# St John Plessington

# Catholic College

a Specialist Humanities and Technology College

### **Newsletter**



#### Theme for the Week

#### The Good Shepherd

Jesus was a leader who had many followers – at least 5,000, according to the account in which he fed that many people. He led them with compassion and by example. He taught people what to do, then lived it. He cared for the sick, he spent time with those who needed it, he fed the hungry and in the end he put everyone before him. Jesus referred to himself as the Good Shepherd – the kind of leader who puts the needs of those in his care before him.

Lord.

There are times in our lives when we have to lead other people.

We pray that we will do this justly and with love.

Amen

## **Chapel Noticeboard**

**Monday** 12.00 – G-Factor (Lower School)

**Tuesday** 8.15 – Morning Prayer

12.50 - Justice and Peace Group

(Upper School)

3.30 - 4.15 - music liturgy group

Wednesday 12.00 – Mass

**Thursday** 8.15 – Morning Prayer

12.50 - Eggs and Ashes (Upper

School)

Friday 12.00 – Eggs and Ashes (Lower

School)

12.50 – Taizé Prayer (6<sup>th</sup> Form)

The Chapel is open at break on Monday and Tuesday for quiet prayer, reflection or "time out".

#### R.E. Revision Classes

Year 10 (Room A8) – Thursday 22 March The Mass (Mrs J Ford)

Year 11 (Room A7) – Tuesday 20 March Catholic Teaching on Marriage / Divorce / Family Life / Homosexuality (Mrs Davidson)

Revision books for Year 10 and 11 are available from R.E. staff.

#### SJP take Manhattan

Sunday 4th March saw eleven Leisure and Tourism students and two staff set off from Manchester Airport for the International Students' Convention in New York City. The Convention included rolling seminars and a coach tour of all five boroughs, giving us all a great insight into the management of the tourist industry, the main attractions and the impact of the events of 11 September. The guides and speakers were all very knowledgeable, providing us with an excellent educational experience.





Students' Comment Board
Statue of Liberty – "An awesome lady"
Empire State Building – "Night time's prettiest sight"
Times Square – "Unbelievable colours"
Skating in Central Park – "Surreal experience"

However, it was also important that we checked out some of the attractions ourselves, to ensure we understood what the guides and speakers were talking about! Having wrapped up in as many layers as we could get our hands on, we visited the Empire State Building, Times Square, the Statue of Liberty, Wall Street, St Patrick's Cathedral and finished off with ice-skating in Central Park. The shops are also a great tourist attraction so we reviewed one or two of those as well! Overall this was a wonderful, if tiring and cold, learning experience leaving everyone wanting to go back for more.

**The Squad:** Mrs Lawson and Mrs Hill with Emma Bennett, Jamie Chesters, Leanne Farrell, Stephen Keeler, Teresa Kirwan, Chelsea McCulloch, Sean O'Sullivan, Rebekah Sabino, Rebecca Smith, Jessica Thompson, Victoria Webster

#### Y12-Revision Classes - History

To be run every Tuesday in room B33 from 3.20 – 4.20

Tues 20 March – Development of opposition groups – their aims and successes, i.e. liberalism / SR's / SD's / Bolshevik & Menshevik split 1903.

#### **Year 13 Revision Classes - History**

To be run every Wednesday in Mr Fletcher's room A43

Wed 21 March – Anglo- German relations and exam techniques.

Key issue: Chamberlain: Guilty Man?

# Y11 revision classes (to be run by Mr Fletcher / Mrs Davies / Miss Hill) on a team teaching basis.

All classes to run 3.30-4.30 (KS4 AND 5) To be run every Tuesday and Thursday in Mr Fletcher's room A43

Tues 20 March – Failure of the League of Nations/Hitler's Foreign Policy
Thurs 22 March – Source work and essay techniques on the above

#### Year 10 Science

Science coursework is due to be completed as follows

10 Alpha half year Details Monday 19th March Completion of results and graphing (Section 1) Tuesday 20th March Practical Coursework Examination (ISA)

10 Beta Half Year Wednesday 21st March Completion of results and graphing (Section 1) Thursday 22nd March Practical Coursework Examination (ISA)

The coursework contributes 25% towards the final GCSE grade for year 10.

#### **Liverpool Half Marathon**

Mr. Love, Miss Shaw and Mr. McNally are attempting to run the Liverpool Half Marathon on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2007. We would value any sponsorship that people would give them. A bucket will be taken around at lunch and break time. All pennies, silvers and brass accepted!! Please give generously as this is to raise money for The Paul O'Gorman fund for Children with Leukemia. Thanks to all those offering support and encouragement.

#### **Soup Lunches**

The sad truth about global poverty is that every three seconds a child dies of hunger.

All year groups were told this in their assemblies and they were told about how they can help to change this sad statistic. In the week beginning Monday 19<sup>th</sup> of March pupils will have the opportunity to take part in a soup lunch. Instead of choosing a main meal, pupils can have soup and bread for which they will pay £1 (in cash, not with dinner cards). This money will go to CAFOD. In eating a little less pupils will be helping children who seldom are given enough food to eat.

The times for the meals are as follows:

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> March 12.00 Year 8 12.30 Year 11 Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 12.00 Year 9 12.30 Sixth form Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 12.00 Year 7 12.30 Year 10

#### Year 11 Mock Exams

Year 11 Mocks will start on Wednesday 21 March 2007. Your son/daughter has an examination timetable and their revision programme should be underway.

May we ask that you support your child in helping them revise and ensuring that they have the correct equipment.

#### **Numeracy Brainteaser**

Last week's winner: Michael Hart, 10MW

Last week's solution: £160

The sum of 5 consecutive even numbers is 230. What is the smallest?

Answers to Miss Hodges in B12 by Friday 23 March. All correct answers will be put

#### **Pull the Other One**

Last night a group of G.C.S.E Drama students ventured into the local community in search of theatrical entertainment. What they found was a production by the Port Sunlight Players of Norman Robbins' hilarious farce, 'Pull the Other One." The show had some lovely moments of comedy with mistaken identity, misunderstanding, and mother-in-law jokes running throughout. The pupils thoroughly enjoyed themselves, and were a credit to the College with their impeccable behaviour. This trip was run as part of the cultural enrichment programme offered by the Drama Department for G.S.S.E Drama pupils.

#### **Cross Country**

Well done to all the Cross Country runners who competed in the Wirral Schools Cross Country races on Tuesday. Our runners did SJP proud as all performers ran a good race. Michael Deegan continued his fine form finishing 10<sup>th</sup> out of 56 and Michael Doneo finished closely in 12<sup>th</sup> position in the Year 7 race. In the Year 7 Girls, Pamela Smith managed to improve her position moving 1 place to 24<sup>th</sup> since the previous race last week. Alex Scollins represented the College in the Year 8 Girls and finished an impressive 11<sup>th</sup> in her first competitive performance.

Well done to all! The runners were: Michael Deegan, Michael Doneo, Craig Phoenix, Jake O'Brien, Jacob Thomas, Charlotte Clarke, Holly Harvey, Pamela Smith, Erica Bowen, Alex Scollins and Katie Leslie

#### **Wirral Cup Update**

A disappointing week for SJP as the Year 7 and Year 9 teams both lost at Ridgeway. The Year 7 team battled well for most of the game against a strong physical Ridgeway side. The game was locked at 2-2 until the final twenty minutes when SJP fell victim to some excellent incisive play from the hosts. The game was on a knife edge throughout as SJP searched for a goal to add to Captain Danny Ramsden's earlier effort, the battling qualities on show displayed the togetherness of a team who cooperate extremely well with one another.

#### Netball

The year 7 and 8 netball teams played against Pensby on Tuesday. The year 7 team managed to come away with a 7-5 victory after some very good shooting from Rebecca Jones and Charlotte Obermuller.

The year 8 netball team drew 4-4. They played a good game and will replay Pensby at the forthcoming tournament.

#### **Netball Tournament**

Both the year 7 and 8 teams have their Wirral tournament on Saturday 24th March at Wirral Grammar. Both teams have immense talent and the Year 7 team remain unbeaten. Good Luck to the girls.

#### **College Council**

The College Council met with Mr Quinn for nearly two hours last Thursday, March 15<sup>th</sup> 2007, to discuss the issues raised by the previous College Council Meeting - a follow on from the previous Senior Management Meeting at which all these issues had been discussed by the College Leadership Team.

#### A summary of the main points:

- Year 11 will receive periods of study leave to help them with their preparation for the 'big' examinations that affect all students.
- It was noted by all present the tremendous amount of support that year 10 and year 11 have received in preparation for their examinations, in particular year 11 who have benefited from accelerated workshops in I.C.T.; maths; D & T. All College Council members were amazed at the amount of detail available on each and every pupil in the school – for example the exact progress of all year 11 students is known at any one time so allowing for real 'personalised learning' to be taking place.
- It was encouraging to see that all Council members chose healthy drinks to consume at the meeting and this was reflected in a proposal by the student body to increase the number of water fountains around the College. SJP agrees with this as it is College policy to allow students to drink water in classrooms.
- Our new Head of P.E. looks like having a very busy time after Easter as the College Council has already proposed a meeting with Mrs Lock with a view to discussing team kits and the facilities.
- Other areas of discussion included academic review, lunchtime activities, the development of a play area for year 7 students and the new St John Plessington website <a href="https://www.stjohnplessington.com">www.stjohnplessington.com</a> including the virtual learning environment (VLE).

#### **Joseph**

On Thursday 8 march some of our Year 7 students went to see a production of Joseph on an R.E. trip. It was an enjoyable musical, and a great day out.

There were many good parts, the best moment was the part where all the actors came out and sang 'Any Dream Will Do'. The saddest part was where Joseph's brothers sold him as a slave because they were jealous of his colourful coat.

It was an amazing afternoon and also the journey was safe, reliable and fun!

#### Want to enter a national competition?

Cancer Research UK's Science Writing Competition

#### Your task:

We'd like you to write a news story about a recent medical or health-related advance that really made you think "wow!". It could be anything – from the hunt for an AIDS vaccine, to research that broccoli cures Cancer. So get your reporter's hat on and start looking for your story...

Ms Phillips will support you and give you some ideas and advice. It would be fantastic to put some entries forward for this competition,

Web link: have a look at the prizes by visiting) also accessible through the school website)

http://info.cancerresearchuk.org:8000/youthandschools/scienceeventsandcompetitions/scinews/

Congratulations to Michael Brockway. In his recent AS examination success. Michael gained 90/90 possible marks for his AS Biology examination and 89/90 in his Chemistry AS exam. 'A grades' were also gained by Peter Boyle in Physics, Biology and Chemistry, Kelly Paxton in Biology, Melanie Cliff and Scott Devoy in Chemistry. Well done everyone.

Our sixth formers studying Science are also awaiting confirmation of Nuffield Bursary research projects and summer residential places at the Natural History Museum, London as well as 'taster days' with Liverpool University for medicine and veterinary science course applications for 2008.

#### **House Point Corner**

	We	Overall Total				
	Yr7	Yr8	Yr9	Yr10	Yr11	To date
Bernadette	52	54	19	25	26	2837
Bosco	50	76	15	35	25	2494
Hume	48	47	30	25	20	2581
Kolbe	51	59	21	23	23	2688
Romero	65	49	11	27	26	2585
Teresa	50	65	23	17	21	2765