

St John Plessington Catholic College recently held its Winter Arts Showcase 2022, a free event hosted by its drama department that celebrates students' hard work throughout the term.

The event welcomed over 200 performers, parents, carers, staff, family, and friends and consisted of 26 separate acts by students from all year groups.

Performances included a variety of exciting drama pieces, music, dance routines, and other media which were all created in class as well as in extracurricular clubs.

Some of the plays that students performed included 'Romeo and Juliet', 'Blood Brothers' and 'Grease the Musical' whilst musical acts showcased a large variety of styles, demonstrating the vocal and instrumental abilities of students. Many of the performers sang and played their own accompaniment.

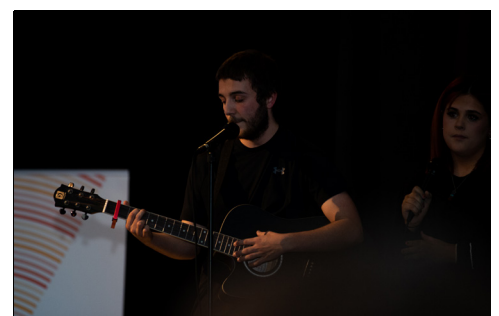
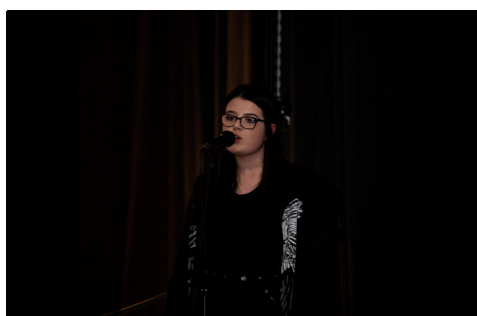
'Learn to Fly', an original piece created by Year 12 students for the Holy Family Catholic Multi-Academy Trust creativity conference, was delivered on the night too.

Students were also responsible for the technical support of the showcase with a team of sixth formers taking the lead on this.

The evening provided an opportunity for the school community to come together in appreciation of the arts and talents of the school's students and served to develop their confidence.

Head of School at St John Plessington Catholic College, Mr Peadar McLoughlin, said: "Myself and the rest of the school are incredibly proud of all students that took part in this year's Winter Arts Showcase, whether that was on the stage or behind the scenes, everyone did a fantastic job."

"At SJP, we are dedicated to providing opportunities for our performing arts students to flourish in their creativity and enhance their confidence and teamwork skills in significant settings with real audiences."



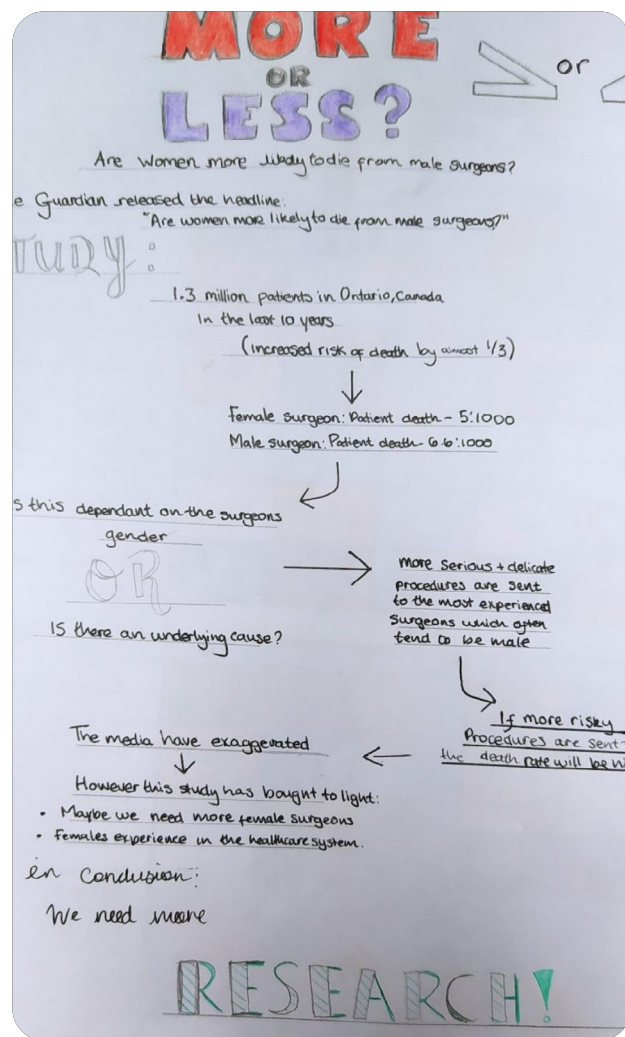
Maths Department

Sense of Statistics

Last half term Year 10 pupils were busy trying to make sense of the statistics which surround us.

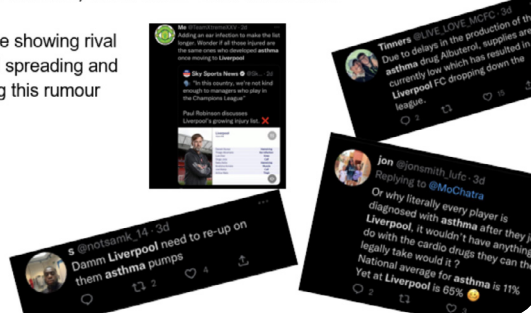
Pupils investigated the accuracy of numbers and statistics in the public domain, building on the research work from economist and broadcaster Tim Harford, it was fascinating to read the diversity of topics chosen, from testosterone and sport, to antidepressants and teenagers, the algorithms used by ants, maths and robots, fashion and the environment, China's GDP data, cheating in chess, the water used to produce a pair of jeans, who pays tax, Ed Sheeran and the mathematics of musical coincidences, questioning claims about Covid and children, or the figures circulating in the media about the recent huge natural disaster in Pakistan.

Quoting one student, Leo Harper-Rose, who chose to debunk the Liverpool FC Conspiracy Theory, "Just because something is viral on the internet, doesn't mean that it is trustworthy and scientifically true." Amelia Jones, opted to analyse claims shared recently in social media that women are 32% more likely to die after an operation by a male surgeon. Here, the truth is more complicated and "we need more female surgeons and more research," according to her. Isabelle Hewitt, looked at hospitalisation rates for children with Covid. She concluded that "Only an educated guess can be made about children in hospital with Covid, but it would be, in reality, a lot lower [than 1 in 100]".



Social media, rival fans and influence

evidence showing rival fans still spreading and believing this rumour day



Create your future

Year 12 DT students visited Manchester Central Conference Centre to take part in a UCAS show 'Create your Future'.

They spoke to lecturers & students from a variety of design-based courses, ranging from product design, landscape architecture, theatre design to digital animation.



**CREATE
YOUR
FUTURE**

Anti-Bullying Week

Odd Socks Day

This week we have been taking part in Anti-Bullying Week at SJP and completing lots of different activities and assemblies where we are reinforcing the messages about how our school approaches bullying.

This includes knowing what steps to take if someone is being bullied, ensuring our pupils know what to do if they are being bullied, how to deal with anyone who bullies and that everyone should take bullying seriously because of the long-term impact it can have on friendships, self-esteem as well as emotional and mental health and wellbeing.

In partnership with the Diana Award we have trained up a group of pupils who are our SJP Anti-Bullying Ambassadors and their role is to support all of our Anti-Bullying work in school. We have also taken part in 'Odd Socks Day' in partnership with the Anti-Bullying Alliance. This was a day for staff and pupils to show what makes us all unique and to show a physical symbol that we are all against bullying.



Lead Eco Ambassadors

Chester Zoo Youth Symposium

Our Lead Eco-Ambassadors, Samuel and Tiffany, attended the Youth Symposium at Chester Zoo to showcase what environmental projects have taken place at SJP so far and their plans for the next 12 months. It was a fantastic opportunity to present to other young people and take part in talks and workshops from experts in the field of conservation and environmental action. This included a keynote speech from Jasmine Isa Qureshi, a writer, journalist and until recently, researcher for the BBC Natural History Unit and BBC Earth. We have had so many excellent opportunities to work with Chester Zoo and look forward to working with them in the future. Samuel and Tiffany will also be representing SJP at the School Sustainability Network which is being launched by Chester Zoo later this year.



Cake Competition 2022

Theme: All Things Christmas!

The SJP Christmas Cake Competition winners were announced in celebration assemblies this week.

It was a difficult task to choose winners but the following cakes really stood out. Freya Foy 7DT won best execution, Sophie Thompson Parry 7SB won most creative design, Matthew Garrad 8SB won best reflection of Christmas theme and Ethan Moore-Williams 7VP won best taste as voted for by SJP staff.

There were also commendations for Talia Dumlu 7JB, Ivan Mohamed 7SB, Amelia McCready Waters 7MK and Gamue Chimururi 8VP. Well done to all the amazing chefs who entered.



Reading recommendations

Prisoners of Geography - Tim Marshall

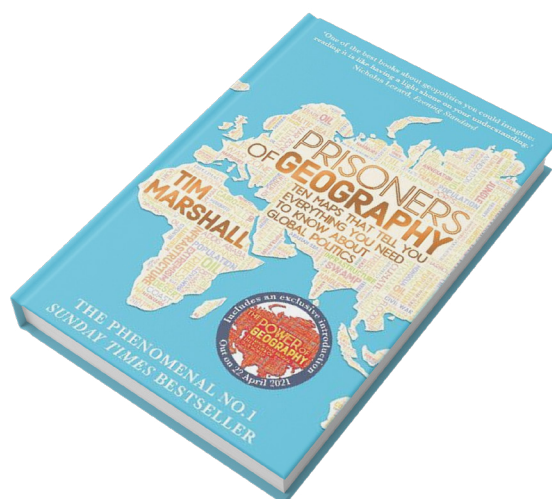
This half term Year 9 has been learning about geopolitics and how the geography of places can influence how they develop. This has been done using the two different versions of the book *Prisoners of Geography*. The book explores how factors such as access to water or resources, being landlocked and the climate can either limit or improve opportunities for development. How can the topography of a country influence their decision to go to war or ensure that they are not a target for invasion? It also considers how these factors can affect the decisions that leaders and politicians make and the impact that geography can have on international affairs.

Prisoners of Geography covers Russia, China, The Middle East, Japan, Korea, Western Europe, USA, The Arctic, India, Africa and Latin America and is written by Tim Marshall a foreign affairs journalist with over 30 years experience working for the BBC and Sky News, covering many of the major conflicts during this time.

We would recommend this not only for Year 9 to read but also for GCSE and A Level pupils as it demonstrates the links between geography, history and development in shaping the world around us today.

'Really enjoyed the big picture explanation of events we are living through in our lifetime. This book explains so many things that at times seem inexplicable.'

'The fact that the 1st chapter is "Russia" was super relevant to today's awful events in the Ukraine & I found the book straightforward, interesting & informative.'



New Build

Grand opening 2023

We are pleased to announce that students will be able to study in the new building from January 2023.

The new building features 8 new classrooms occupied by RE and Geography and a large independent open plan study and work area.

The building is equipped with state-of-the-art facilities and Wi-Fi throughout, allowing our students who would study there to reach their full academic potential.



SJP's Careers Fair

Inspiring pupils' futures

On Thursday 1st December, Year 10, 11, 12 and 13 students at SJP took part in a Careers Fair, set up exclusively for them in the main hall of the College.

Students were allocated time during the event to interact with a range of universities, further education colleges, training providers and employers.



Edge Hill
University



UNIVERSITY OF
LIVERPOOL



Students were able to browse the stands, gaining expert advice on job roles and job sectors, as well as information/guidance on the range of education and training routes available to them in the future. Supporting our young people to become well informed in terms of their future choices is a key part of our careers strategy and more events to consolidate this support will follow in the future.



University of
Chester



LIPA

THE LIVERPOOL INSTITUTE
FOR PERFORMING ARTS

Carol Service

On Thursday 8th December, our Trust community came together to celebrate Christmas in our first 'Carols by Candlelight' service which was held at Saint Michael and All Angels Church in Woodchurch.

The event was a wonderful, collaborative evening, with performances from all schools highlighting the amazing singing that has been taking place across our schools this term. After our two previous Christmas services taking place virtually, it was so special for our students to share the stage together and perform in front of a packed church, with over 450 parents attending.

Year 3 from Our Lady of Pity sang a wonderful version of 'Mary Did You Know', Team 4 from St Bernard's sang the most beautiful 'Love Shone Down' and St Joseph's made sure they had everyone bopping along with them to their joyous version of 'Mary's Boy Child'. The secondaries added to these superb performances with St Mary's Choir singing a spine tingling version of 'You Got the Love', and SJP wowing the audience with a gospel version of 'O Holy Night'. It was a wonderful celebration of the Christmas message with a special focus on Our Lady, as it was the feast of the Immaculate Conception that day.

A huge thank you to all staff from across the Trust who contributed to the event, from our amazing minibus drivers, music staff, class teachers and TA's who all prepared the children so well. It really was a very special evening and we look forward to providing more opportunities for our young people to share the stage together in the future. You can watch the full service here:

[Click Here to watch the Carol Service](#)



Celebration Assemblies

Pupils recognised for achievement

This week we have held celebration assemblies with all of our students. It has been a lovely way for each year group to come together to reflect and think about the true meaning of Christmas, whilst also celebrating the achievements of our students.

Students have received awards for demonstrating outstanding achievement, progress and attitude to learning within their subjects and students were also nominated for excellent attendance. The Pastoral awards also reminded us of how fantastic our students are with recognition for their outstanding contributions to their SJP Experience.

Over 500 awards have been given out across these assemblies, which is fantastic. We are so proud of all of our students and wish them all a wonderful break.



Charlotte House Nursing Home

Supporting the community

On Tuesday 20th December, some of the members of our Yr 7 SVP group enjoyed a visit to the Charlotte House Nursing Home. The students spent some time getting to know the residents while handing out chocolates and handmade Christmas decorations. The residents returned the favour by giving our students a gift as well.



Before leaving, the students sang two Christmas carols, 'Jingle Bells' and 'We wish you a Merry Christmas', and the residents joined in too!

It was great to see our students setting such a positive example for and making a positive impact on their community.



The Elderly members of our community have a wealth of knowledge and experience to share and it has been very rewarding for both them and the students to spend time together. We look forward to our next visit in February.

Christmas Jumper Day

Staff and students come together for charity!

Students and staff dress in their best Christmas jumpers to raise over £300 for the local community.

Students and staff were encouraged to come to school with their Christmas jumpers or accessories in exchange for a voluntary donation to support the charity.

It was great to see so many staff and students wearing festive jumpers and accessories.



Sixth Form Reverse Advent Calendar

Supporting the local Food bank

On Tuesday 20th December, a group of Sixth Form students travelled to the food bank to donate the items collected as part of the Sixth Form Reverse Advent Calendar.

Over the Advent period, instead of receiving chocolate each day, pupils donated an item that the food bank needed.

Pupils were able to see first hand the invaluable service the food bank is providing and left full of ideas of how we can further support this fantastic charity. Well done to all of the Sixth Form team who donated during this festive period.



Extra-curricular Timetable

Monday	Football	Yard	Year 7, 8 & 11	12.00pm - 12.40pm
	Basketball	Sports Hall	Year 7, 8 & 11	12.00pm - 12.40pm
	Badminton	Sports Hall	Year 7, 8 & 11	12.00pm - 12.40pm
	Football	Yard	Year 9 & 10	12.40pm - 1.20pm
	Basketball	Sports Hall	Year 9 & 10	12.40pm - 1.20pm
	Badminton	Sports Hall	Year 9 & 10	12.40pm - 1.20pm
	Football	Field	All Years	3.10pm - 4.10pm
	Netball	Yard	All Years	3.10pm - 4.10pm
	SJP Choir	Music 1	All Years	3.10pm - 4.10pm
	National Connections Rehearsals	Drama 1	All Years	3.10pm - 4.10pm
Tuesday	Football	Yard	Year 7, 8 & 11	12.00pm - 12.40pm
	Basketball	Sports Hall	Year 7, 8 & 11	12.00pm - 12.40pm
	Badminton	Sports Hall	Year 7, 8 & 11	12.00pm - 12.40pm
	Football	Yard	Year 9 & 10	12.40pm - 1.20pm
	Basketball	Sports Hall	Year 9 & 10	12.40pm - 1.20pm
	Badminton	Sports Hall	Year 9 & 10	12.40pm - 1.20pm
	SJP Soul Band	Music 1	All Years	3.10pm - 4.10pm
Wednesday	Football	Yard	Year 7, 8 & 11	12.00pm - 12.40pm
	Basketball	Sports Hall	Year 7, 8 & 11	12.00pm - 12.40pm
	Badminton	Sports Hall	Year 7, 8 & 11	12.00pm - 12.40pm
	Football	Yard	Year 9 & 10	12.40pm - 1.20pm
	Basketball	Sports Hall	Year 9 & 10	12.40pm - 1.20pm
	Badminton	Sports Hall	Year 9 & 10	12.40pm - 1.20pm
	Football	Field	All Years	3.10pm - 4.10pm
	Rugby	Field	All Years	3.10pm - 4.10pm
	Girls' football	Field	All Years	3.10pm - 4.10pm
	Dance	Dance Studio	All Years	3.10pm - 4.10pm
	KS3 Food club	Food 1	Year 7, 8 & 9	3.10pm - 4.10pm
	Project Moon Camp	Sci 6 & 8	Year 7 & 8	3.10pm - 4.10pm
	Grease Rehearsals	Mu1 / Dr1	All Years	3.10pm - 4.10pm
Thursday	Football	Yard	Year 7, 8 & 11	12.00pm - 12.40pm
	Basketball	Sports Hall	Year 7, 8 & 11	12.00pm - 12.40pm
	Badminton	Sports Hall	Year 7, 8 & 11	12.00pm - 12.40pm
	Football	Yard	Year 9 & 10	12.40pm - 1.20pm
	Basketball	Sports Hall	Year 9 & 10	12.40pm - 1.20pm
	Badminton	Sports Hall	Year 9 & 10	12.40pm - 1.20pm
	Basketball	Sports Hall	All Years	3.10pm - 4.10pm
	Dance	Year 8, 9, 10 & 11	All Years	3.10pm - 4.10pm
	Big Bang Club	Sci 6 & 8	Year 7 & 8	3.10pm - 4.10pm
	The Awakened	Mu2	Year 7 & 8	3.10pm - 4.10pm
	Grease Rehearsals	Mu1 / Dr1	All Years	3.10pm - 4.10pm
Friday	Football	Yard	Year 7, 8 & 11	12.00pm - 12.40pm
	Basketball	Sports Hall	Year 7, 8 & 11	12.00pm - 12.40pm
	Badminton	Sports Hall	Year 7, 8 & 11	12.00pm - 12.40pm
	Football	Yard	Year 9 & 10	12.40pm - 1.20pm
	Basketball	Sports Hall	Year 9 & 10	12.40pm - 1.20pm
	Badminton	Sports Hall	Year 9 & 10	12.40pm - 1.20pm
	Year 7 Drama Club	Dr2	Year 7	3.10pm - 4.10pm
	National Connections Rehearsals	Drama 1	All Years	3.10pm - 4.10pm

*Days and times are subject to change.

CAREERS BULLETIN #15



JOB OF THE WEEK – OUTDOOR PURSUITS MANAGER

Do you like the idea of working in the ‘great outdoors’? Outdoor Pursuits Managers run centres that allow people to take part in outdoors sports and facilities. Many of you will have been on ‘residential’ trips, to places like the Conway Centre, with school. If you think working outdoors in education could be for you, this is the type of job you should consider.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Lp8cR553Z3k>

Also, take a look at Tamsin’s story. She tried working in conventional surroundings, but found that an office environment wasn’t for her. She is now an Outdoor Instructor at Plas y Brenin, Britain’s biggest Mountain Centre.

Don’t forget to check out the transcript under the video clip for more information such as qualifications required, salary range etc.

<https://icould.com/stories/tamsin-g/>

Apprenticeships – Year 11

<https://www.findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk/apprenticeship/1000110544>

Level 3 Technician apprenticeship with Unilever.

GCSE grade 4 or higher in Maths and English required. Start date Sept. 2023

Apprenticeships – Year 13

<https://www.findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk/apprenticeship/1000101772>

Banking and Personal Wealth – degree level (Level 6) apprenticeship working in ‘Wealth and Personal Banking with HSBC.

Five GCSEs at grade 5 plus A levels (96 UCAS points or equiv.) required - Start date Oct. 2023

<https://jobs.merseyside.police.uk/jobs/#en/sites/CX/requisitions/preview/961>

Police Constable Degree Apprenticeship Scheme

Applicants must be aged 17 or over and have GCSE grade 4 or higher in English and Maths.

Note: a physical test will form part of the application process.

