

St John Plessington Catholic College

a Specialist Humanities and Technology College

Newsletter



Theme for the Week

Success

Success is an appropriate theme to follow last week's Sports Day. It was a day when we celebrated not just winning, but taking part and success was seen not just in those who ran the fastest or threw the furthest, but also in those who took part in the most events, stepping in when others couldn't, or who crossed the finishing line despite injury or fatigue.

*Lord,
We place our successes into your hands.
We pray that we will always be aware of our successes,
no matter how small they sometimes see to us.
Help us see success as the result of our using the gifts you have given us,
so that we will never forget to praise you.*

Amen

Chapel Noticeboard

Monday 12.00 G-Factor
Tuesday 8.15 - Morning Prayer
3.20 – 4.30 – Music
Liturgy Group (In Miss Stott's room)
Wednesday 12.50 – Mass
Thursday 8.15 – Morning Prayer

The Chapel will be open every break time for any pupils wanting time for reflection.

Year 10 Religious Education Exam

Year 10 will sit 50% of their GCSE Religious Education exam next Tuesday 12th June in the afternoon. Parents should inform the College should their child be absent through illness that day. Good luck Year 10!

Sports Day, Wednesday 6 June



What a fantastic day and a great atmosphere for our Annual Sports Day.

The day started with throwing events, 1500m, Year 9 long jump and Year 7 high jump. Pupils displayed immense talent, team work and enthusiasm. Many Pupils managed to achieve personal best scores!

Competition was very high and close at the end of these events to give teams a good lead into the afternoon. Up at the track, Pupils and Staff were in high spirits cheering on their team mates and chanting their House names, with the help of the brass band. It was hard to tell which house was leading as there were many outstanding performances and victories for pupils from all houses.

<u>Results</u>		<u>Points</u>
Winners:	Kolbe	383
2nd Place:	Bernadette	319
3rd Place:	Romero	312
4th Place:	Hume & Teresa	284
6th Place:	Bosco	268

Year 10 Sports Day

Again a very successful afternoon enjoyed by all. The maturity, behaviour and enthusiasm of all pupils is to be commended. Tournaments included rounders, football and badminton. There was a calm but tense atmosphere throughout as competition was tough. Pupils worked extremely hard in their activities to secure victories for their House teams. However, at the end of the day points were calculated and the results were as follows.

<u>Results</u>	<u>Rounders</u>	<u>Football</u>	<u>Badminton</u>
Winners:	Teresa	Hume	Teresa
2nd Place:	Bosco	Kolbe	Bernadette
3rd Place:	Hume	Bernadette	Kolbe
4th Place:	Kolbe & Bernadette	Teresa	Bosco
5th Place:		Bosco	Romero
6th Place:	Romero	Romero	Hume

Well done to all Pupils and thanks to all Staff for their contribution to the day.

Isle of Wight Trip (PGL Activity Holiday)

During half term 41 pupils and 4 staff travelled down to the Isle of Wight to take part in a PGL activity holiday at the Little Canada Centre.

During the day we took part in a range of activities including sailing, abseiling, archery, trampolining, quad biking, dragon boating, giant swing, zip wire, high ropes and aqua fun. All were very enjoyable and challenging and allowed pupils and staff to overcome fears and build confidence.

However, the fun didn't stop there, in the evening the entertainment team (ents ents ents) led various activities including walks, beach fire, team games and a disco.

The pupils were brilliant and a credit to the College. They participated in everything and worked well together. They were very mature and responsible throughout the trip and made the holiday an amazing experience. Thanks and well done!

It really was a fantastic holiday for all and there wasn't anybody on the coach that wanted to come home.

Thank you to Miss Youds, Mrs Davidson and Mr Burrows for all their help.



Keeping the College environment looking good!

From Monday, the College will be focusing sharply on keeping the environment spick and span.

We will be launching an anti-litter campaign. A Year 10 Pupil, Daniel Trotter, has been taking photographs and with Mr Kitchen has prepared a Powerpoint presentation. This will be shown to all pupils in Academic Review this week.

Any Pupils littering the College campus after this will be asked to complete community service for the College. Please help us by using the many litter bins around College and by quietly reporting those you see drop litter. We are positive we can achieve a change in both our environment and pupils' habits within a short time.

St. Anselm's Hit for Six!

SAC batted first and scored 80 runs for the loss of 9 wickets. Ashwin Ajay was the leading wicket taker with 3 for 8 of his allotted 4 overs. He bowled very straight and full. Two of his victims were cleaned bowled. Other bowlers that took wickets were Danny Morgan (1), Mark Richardson (1), Jobin John (2) and Chris Kelly (1). It was a very good bowling performance with only 12 extras. SJP then batted and with the captain, Paul Davies (23), leading from the front, SJP scored the winning runs in the 18th over. Charlie McGuinness and Danny Morgan assisted with runs by scoring 8 runs apiece. This was an excellent match to watch and congratulations to the team for a very good performance and a impressive victory.

Wirral Youth Parliament

Congratulations to Year 12 Students, Sarah Collins and Adam Siddorn, who have been invited to participate in Wirral's Youth Parliament at Wallasey Town Hall on Wednesday 11 July 2007.



Term Dates 2007-2008

This information can also be viewed by visiting our website www.stjohnplessington.com - Parents and Carers section.

Specialist School Review

The College is now in Phase 3 of its status as a Specialist School. We have enjoyed the benefits of Technology College status since 1998 and our success in this field prompted the DfES to extend our Specialist status to include Humanities from 2005 onwards. We are now undertaking a wide-ranging review of our time so far as a Specialist School and I am keen to involve all members of the College community in the process.

Specialist School status has meant an immense amount for us in our constant drive to raise standards in all our areas of College life. Inside the College, many subjects have benefited from the extra input in terms of the finance and experience that Specialism has brought. A more technological approach has revolutionised our work in Drama and Music, as College Hall now boasts cutting-edge lighting and sound resources.

It would be difficult now to imagine our Drama productions without the sort of high-quality technical backing that we all saw in Grease, The Crucible or Aladdin! Or indeed to imagine our Annual Carol Service and Musical Evenings without the top of the range radio microphone equipment that adds that extra edge to the performances our pupils! Of course, it's not only the actors, singers and musicians who benefit from the enhanced technical equipment. Many other pupils form the backstage crews who so skillfully look after the performances and make sure that everything comes together on the night. Equally, we remember that all of our performances rely upon attracting audiences from Parents, Primary Partners, Staff, Governors and our own pupil body, and you have been more than kind over recent months both in coming along in large numbers and in your reactions to what you have seen and heard. I am delighted that our enhanced technology has enabled us to provide such quality for you.

Of course, the benefits of our Specialist status work throughout the curriculum too. Video-conferencing has allowed us to run AS and A2 Law in recent years, while a whole new range of software has meant that we have been able to increase post-16 provision with the introduction of Music Technology. We are rightly proud of the range and depth of our sixth-form offer, something that has contributed to a record number of applications for September 07. Elsewhere, the continuing installation of computers throughout the College means that we can meet coursework requirements in all of our GCSE subjects and, at the same time, broaden provision to take account of the opportunities opened up by the Applied GCSE curriculum. Last week we finalised details of our ICT strategic plan and I am happy to be able to relate to you that we expect all classrooms to be working from Interactive Whiteboards from September 07. The technology that becomes available to us via IWBs is immense and we are now putting together the relevant training plans for work in sound, video, advanced use of software and, of course, real-time communication via Internet. We believe that pupils at SJP will continue to benefit from ICT resources equal to those of any educational institution in the area and we have used opportunities offered by Specialism to make this possible. Our programme of visits by future SJP pupils continues apace. We have welcomed pupils from all of our main Primary Partners this year for a variety of initiatives, and again I am pleased to report that we have a record number of pupils seeking places for September 07, with the College now oversubscribed. Recent editions of Plessington News have reported on primary visits for Mathemotiv8or and for work in CAD/CAM with colleagues in Design Technology. Specialist School plans are now being finalised for collaborative work in Science and English too, as well as the establishment of courses aimed at parents and the local community. Watch this space!

On a final note, let me add that I am greatly

Congratulations!



Congratulations to Luke Camden 8AB who has been selected for the Under 13's Cheshire County Youth Cricket Squad. He will be playing matches against Derbyshire, Staffordshire, Lancashire and Shropshire over the coming weeks and we all wish him every success.

Conference for Higher Education

A group of our Gifted and Talented Pupils from Year 10 attended a conference for Higher Education at Liverpool University on Tuesday 22 May 2007. The Pupils enjoyed a series of workshops introducing them to University life and were able to exchange ideas with Pupils from 8 other Wirral Secondary Schools. The experience included Psychology lectures, interactive LIPA sessions, Mathematics, Science and Marketing among others. Pupils were able to participate in 4 of these workshops and an informative and exciting day passed very quickly. Our Pupils were exemplary ambassadors for our College and received many compliments on their behaviour and appearance.

Music Department's Trip to London

The Music department is running a trip to London on the 6-8th July. During this time the pupils will be going to see the musical 'Wicked' and having an educational backstage tour of the musical 'Les Miserables' followed by a chance to see the show. The choir will also be performing at the Royal Albert Hall. There are a few places left available on this trip, please see Miss Stott for a letter if you are interested.

Round 5 Reports

College Parents should note that our Round 5 Reports will be circulated on Wednesday 13 June 2007. Any comments or queries related to reports can be communicated to Heads of Learning.

Examinations Week 18-22 June

Please be aware that all pupils from Years 7 – 10 will begin a week of internal exams beginning Mon 18/06. The week will serve a number of purposes and will offer a good opportunity for all pupils to demonstrate their progress over the academic year. We are expecting a really encouraging set of results which will form the basis of our final round of assessment to be published to parents in early July. You are aware that we are keen to keep Parents informed on matters of academic progress and our half-termly assessments, alongside the termly Achievement Plan, seem to be doing that job very well. As ever, please feel free to contact your child's Form Tutor for further details on exams or assessment.

Year 8 Retreats

8MC, 8JP and 8AL are going on retreat to Pantasaph on Friday. There, they will have some quiet, reflective time as well as time to play games and to be with their friends. The theme of the day is *Gifts and Talents*. Pupils are advised to bring weather appropriate clothing – sun cream and a hat if the weather is warm and a waterproof in case it rains!

Pupils should return their payment and paperwork to school by Tuesday 12th June.

House Point Corner

	Weekly total as at 8/6/07					Overall Total To date
	Yr7	Yr8	Yr9	Yr10	Yr11	
Bernadette	73	60	47	38	26	3036
Bosco	74	73	39	56	25	2721
Hume	104	63	51	39	20	2808
Kolbe	78	77	67	34	23	3038
Romero	80	54	32	43	26	2779
Teresa	76	82	54	34	21	2988

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