



NEWSLETTER

St John Plessington Catholic College



HEADTEACHER'S REFLECTION

As we approach the end of another bustling week at St John Plessington, I'm delighted to share with you the vibrant mix of events and achievements that have enriched the life of our school community.

Our Year 7 pupils have embarked on a spiritual journey this week, with the first five forms engaging in enriching sessions with the Diocese Youth Mission Team. These encounters provide our youngest members with a unique opportunity to explore their faith and values in a supportive environment, fostering personal growth and community spirit.

It's always heartening to see our pupils, both past and present, actively participating in events that shape our wider community. The C Change conference at the Floral Pavilion in New Brighton saw a strong representation from SJP, demonstrating our pupils' commitment to being informed and engaged citizens.

We were honoured to welcome Alison McGovern MP to our school. Her visit provided an invaluable opportunity for both staff and pupils to engage in meaningful dialogue about issues that matter to our community. Such interactions are crucial in developing our pupils' understanding of civic responsibilities and the democratic process.

Today, we concluded the week with our CAFOD Family Fast Day, a poignant reminder of our collective responsibility to those less fortunate and our commitment to social justice.

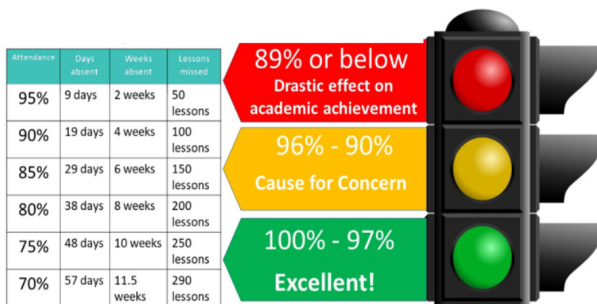
I'm thrilled to announce the completion of our Achievement Assemblies. A hearty well done to all our pupils who have been recognised for their hard work, dedication, and outstanding contributions to school life. Your accomplishments are a testament to the vibrant, ambitious spirit that defines our SJP family.

As we celebrate these successes, I must also emphasise the importance of maintaining our high standards. I kindly remind all parents and guardians to ensure that pupils are adhering to our uniform policy, including school coats, shoes and correct school bags. Additionally, please remember to sign your child's planner regularly, as this is a crucial tool for home-school communication.

I cannot stress enough the significance of regular attendance and punctuality. These factors play a pivotal role in your child's educational journey and directly impact their attainment. Every lesson counts, and being present and on time for school and individual lessons is key to maximising learning opportunities.

As we look ahead, let's continue to work together to create an environment where every pupil can thrive. Your support and engagement are invaluable in this endeavour, and I thank you for your ongoing commitment to our school community.

Here's to another week of growth, learning, and achievement at SJP!



ATTENDANCE & PUNCTUALITY

Every day counts in your child's educational journey, and we greatly appreciate your role in ensuring their attendance and punctuality. Thank you for your ongoing support and commitment. Together, we can help them reach their full potential!



WIRRAL CUP WINNERS

The year 9 rugby team won the Wirral Rugby cup for the second year running this week. They came home with the trophy to add to SJP's ever growing rugby trophy cabinet. They were commended on their sportsmanship and their athleticism. Well done boys!

GREEN CAREERS FAIR AND CAROUSE

As part of the Trust's 'Care in Creation' events last week, on Friday (27/9) SJP hosted a 'Green Careers fair and Carousel, set up for three of the primary schools from within the trust: St Albans, St Augustines and Our Lady's. Throughout the morning, Year 5 and Year 6 students took part in a series of activities, designed to raise their awareness of the future opportunities that await them in the 'green careers' sector. As well as talking to a range of companies and colleges based in the Drama studio, they also attended a 'sustainability and environmental' workshop in the main hall, organised and run by our partners from Chester Zoo. In addition, a selection of SJP students (including sixth form) delivered sessions providing an insight into the Eco Club, our Urban Farm and DofE activities they can look forward to when they transition into secondary school. One of the most pleasing aspects of the day was the way that our students welcomed and interacted so positively with these young people as they saw them around the school, something that was commented on by several of the primary teachers and teaching assistants accompanying them.



FAITH IN ACTION: A WEEK OF REFLECTION, SERVICE, AND COMMUNITY

It has been a busy week in the Chapel. Not only do our Chaplaincy and SVP groups meet to plan the weekly Celebration of the Word and to brainstorm ideas for service through the St Vincent de Paul Society, this week, every day and all day, our Year 7 classes have enjoyed a retreat led by the youth ministry team of the Diocese. They have prayed, played games, and reflected together with their form teacher.

Our SVP group is a source of so many good ideas. Today they will lead a Cafod Fasting Day. They are also planning social action, visits to the elderly and sponsored walks. It is wonderful to see their enthusiasm for living their faith.



EPHESIANS 4:3 - Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace

THEME OF THE WEEK

This week's theme has been about recognizing the good in others. Jesus taught his disciples and teaches us to always accept and include people who want to do good things and not to exclude anyone because we may not know them, or may not understand them or because they do not look like us, sound like us, or think like us, or fit our own plans. His plans are always based on us working together. Our hearts tend to be jealous of others who are doing well. This jealousy hurts us and hurts the world because we are actually called by Jesus to build unity and work together on his Kingdom.



CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY

For CAFOD Family Fast day staff and pupils have donated items of food that will then be delivered to the Wirral Foodbank who support some of the most needy in our community. "When you forget yourself and think of others, this is love!" Pope Francis

CELEBRATING SUCCESS AND LOOKING AHEAD: A JOYOUS WEEK FOR YEAR 12 AND YEAR 13

Year 13 gathered this week to recognise their achievements and the fantastic start they have made to year 13. Every student in the year was recognised for at least one award, a testament to their fantastic hard work and dedication to their studies. The atmosphere in College Hall was amazing, with every recipient being cheered and celebrated as they collected their certificates and prizes. It was so lovely to see smiling faces and laughter as we took a look at some of our funniest pictures of the year and acknowledged the journey they have all been on. We reflected on what is next for us and the steps we need to take to get there. Everyone left beaming with pride and we really look forward to celebrating the next big milestone of year 13!

Year 12 have made a wonderful start to Sixth Form and continue to make us proud. This week Year 12s volunteered to be guides again during our Open Morning. Not only were they wonderful ambassadors of our college by their interactions with our extended family visitors, but they also showed leadership and care with the younger members of our school. We continue to plan our Enrichment programme and look forward to the challenges ahead. Well done, Year 12!



6TH FORM'S INSPIRING YEAR OF SERVICE: FUNDRAISING SUCCESS AND COMMUNITY IMPACT

What a week for 6th form! We were so lucky to be joined this week by our friends at Claire House to present them with a cheque for our 6th form donation of £2500. Over the past year, we have completed walks up Moel Famau, team building games, king ball competition and a spectacular colour run. This was also supported with sales of food and drink during break and lunchtimes and a Christmas attire day. We are extremely proud of all of our 6th formers who are keeping Christ at the centre of all they do, working with our local community and continuing to make a difference in the lives of others. This years' efforts are well underway, with close to £1000 being raised so far - we are aiming to beat our total this year so please keep an eye out for our future events.

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GOVERNORS NEWS

Ms Jane Cooper (Foundation)

Jane Cooper (Foundation) I am Jane and, as a former pupil of SJP myself, I am delighted to be a Governor at the College. I have a keen interest in the quality of education being provided at the College and I really enjoy hearing the news about what our wonderful pupils and staff are doing each week.



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The year 9 rugby team won the Wirral Rugby cup for the second year running this week. They came home with the trophy to add to SJP's ever growing rugby trophy cabinet. They were commended on their sportsmanship and their athleticism. Well done boys!

JUNIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM

This week the JLT have been putting together their assemblies to recruit students from year 7 - 12 to support them with their work on the areas they lead. They will be visiting assemblies next week!

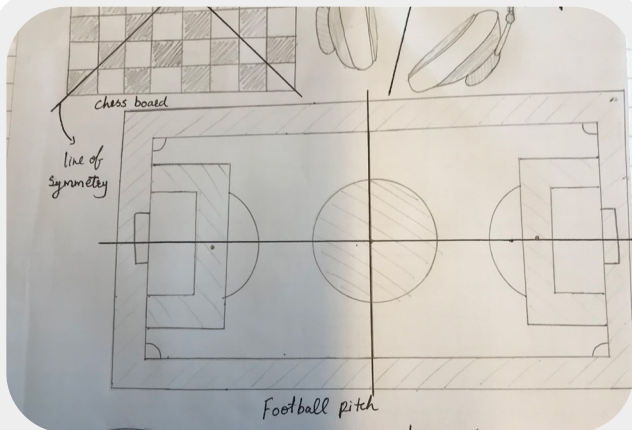
On Tuesday some of the Team had the opportunity to meet with our local MP Alison McGovern. There was a wide range of questions and some really good ideas presented which they have now been encouraged to put in writing to Alison so that she can support them to work towards their goals.



BEAUTIFUL WORK SHOWCASE

Each week, we celebrate our pupils' creativity and dedication by showcasing their outstanding work. From stunning artwork to impressive written pieces, these highlights reflect our commitment to excellence and inspire our community. Stay tuned to see the incredible talent within our school!





EXPLORING SYMMETRY

Year 9 have recently been exploring reflections in their programme of study. As a homework task, pupils were asked to explore things inside and outside of their homes that had lines of symmetry. Samuel Poulouse in Year 9 has shown some excellent examples.



YEAR 7 FAMILY CHALLENGE

Year 7 have been converting between fractions decimals and percentages. This weeks homework encourages pupils to come together as a family to convert their scores from a fraction to a percentage. We hope you enjoy our Year 7s who have volunteered to model this great game. Scan the QR code to watch



NATIONAL CITIZENSHIP SERVICE

As part of our drive to promote personal development opportunities for our students, Fifty four of our Year 12 students have signed up to take part in the 'National Citizenship Service (NCS) programme. Working with our partners 'YouthFed' and 'The Wirral Pledge', we have managed to secure full funding for this opportunity, which would normally cost £95.00 per person. Lynsey Gittoes (Youthfed), who will coordinate the programme with the Year 12 team, was really impressed with the take-up for the scheme, which will allow our students to work within the wider community, whilst building up the confidence and life skills required for their future work and life goals.



BLACK HISTORY MONTH

BHM aims to promote and celebrate the contributions of those with African and Caribbean heritage to British society and to foster an understanding of Black history in general. We know that black history is not just confined to one month in the year and our curriculums ensure a diverse representation throughout the year but we feel it is important that pupils understand the contributions African and Caribbean people have to our society. That is why we will be using form time and Personal Development to celebrate these contributions throughout the month and fitting in with this years theme of 'reclaiming narratives' we will be sharing their stories with pupils.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Our remaining year 7 forms will complete their retreat days with the youth mission team throughout the week.

Tuesday 8th October

Staff and pupils will celebrate World Mental Health Day next week on October 8th and learn about mental health support during form time.

Media Trip to BFI IMAX London -
Mr Witcher

Wednesday 9th October

Manchester 'Home' theatre Trip - Paper Birds
- Mrs Stevenson

Thursday 10th October

Y11 Progress Review Meetings - Online (3.45-7pm)
- please continue to book your appointments.

Rotary Club Engineering Competition - Trip -
Miss Hughes (DT)

Friday 11th October

Social Science Trip to Wrexham University -
Miss Cutts Yr12&13

KRAKOW TRIP INFORMATION

A reminder that passports and EHIC/GHIC should be given to the school office no later than October 18th in preparation for the annual RE trip to Poland, Krakow.



SAFEGUARDING NEWS:

At SJP we mark World Mental Health Day on October 10th, we want to highlight the importance of supporting our students' mental well-being. At SJP we understand that teenage years can be a challenging time, filled with pressures from school, friendships, and social media. It's essential for them to know they are not alone. Talking about our mental health can help us cope better with life's ups and downs.

The theme of this year's World Mental Health Day set by the World Federation of Mental Health is workplace mental health. As part of our curriculum, we embed mental health and wellbeing awareness and give students with strategies to support their mental health and wellbeing. Next week we will be running activities to promote positive mental health, including sessions on stress management and the importance of self-care. We encourage you to take time at home to have open conversations about mental health—letting your child know that it's okay to talk about their feelings and seek support, if needed. We encourage all families to contact us if you are concerned about your child's mental health and wellbeing.

<https://wmhdofficial.com/>



Your attendance matters and so do you! Remember everyday counts

