St John Plessington Catholic College

a Specialist Humanities and Technology College

Newsletter

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to our year 11 GCSE dancers, Kim Caul, Stephanie Martyn, Aimee Billington, Laura Domville, Leah Foster and Chelsey Hodgin who performed at a local Dance Festival on Tuesday night. We were invited as special guest stars and were warmly welcomed by the school community.



Well done girls, you were excellent! Your performance was great and enjoyed by all.

A reminder that Dance Club is on a Thursday after school. Any pupils interested in joining should see Miss Harris.

SUCCEEDING IN EXAMS

A fantastic evening was held on Thursday 16th November with Year 11 Pupils and their Parents, focussing on success in exams.

Special techniques for learning, revising and managing stress were delivered by Education Consultant, Andrew Newton.

Note to Year 11 pupils: please remember to place your coursework planner in a prominent position at home to help in planning your GCSE year.

SIXTH-FORM CONSULTATION EVENING

A reminder to all our Sixth-Form students and their Parents that our Consultation Evening takes place this Thursday, 23rd November from 4.00pm-7.00pm.





DRAMA TRIP TO LONDON

On Wednesday 15th November, a group of Drama and Theatre Studies students assembled at Lime Street Station in the early hours of the morning at the outset of what can only be described as a "Wicked" journey to London. After arriving in Euston we travelled over to the South Bank of the Thames for a tour of Shakespeare's Globe Theatre. Our fabulous guide shared all kinds of useful information with the group about the Bard, and theatres of his day. It was hard to believe that in those days you could watch a show for only a penny. Mind you, a penny wouldn't have got you the best seat in the house, and you would probably have been overwhelmed by the terrible smell of the rest of the audience! There was just enough time to have a quick dinner before going into the West End's Victoria Apollo Theatre to watch "Wicked". I think all those present on the trip would agree that this Broadway show is one of the most spectacular, well-performed and moving pieces of theatre on offer today. It tells a magical tale based on the story of the Wicked Witch of the West's life, and explores a number of themes relevant to our society including diversity, bullying and standing up for what you believe in. All in all, it was a brilliant day. The students' behaviour could not be faulted, and they were a credit to the school.

ADVANCE DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

Our Annual College Carol Service will take place on Thursday 14th December this year.

Carols and Readings – with mince pies to follow.

More details soon!

CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR REPORTS!

Well done to so many of our pupils who achieved the top grades for effort in the last round of Reports. I am pleased to be able to say that a huge majority of our pupils managed to pick up the best two grades in most of their subjects. The numbers of Pupils per Year Group achieving the top grades in six or more of their subjects was as follows:

Year 7	200
Year 8	215
Year 9	161
Year 10	102
Year 11	161

Reports for Years 12 and 13 are being prepared right now and will be made available at Sixth-Form Consultation Evening on 23rd November 2006.

IMPORTANT SCIENCE NEWS

All Year 10 students will be completing their coursework in Science after their modular examinations on Wednesday 22nd November.

Their coursework will be completed in lessons and is in the style of a practical examination. It is very important that all students have 100% attendance and punctuality as the coursework contributes 25% towards their final GCSE grade.

Parents can assist their children in preparing for their coursework by ensuring pupils look over and understand Pages iii to v from the Revision Guide given to them at the beginning of the year by the Science Department.

The Science Department would like to wish our pupils every success in Modular Examinations on Wednesday, and in their coursework.

CHRISTMAS IS A TIME FOR GIVING – CHRISTMAS CARDS!

Each year, Wirral's Scouts raise thousands of pounds for local charities and worthy causes. You can join in purely by doing what you already do – sending Christmas Cards. All you have to do is send your cards (to destinations within the Wirral area) using the Wirral Scout Post. Stamps can be bought at various local outlets. Buying your stamps from these outlets has the extra benefit of helping the children of our parish by raising funds for 4th Bebington (St John's) Scout Group. Christmas cards can be posted anywhere that you see the special Scout Post Boxes. Stamps are on sale from Saturday 18th November and the last post collection from the boxes is Thursday 14th December.

Girls' Football

Well done to the U16 girls' football team who had their first game against Upton on Tuesday and came away with a 2-2 draw. They had a great game and dominated the majority of the match, but following Emma Atkinson's 2 brilliant goals just couldn't manage to plant the rest of the shots in the back of the net. They really did give Upton a good run around and kept their goalie on her toes, but the poor weather really did go against us. We have, however, invited them for a rematch on 7th December (supporters welcome) and are confident it will be a victory for us.

A very big THANKS YOU to Jonathon King (Yr10) who was our superb referee!

Squad:

Emma Atkinson, Amy Fitzmaurice, Rebekah Philips, Chelsey Hodgin, Chelsea Johnston, Chantalle Wigfield, Rebecca More, Stephanie Manifold, Kayleigh Hamill & Kirsty Hamill.

YEAR 10 RUGBY TEAM TRIUMPHANT!

On Wednesday evening, the Boys' Year 10 Rugby Team played against Mosslands School under floodlights at New Brighton Rugby Club, winning 61-10.

The game was in the group stage of the Wirral Cup and was a must-win game, since we had narrowly lost to Rock Ferry High and had overwhelmed Oldershaw by 50 points. The game started extremely well, and we scored after only one minute's play. This set the scene for a very one-sided affair, with a hat-trick of tries from Cheshire U15 representative, Sean Mooney, 2 tries from unofficial scrum half Daniel Morgan, 2 tries from the machine-like Aaron Taylor, and one try from workhorse Sean McMahon.

There was an excellent kicking display by Charles McGuinness, kicking eight from the nine conversions.

Best of luck to the lads in the Semi-Finals of the Cup.

Years 7 & 8 fixtures will be taking place in the next few weeks, so boys must attend training, both in Academic Review and after school on Thursday evenings.



COLLEGE COUNCIL

The Senior Leadership Team discussed the points raised by the College Council last Tuesday. Year Councils and Form Councils have met or are meeting to discuss this feedback as well.

- It has been decided to invite the Catering Manager to a future meeting of the College Council.
- We are looking to install more water fountains.
- While end of year trips are not part of the College's Rewards Policy, we do hope that some departments will have the opportunity to make use of our new minibus for extra-curricular activities.
- The College Council has completed an audit of available spaces for additional lockers. The overall conclusion is that SJP simply does not have enough room for every student to have a locker. However, we will use the ones that we do have more effectively.
- With effect from Monday 20th November there will be a new queuing system for the Dining Room. Pupils should not queue up in advance of the times below:
 - Year 7 12.00 noon
 - Year 8 12.10 pm
 - Year 9 12.20 pm
- We are in discussions with a company to supply us with new lunch cards with the College logo on them.

And finally ...

It has been decided by the College Council and agreed by the Leadership Team that we should have our own College scarf. As with the uniform, pupils will be invited to suggest designs. So look out in future editions of Plessington News for information about prizes that SJP fashion designers can win!!

Courage

George Bernard Shaw commented, "I never thought much about the courage of the lion-tamer. Inside the cage he is at least safe from people."

While the lion might eat the lion-tamer, he is safe from people. He is safe from their unkind words, their unkind actions and their judgmental attitudes. We need the courage to be different to this. We need the courage to treat people well, even though others might laugh at us for it; we need the courage to find kind words, even though it can sometimes be difficult and we need the courage to accept others as they are, even though we might struggle to do so.

Heavenly Father,

We ask for the courage to do what is right; in our dealings with our friends, in the way we treat those we do not know, in the way we behave. Help us to be the kind of people who make others feel safe. We ask this in Jesus' name.

Amen

NUMERACY BRAINTEASER

A clock is set correctly at 1.00pm. It loses 3 minutes every hour. What will the clock read when the correct time is 10.00am the next day?

Answers to Miss Hodges in B12 by Friday 24th November.

All correct answers will be put into a draw to win a £5 gift voucher for W H Smiths.

HOUSE POINT CORNER

	Weekly total as at 17/11/06					Overall Total
	Yr7	Yr8	Yr9	Yr10	Yr11	To date
Bernadette	38	122	23	27	10	1155
Bosco	34	115	21	15	10	1077
Hume	32	199	30	9	8	1072
Kolbe	35	125	21	17	7	1116
Romero	34	123	24	22	15	1101
Teresa	31	124	16	18	9	1100

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