# St John Plessington Catholic College

a Specialist Humanities and Technology College

# **Newsletter**



## Year 13 Prom

# Oh What a Night!!!

The social event of the year had finally arrived. The planning and organising that had been taking place for months finally came together into what was a truly perfect and memorable evening.

The Year 13 Prom took place on Thursday the 28<sup>th</sup> June and was held in the College Hall. Preparations had been taking place all day to prepare the Atrium and Hall for a formal sit down meal and a disco afterwards.

The prom committee had been busy organising events for the evening to make sure that the Year 13s had the send off that they deserved. Even the smallest of details was thought of such as the table confetti and the seating plans.

Despite the drizzle that was falling as the guests arrived, the atmosphere was fabulous, as were the dresses and suits worn by the guests. Walking up the red carpet with the photographer snapping away must have felt like being a pop star for the evening! The guests enjoyed a glass of sparkling wine as they posed for more photographs before moving into the Hall to take their seats for the delicious 3 course meal – the three chocolate fountains were the highlight!

After the meal the Head Boy and Head Girl, Ian Sheridan and Laurel Shevlin, each made a moving and heartfelt speech, remembering the highlights and memories that they will take with them from their 7 years at St. John Plessington. The disco followed and we were treated to some strange and entertaining moves on the dance floor.

The Students, once again, were a credit to the College and it was lovely to see them and the staff celebrating together.

Many staff have commented on what a special Year Group they have been and what a pleasure it has been to know them. We all wish them the very best in their future, whatever path they choose in life.

Good luck Class of 2007 !!!



Prom Night was the perfect way to say goodbye to the people we've been with 5 days a week for the past seven years, and a perfect night it was.

Everyone looked amazing and all the hard work put into it by both Mrs Blackhurst and the prom committee completely payed off. It was a complete success, and needless to say there were a few tears. But it was a perfect night, celebrating 7 years of being in SJP, in style!! With the gorgeous 3 course meal and an amazing DJ playing all our favourite songs, the night couldn't have gone any better. It is a night we will all remember for the rest of our lives!





# Year 8 Science Challenge Day 19th June 2007

On a sunny June day, Miss Cope and Ms. Philips took a group of Year 8 Pupils to the Discovery Learning Centre in Noctorum to take part in a Science and Technology Challenge Day.

There was some trepidation when we arrived and the Pupils were faced with working in small teams with Pupils from other schools! However, our pupils very quickly settled into the tasks and demonstrated very clearly that there is no "I" in team.



Sam and Ellie share a Eureka moment when their self-righting buoy floats the right way up and flashes!!

The challenges were varied. In one room they had to make a self-righting buoy that would only flash when it was upright (this one had me stumped for a while!!), then make a robot that would follow a painted line in the next room! Whilst upstairs, the teams had to make a solar-powered vehicle, then a paper roller coaster that a marble had to travel through in the slowest possible time without stopping. Tricky!!



We even had a visit from the Mayor!!

All I can say is our Pupils were absolutely fabulous ambassadors for the College. They were polite and enthusiastic throughout the day and had the extra excitement of being one of the winning teams. Well done Louis Allen-Galloway and Liam Adlen!!



The exemplary Pupils were:

Liam Adlen, Louis Allen-Galloway, Stefan Bilek, Sian Bilko, Liam Brothers, Kurtis Darling, Connor Fields, Sam Browne, Declan Evans, Megan Gallagher, Karl Moss and Ellie Ruddy. Well done to you all for making a great day fabulous!!

## A2 Psychology Trip to Chester Zoo

Twenty Sixth Form Psychology Students, who are currently studying Animal Behaviour as part of their A2 course, went with Mr. Wilmshurst on an enrichment visit to Chester Zoo last week. They spent much of the day observing the behaviours of a variety of animals and were treated to an extremely interesting and informative hour-long lecture on animal behaviour by one of the zoo's education team.

Of particular interest to the students were the Chimpanzees whose apparently bizarre behaviour can often be attributed to the influence of a single dominant male in the group.





Did you know that the Chimpanzee is one of the only animals that can recognise itself in a mirror? Did you know that a Mandrill yawns to threaten other males?

Did you know that a Peacock's tail serves no other purpose than to attract a female?

Did you know that bees perform a dance to inform the other bees where the best flowers for food are? Students have been learning that there are evolutionary and biological explanations for behaviours such as these and that understanding the behaviours of non-human animals can perhaps help us to understand our own. After all, humans *are* animals!

#### Theme for the Week

#### Vocation

When Francis of Assisi sat in the church of San Damiano he asked *What do you want me to do, Lord?* He was open to God's will and did what God asked. Francis' sense of being called by God was strong. He knew that the way he had been living his life was not what God wanted him to do.

This week we can ask God "What do you want me to do?"

Lord, we pray that we will listen to your calling and that we will respond to it, no matter how difficult that may be. Amen

#### **Music Summer Concert**

Congratulations to all the Pupils who performed on Wednesday evening at the Music Summer Concert. It was a fantastic show full of talent and all the Pupils did themselves and the College proud. The concert was a showcase containing a mixture of Pupils and provided a platform for them all to perform upon. Right from Pupils who have been playing less than a year to the older and more experienced pupils, from ensembles such as Brass Band, Rock Bands, Choirs, Woodwind to Soloists singing and play instruments. The evening was a huge success. The money raised from the performance is going towards providing musical equipment for Miss Stott to use in the schools in South Africa where she will be spending her Summer teaching. A grand total of £437 was raised along with £102.34 from the cake sale and teddy bear naming. Mr Dolan won the teddy with the winning name of Fluffy!!!

# **Truancy Call**

Many thanks for all your feedback regarding our new first day automatic attendance telephone call. Can I remind parents that you need to inform the College each day your child is ill. This will enable us to update our records daily and not make any unnecessary calls. I am sure you will appreciate that in the early days of the system there have been some teething problems but overall this ensures that your child remains safe.

# Nominations for Parent Governors from September 2007

Please see the back page of today's Plessington News for a letter to all College Parents inviting nominations for the position of Parent Governor from September 2007.

#### Year 7 & 8 Science Club

Science Club this week is the last one before end of term. It is on 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, who all 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.

# **New Football Shirt**



Please take a look at our new football shirt. This will be compulsory for all boys to have for outdoor lessons from September and will be worn with the navy shorts and navy football socks. In a bid to look even smarter, this will also be used as the new football shirt for the team strips.

## **House Point Corner**

	Weekly total as at 6/7/07					Overall
	Yr7	Yr8	Yr9	Yr10	Yr11	Total To date
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