



NEWSLETTER

St John Plessington Catholic College



HEADTEACHER'S REFLECTION

Dear Parents, Students and Staff,

As we reflect on the recent weeks at St John Plessington Catholic College, I am proud to share the numerous enriching experiences that have shaped our school community.

Anti-Bullying Week, led by Mr Jones, was a significant event where we united to promote kindness and respect among our students. The activities and discussions held throughout the week were instrumental in reinforcing our commitment to creating a safe and inclusive environment for everyone.

We also had the privilege of participating in our Trust Climate Change Conference (COP29), hosted in our College Hall with all many of our trust primary schools also in attendance. This event provided our students with the opportunity to engage with critical global issues, encouraging them to think about their role in fostering a sustainable future.

In addition, our students enjoyed a memorable outing to see Dear Evan Hansen, organised by Ms Stevenson. This theatre trip not only entertained but also sparked important conversations about mental health and personal growth.

Moreover, our students in the Science Y9-11 ICT programme have been actively engaged in projects that enhance their learning experience and prepare them for future challenges.

This week we also celebrated the Year 8 School Mass at St. John the Evangelist. It was a wonderful opportunity for our students to come together in faith and community.

Looking ahead, we have several exciting events on the horizon, including the Unilever Inspire Bright Future Programme Trip as well as students attending the National Apprenticeship Fair at the Liverpool Exhibition Centre.

As we continue to promote excellence and empowerment within our school community, I encourage all students to engage actively in these opportunities. As our trial exams continue I would urge you to encourage your child to revise regularly. Students have embraced this experience and we wish them well and success for their results.

Thank you for your continued support and commitment to our shared vision.

**Warm regards,
Mr McLoughlin**

Attendance	Days absent	Weeks absent	Lessons missed
70%	57 days	11.5 weeks	290 lessons
75%	48 days	10 weeks	250 lessons
80%	38 days	8 weeks	200 lessons
85%	29 days	6 weeks	150 lessons
90%	19 days	4 weeks	100 lessons
95%	9 days	2 weeks	50 lessons



ATTENDANCE & PUNCTUALITY

Your ongoing support in encouraging your child to attend school until the end of half term is greatly appreciated. Every day counts, with each day of absence equating to 5-hours of lost learning for your child. Good attendance not only impacts academic outcomes but also helps develop essential life skills such as time management and responsibility. Your encouragement and reinforcement of attendance expectations are invaluable. Thank you for your support.

TWENTY DAY COUNTDOWN!

Pupils in school for the next 20 days leading up to the Christmas break will be entered into a prize draw to win some goodies on the last day of term! They must be in school every day from Friday 22 November to Friday 20 December to be entered. Two lucky winners will be drawn from each form.

THEME OF THE WEEK

Stay Awake

As we approach Advent, the Church gives us readings which emphasise the need to be and to stay awake. It is so easy to fall into a rut and to think like the narrator of the book of Ecclesiastes that "All is vanity, and there is nothing new under the sun." In fact, we can fail to notice the way God is loving, working, inspiring us and others in our world. We can become cynical about the possibility of love overcoming all. We can forget that we are created for a reason, for a purpose, and we are to try to read the signs in our lives which point to our destiny and our purpose. Jesus tells us we can not know the hour and the day of his return. But we should live everyday in readiness, looking for Him, preparing ourselves to meet Him in the people we meet and live with.

REVISED TIMETABLE FOR SCHOOL BUS SERVICE 659 WOODCHURCH - ST JOHN PLESSINGTON VIA UPTON AND PRENTON DELL

Due to an increase of traffic on the roads resulting in the 659 school bus arriving late to school in the morning, Merseytravel have reviewed the times with Stagecoach. The bus will now start 10 minutes earlier, at 07:32 from Ackers Road and arrive at St John Plessington by 8:25. Please find below the revised timings for bus service 659 that will come into effect from Monday 25th November 2024.

Woodchurch, Ackers Road	07:32
Upton Station	07:44
Prenton Hall Road, Prenton Dell Road	07:56
St John Plessington Catholic College	08:25

Please communicate this important change with your child to make sure they are at the relevant bus stop prior to the arrival of this school bus.

Thank you for your ongoing support to ensure your child arrives at school on time.

BEAUTIFUL WORK

Our Year 10 students have been showcasing incredible enthusiasm and creativity during their recent portfolio workshops. They have embraced new techniques and explored a variety of media, producing exceptional work inspired by our stunning Wirral coastlines.

Using oil pastels, they created vibrant and expressive pieces, capturing the beauty of our local seascapes. Their exploration of pointillism resulted in striking depictions of fishing boats, demonstrating impressive attention to detail. Additionally, students rose to the challenge of lino-cutting intricate mackerel designs, showcasing remarkable patience and skill throughout the process.



The positivity, resilience, and dedication displayed by our students have been truly inspiring, and we couldn't be prouder of their achievements. Well done to all involved!

YEAR 7 - 13 COMPUTER SCIENCE COMP

Year 7 - 13 Computer Science and DIT students are taking part in an online competition to demonstrate their proficiency in cyber security, open source investigation and cryptography. They are competing for a spot to gain a team invite to the live finals. The top performers from the online challenge will be selected to compete along with their School team at the in-person finals at Aintree Racecourse on the 4th & 5th of March 2025. Lots of students have completed the online competition to a very impressive level so fingers crossed we will have students selected to represent SJP in the live finals! Well done to everyone taking part in this challenge!



NETBALL SUCCESS

The year 7 (pink) netball team beat BPS 9-4 on Monday evening. With Bella being nominated as player of the match. The year 8 team (yellow) also played BPS and won 3-2, player of the match Antonia. Both teams worked well together using the skills they have been developing through enrichment netball sessions, well done girls!



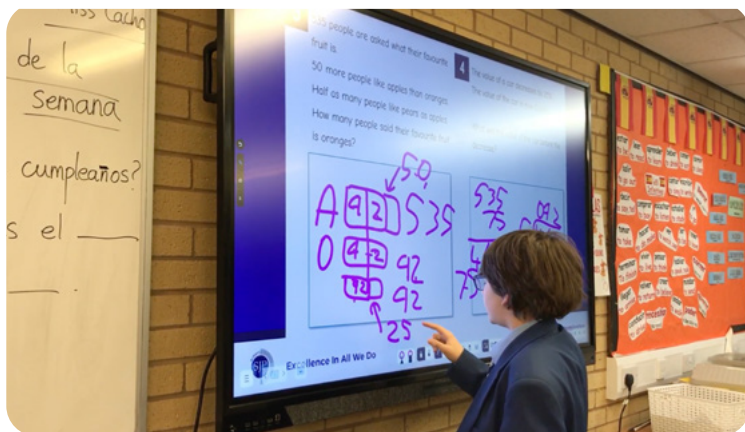
YEAR 7 AND 8 GIRLS' FOOTBALL TEAM TRIUMPHS AT BEBINGTON HIGH

The year 7 and 8 girls football team played at Bebington High school this week. They worked really hard in the cold windy conditions and Summer year 8 scored all the goals with the team winning 5-0.



YEAR 7 BOSCO EXCELS IN MATHS ENRICHMENT PROGRAMME

This week during afternoon form, pupils have been embracing their maths enrichment programme. Year 7 Bosco had been supporting each other solving maths problems using the bar model. Please take a look at some of their work.



YEAR 8 LEADS THE WAY IN CELEBRATION OF FAITH

Year 8 continued their celebration of God as representatives of St John Plessington on Monday 18th November at St. John the Evangelist church on Bebington Road. This event marks their wonderful transition into year 8. Their behaviour was exemplary and the feedback was overwhelmingly positive from our: local parishioners, Father Mario and key members of staff. Year 8 were eager to participate with the mass service, working alongside Mrs Harvey and Father Mario to inspire our school and local community to join together in our act of worship. This marks a new tradition that SJP are eager to instil in all year groups as they progress each year and we are privileged as a year group to have the opportunity to lead the way. Mass is the highest form of worship within Catholicism and whenever we gather together, we are remembering the presence of Jesus Christ, reflecting upon God's word and to be his presence in the world. We look forward to more opportunities to celebrate as a year 8 community.



SIXTH FORM APPLICATIONS – DEADLINE APPROACHING!

We are delighted to have already received over **120 applications** for our Sixth Form! If you're planning to join us, don't forget that the application deadline is 29th November 2024

Apply here: [Sixth Form Application Form](#)
Explore your options: [Course Guide](#)

Don't miss this opportunity to shape your future with us!

Sixth Form Application Deadline

Friday 29th November 2024

LAST CALL FOR CHRISTMAS CARD COMPETITION ENTRIES!

The countdown is on for our annual Christmas card competition! We've received some stunning entries so far, but there's still time to get involved. This is your last chance to have your design chosen as the official school Christmas card, which will be shared with local schools and community members.



If you'd like to take part, submit your creative design to Mrs. Davies in AR2 by breaktime on Monday, 25th November. Don't miss this exciting opportunity to showcase your talent—good luck!

HFCMAT CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE 'THE JOURNEY'

On **Monday 16th December** children from across the Trust will be performing in our HFCMAT Carol Service 'The Journey' at the Metropolitan Cathedral in Liverpool.

This promises to be a really special evening with children from across all our family of schools coming together to perform and celebrate their faith together.

Tickets for the event are available from the link below and are free of charge.

[Click here to get your tickets now!](#)



A REMARKABLE WEEK IN CHAPLAINCY

It has been a week of exceptional activity in Chaplaincy.

On Monday, the parishioners of St John the Evangelist welcomed all of Year 8 at their morning Mass. Our pupils read prayers, sang heartily, and listened attentively to Father Mario's encouragement.

On Wednesday, 40 friends and family members supported Dylan and Georgie as they were baptized in our Chapel. The commitment of these young men to join the family of Jesus, the Church, and to undertake the journey of Christian living was an inspiration to everyone privileged to witness it.

Our Faith in Action and Saint Vincent's Group are in full swing, and as the season of Advent approaches, we are gathering all materials for decoration of the school for the Christmas season. There will be various charitable activities as well as liturgical ones. We are preparing for the Trust Wide celebration of advent in the Metropolitan Cathedral for example. Much to look forward to.



GOVERNORS NEWS

Rev Gerard Boyle (Foundation)

I had the privilege of serving our College Community for Fourteen years as College Chaplain. I have now been invited to join the governing body as a Foundation Governor. I am delighted to take up this opportunity in which I will be able to offer to support the RE Department, Chaplaincy and Catholic Life of our college community.



THE WIRRAL: A HUB FOR TOURISM, OPPORTUNITY, AND GROWTH

You may not realise it, but you live in a wonderful place. The Wirral Peninsula has so much to offer and, with Liverpool and Chester also close by, attracting tourists is something that should not be too difficult for local businesses to achieve. Visitors to our region spend money and by doing so, boost the local economy.

The 'Travel and Tourism' sector comprises a wide range of products and services, including leisure and business travel, accommodation, food and drink services, sporting events and more. Some of the key markets related to these industries are hotels, entertainment venues, cruises, ferries, meetings and events, as well as local attractions to visit – think Thurstaston, New Brighton, West Kirby etc.

The range of jobs within this sector is huge, as you would imagine. You will have seen the colourful new flats near Wirral Waters, which are part of a massive regeneration project which will bring in an estimated eight thousand jobs to the area, with full completion dates estimated at 2030.

Jobs currently being advertised on the Wirral include: Events supervisor, business consultant, hotel manager, heritage officer, sailing instructor, visitor attraction general manager – and many more.

When you look at these roles, good communication skills and being able to empathise with others are common traits required to succeed. Finally for this week's focus, use the link below to take a look at how to become a sailing instructor, something you could definitely do on The Wirral.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dQriGKOIFno>

SJP Friends of St John Plessington

Welcomes you to

£1 Entry
Under 5s FREE

The Christmas Fayre 2024

Christmas
Crafts Stalls

Reindeer
Rodeo

School Choir
Performance

Special Guest
Appearances

Raffles

Games

And Much
More....

Santa's
Grotto

Tombola

AVAILABLE TO PURCHASE:

FOOD • SWEETS

• DRINKS

Friday 6th December 2024

4.00pm - 6.00pm

St John Plessington Catholic College
Old Chester Road, Bebington, Wirral, CH63 7LF





St John Plessington Catholic College
P R E S E N T S

OUR HOUSE

A LONDON
LOVE
STORY

NW1

THE NEW HIT MUSICAL

GLADSTONE THEATRE, PORT SUNLIGHT
11TH AND 12TH FEBRUARY 2025
7PM

TICKETS: £12.50 AND £9.00 CONCESSIONS

OUR HOUSE WAS FIRST PRODUCED AT THE CAMBRIDGE THEATRE, LONDON ON 28TH OCTOBER 2002. PRODUCERS WERE TIGER ASPECT PRODUCTIONS, RUPERT LORD, ANDRÉ PTASZYŃSKI AND PHIL MCINTYRE IN ASSOCIATION WITH MADNESS THIS AMATEUR PRODUCTION IS PRESENTED BY ARRANGEMENT WITH MUSIC THEATRE INTERNATIONAL. ALL AUTHORISED PERFORMANCE MATERIALS ARE ALSO SUPPLIED BY MTI WWW.MTISHOWS.CO.UK

OUR HOUSE BY TIM FIRTH • MUSIC AND LYRICS BY MADNESS BULLET POINT

Tickets available from www.gladstonetheatre.org.uk

UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday 25th November

Unilever Inspire Bright Future Programme - A McGoldrick

Tuesday 26th November

A Level Spanish Study Day MMU
National Apprenticeship Fair, Lpool Exhibition Centre

Wednesday 27th November

Spanish Spelling Bee stage 2 competition

SAFEGUARDING NEWS:

Online Safety - Checking age ratings.

We appreciate that many young people spend increasing amounts of time online. It is essential that we set boundaries for our children to keep them safe whilst they explore being online, develop their digital resilience and understanding of what to do if anything negative happens when online.

How can we help keep our children safe? We can start by checking age restrictions/ratings. It is important that we follow these to ensure that what our children are doing or seeing online is appropriate for their age.

Where can I find age ratings?

Films: The British Board of Film Classification (BBFC) rate films. This page includes a link to a 'Parents' Guide to Age Ratings':
<https://www.bbfc.co.uk/resources/viewing-films-safely-online>.

Video games: PEGI provides age classifications for video games. PEGI considers the age suitability of a game, not the level of difficulty.

It is important to note that PEGI do not take into consideration user generated content within games (such as on Roblox) and chat facilities within games.

Apps:

Check the individual age ratings within the relevant app store. We also recommend that you download any apps and play them yourself to check their suitability.

Social Media: All social media networks have a minimum age rating; they are all at least 13+.

What else can I do?

- Explain the importance of age ratings to your child.
- Go online together to see what your child is accessing.
- Set up parental controls on your broadband, devices and on any individual apps that your child is using. This will reduce the chances of them accessing or viewing anything unsuitable.
- Chat to your child regularly about what they are doing online and as always, remind your child that if anything is worrying them then they should talk to you or another trusted adult.

Further information

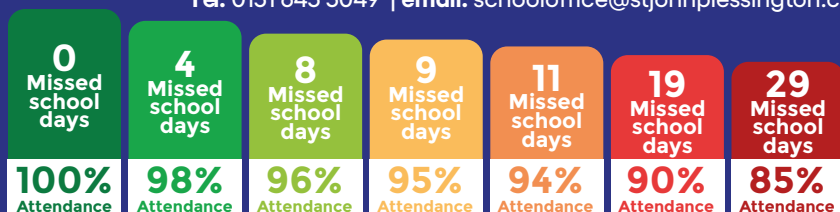
You can find out more here:

<https://www.bbc.com/ownit/take-control/understanding-age-ratings>

St John Plessington Catholic College

Old Chester Road, Bebington, Wirral, CH63 7LF

Tel: 0151 645 5049 | email: schooloffice@stjohnplessington.com | Website: www.stjohnplessington.com



Vision - Excellence in all we do

Mission - Empowering an inclusive community founded on Gospel Values

Values - Pride, respect & determination

Headteacher: Mr P McLoughlin BSc (Hons) NPQH

Deputy Headteacher: Mr B Nunnery BA (Hons) & MA in Education | **Deputy Headteacher:** Mrs E Donohoe BSc (Hons) NPQH

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