



Theme for the Week

Gifts and Talents

Many people were glued to their TV sets watching *Britain's Got Talent* last month. The number of people who auditioned for the show and some of the talents that they were demonstrating was incredible. Some of the acts were amazing, while others were less so. The show was viewed by some people as a one off opportunity to launch themselves into a performing career.

We all have gifts and talents. Some are the kind that would lead us onto a stage to sing, dance or act, while some lead us to be good listeners and kind friends. Whatever our talent is, it is God-given.

*Heavenly Father,
We thank you for our gifts and talents.
We pray that we will be willing to share
them with others.
Amen*

Year 9 Retreat

All of Year 9 attended a retreat to Pantasaph, North Wales, last week. They spent time learning about Ss Peter and Paul, as well as taking time to consider what God is calling them to do. The rain didn't dampen the spirits of the Pupils who all took the opportunity to involve themselves in the various activities set out for them. Many thanks to *Wirral Youth For Christ* who led part of the retreat and also to the staff who supported the Pupils.



Work Experience Year 10



Last week Year 10 Pupils completed their work experience week, spending four days in various work placements. Motor mechanics in North Wales, receptionists in Liver Buildings, fitters in Warrington and teaching assistants in Wirral, all added to the magic of our Pupils tasting real work situations for the first time.

The feedback from employers and our Pupils has been tremendous, and clearly once again we can be extremely proud of SJP Pupils.

Please take some time to read just some of the quotes from North West employers. A gallery of pictures is also available on the website so that you can see the dedicated, skilled workforce of the future!

Many thanks to all parents and relatives who assisted in the allocation of places. Your support is greatly appreciated.

Helen McNeil @ Riverbank Nursery, "a wonderful help, a great young lady, we will miss her"

Lucy Lomax @ Church Drive Primary, "Lucy has been chosen by a class to be their princess. This has never happened to a member of staff before, a fantastic experience"

James Challinor @ Singh Autos, "James has worked late every evening voluntarily. I am delighted with his hard work and attitude"

Sean McSorley @ Callow Car Centre, "I wish I could do this seven days a week!" "An excellent lad, hard working, and he makes a great cup of tea!"

Paul Davies @ Tranmere Rovers in the Community, "Paul has been fantastic, a real help, and he is great with young people. A great role model"

Year 8 Cricketers win in style!

Cheshire schools cricketer, Luke Camden [8AB] helped to inspire an excellent SJP victory in this week's Year 8 cricket fixture against Mosslands High School. Luke starred with an impressive 49 not out, as SJP passed Mosslands first innings total of 63 with 6 overs to spare. In the Mosslands innings, Andrew Powell [8JP] in particular bowled very accurately, picking up two wickets in the process.

Luke Camden



Andrew Powell



Record-breaking Pupils celebrate SATs success!

I was delighted to receive news last week of yet another hugely successful year in Key Stage 3 SATs. Year 9 Pupils broke all previous College records with fabulous results in both Science and Mathematics. For the first time ever, 71% of Year 9 pupils gained a Level 5 or above in Science, while 75% achieved the same high standard in Mathematics. SJP has never before been able to boast such high results and I am very happy to take this opportunity to convey my thanks to all of those who helped to bring about these tremendous results, which you can see in detail on the College website.

We all know how hard our Pupils worked in the lead-in to SATs. Their attention and focus were clear to us all at the College and we are now able to enjoy the benefits of that hard work. I would also like to thank College Parents for the tremendous role that they played in helping to achieve these results. Many of you told us how you used the Learning Programmes on the College website to follow your child's progress as SATs approached and encourage them in all the right areas. This clearly paid off. You were also most helpful in making all the necessary arrangements for our pupils to benefit from the many after-school extension lessons and Easter Holiday booster sessions that took place in Mathematics and Science. Teaching colleagues worked hard to make sure that Pupils needing extra help got that extra help, and I am so pleased that the collaboration between Home and College had the success it so richly deserved.

So, let me say a big "well done!" to all of our Year 9 Pupils for their achievements so far. I am already looking forward to hearing news of our English results in August!

Year 7 Playground – Design Team Meeting

On Tuesday, three Pupils from Year 7 joined Mr Kitchen in a formal meeting with Mr Richard Crosbie, our Diocesan Building Surveyor and with his building contractor. Mrs Lloyd kindly provided us all with refreshments and joined the meeting to talk about Health and Safety and first aid issues.

The Pupils, Tony Carty, Jake O'Brien and Emily Lynch, are part of the planning team for the new playground area. Earlier this term they had met with Year 6 Pupils from local primary schools to hear and share views and opinions.

Mr Crosbie explained that a proportion of the money allocated to the project would have to be spent on drainage, levelling and surfacing work. Mr Crosbie brought along the plans of the site, some costings and some catalogues with playground designs and equipment for the Pupils to look at and share with their classes.

The Pupils were able to give Mr Crosbie a number of excellent ideas and plenty to think about. He left to continue the process of design and contracting over our summer holidays. The full planning team will meet in early September for a presentation by Mr Crosbie and to finally approve the plans. It is hoped that digging will start at the end of September!



FERRARI or a skateboard – your choice!

Immediately after Year 10 work experience another fantastic opportunity has been planned for our Year 10 students - 'The Dragon's Den' at first hand. A specialist team of Richard Branson and Alan Sugar style entrepreneurs has been invited to SJP to share their skills and experience through a series of practical team exercises. These should prepare our Year 10 students for successful business management. The event take place on Friday 6 July. This is a nationally recognised course leading to certification on successful completion and will contribute towards each Pupil's Achievement Portfolio.

Visit to HMS Albion

Y12 Students were invited and met at the gang plank by ex student Carmel McLaughlin. Dressed in full naval uniform, looking very smart and proud, she gave the Pupils and Ms Phillips a guided tour of the flight deck, Control room and the Bridge. We were told that the RADAR was switched off whilst we were on board as the energy from them was enough to 'fry' our insides. We were given a brief talk in each area and shown the main equipment for spotting ships and planes in the vicinity. The ship, HMS Albion, had just returned from a 3 month tour in the Baltics where the crew practised warfare tactics and simulated attacks.

Students asked plenty of questions about careers in the Navy and the opportunities for travel and promotion. As a student at SJP, Carmel studied A Level Art. We were very surprised to learn that she was in the warfare section and controlled one of the ships guns. She is in the process of applying to retrain as a nurse in the Navy.



SJP has been awarded 'Silver Eco Schools Award' as we have demonstrated progress in the following areas:

- SJP has an eco team, which has met at least 4 times this year
- The team is supported by 2 school Governors. Mrs Penny Carty and Dr Bob Crawford
- The team has completed a formal Environmental Review
- The Team has written a detailed '5 year Action Plan' and shared the plan with the College community through assemblies
- We have a Green notice board
- There have been articles in Plessington news informing everyone of the progress being made
- The College has agreed to adapt the mission statement to include an eco statement

Music Department Summer Showcase Concert

This Wednesday sees the culmination of all the hard work pupils have put in with extra curricular music this year. It is a celebration concert containing many musicians from all year groups. There is a mixture of ensembles and soloists as well as a number of rock band and songs from Grease. Tickets are £3 for adults and £2 for children. All children **must** be accompanied by an adult. The money raised from the concert will go towards a project Miss Stott is running in Africa over the summer holidays. She is going out to South Africa for the whole of the summer to set up a music curriculum in 10 Primary Schools and to train teachers to teach it once she has come back to SJP in September.

Year 7 & 8 Science Club

Science Club takes place every Wednesday after school in Mr. Moore's lab Room A23. Please come along!

Pupils will get the opportunity to do some fun experiments and see some exciting demos. Science Club finishes at 4pm.

11 July 2007

Year 10 Pupils, all who sat Science examinations on 25 June, will be granted a day off in lieu on 11 July. Pupils in all other Year Groups should attend College as normal that day.

	Weekly total as at 29/6/07					Overall Total To date
	Yr7	Yr8	Yr9	Yr10	Yr11	
Bernadette	6	33	4	19	26	3098
Bosco	6	39	0	1	25	2767
Hume	7	6	0	15	20	2836
Kolbe	4	33	2	16	23	3093
Romero	2	11	1	10	26	2803
Teresa	7	25	1	14	21	3035

House Point Corner

T: 0151 645 5049

E: schooloffice@plessington.wirral.sch.uk

www.stjohnplessington.com