



# NEWSLETTER

St John Plessington Catholic College



## HEADTEACHER'S REFLECTION

As we move into week 8 of this term, I am continually amazed at how quickly the time has flown by. It has been yet another busy week at St John Plessington, filled with activities and initiatives that reflect our commitment to excellence in all we do.

This week, we conducted pupil conferencing sessions across all subject areas. These sessions are designed to gain valuable insights into how our students are learning best and to understand their perspectives on our curriculum. I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to the students who participated. Your feedback is invaluable in helping us refine our curriculum intent and implementation. It is through these conversations that we can ensure our educational offerings are not only effective but also engaging and relevant to our students' needs.

It was a pleasure to welcome Year 7 students and their parents to our school for the meet the Form Tutor event this week. This provided an excellent opportunity for families to discuss how well their children have settled into life at SJP. I am delighted to hear such positive feedback about our Year 7 students, who are already showing great enthusiasm and commitment to their studies. Building strong relationships between home and school is essential, and I appreciate your involvement in this process.

As we approach the final week of this half term, we have several important events on the horizon. On Wednesday, we will hold our Year 7 Welcome Mass,

a special occasion to celebrate our new students and their integration into our school community. This mass not only marks a significant milestone for our Year 7s but also reinforces our values of faith and community.

On Thursday, we invite Year 11 parents and their families to join us for our EBAC Information Evening. This event is crucial for our Year 11 students as they prepare for their future pathways. We will provide information about the English Baccalaureate (EBAC) subjects and how students can be supported to achieve in these subjects. Your attendance and engagement in these discussions are vital as we work together to support our students' aspirations.

Please note that school will be closed to students on **Friday, 25th October. This day will be used for staff training and development, ensuring that our teaching practises remain at the forefront of educational excellence.** I would like to remind all students that attendance is compulsory for the remainder of the week, and I encourage everyone to finish strong as we approach the half-term break.

As we continue to navigate this busy term, I want to express my gratitude for your ongoing support and partnership in your child's education. Your involvement is crucial in fostering a positive learning environment where our students can thrive.

With warm regards,  
Mr McLoughlin

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

**89% or below**  
Drastic effect on academic achievement

**96% - 90%**  
Cause for Concern

**100% - 97%**  
Excellent!



## ATTENDANCE & PUNCTUALITY

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

### NINE DAY COUNTDOWN!

Pupils in school for the next 9 days leading up to the break will be entered into a prize draw to win some goodies on the last day of half term!

They must be in school every day from Monday 14 October to Thursday 24 October to be entered. Two lucky winners will be drawn from each form.



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

## THEME OF THE WEEK

In our Celebration of the Word this week we have been hearing the story of the rich young man who is invited by Jesus to give away what he has to the poor and follow Him. It can seem strange to us that someone who was apparently as wealthy and successful and moral as this young man should not be entirely satisfied with his life and still be searching for more. We experience, like the rich young man, that our hearts are restless, as St Augustine observed, and, like the rich young man, no matter how well things are going, or how much we have the things we think we want, that we, like him, are also seeking that life which only God can give.

## HIGHLIGHTS

The St Vincent De Paul group made a visit on Thursday to Holy Family Convent in Rock Ferry. Pupils visited with retired Sisters of the community, many of whom had long experience of being teachers themselves and were full of questions for our pupils about school life today. The sisters were very keen to hear all about their experiences of school and their hopes for their future. The pupils made a fantastic impression and were invited to return to give a presentation to the community about school life.







## **NETBALL ENRICHMENT THRIVES THIS HALF TERM**

After school and lunch time netball enrichment has been going from strength to strength this half term, keep an eye out for results from the Wirral league and fixtures against other schools before the half term is finished. If you would like to join netball after school, please come to the sports hall Monday evenings - 4pm



## **GOOD LUCK TO LETITIA: BOXING CHAMPION NOMINATED FOR WIRRAL YOUNG SPORTS PERSON AWARD**

Good Luck to Letitia in Year 10 who will be attending the 60th anniversary Wirral Sports Awards at the Floral Pavilion on Tuesday (22nd). We have nominated her for the Wirral Young sports person award for her boxing accolades. Letitia is a 3 x National Champion, Tri Nations Gold Medallist, European Silver Medallist and now European Champion (Gold Medal).

## **SJP STUDENTS TAKE ON ROTARY CLUB'S TECHNOLOGY TOURNAMENT CHALLENGE**

Each year the Rotary Club of Great Britain holds a technology tournament for schools. Groups of four students from different key stages go against each other to design a device to solve a problem. This year's problem was to transport an aid package across a crocodile infested river. The students had to design a way of getting the package across the river on a wire and drop it below. SJP sent two Year 10 teams and a Year 12 team to take on other local schools. This was a difficult task and the students had time to think about the problem and decide on their approach. Marks were awarded for planning, teamwork, communication and problem solving as well as the final solution and how it works. In essence, it is the equivalent of a product design project condensed into one day. The students had to work on their own with no input from school staff but there were some engineering apprentices from Airbus UK on hand to answer questions.



## PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT: HATE CRIME AWARENESS WEEK

This week is national Hate Crime Awareness Week. In Personal Development pupils have learnt what a hate crime is and also how to report hate crimes either in school or to the Police when they occur outside of school. As a school we strive to promote inclusivity and respect and a huge part of this involves educating against hate.



## RESTART A HEART DAY

This Wednesday was restart a heart day! Restart a Heart Day is held on 16 October every year and is a Europe-wide initiative developed by the European Resuscitation Council. It was launched in 2013 to teach members of the public how to help restart the heart of someone who has suffered a cardiac arrest. In Personal Development this week, pupils learnt this vital life saving skill and practiced on our resuscitation Annie dolls! Well done everyone!



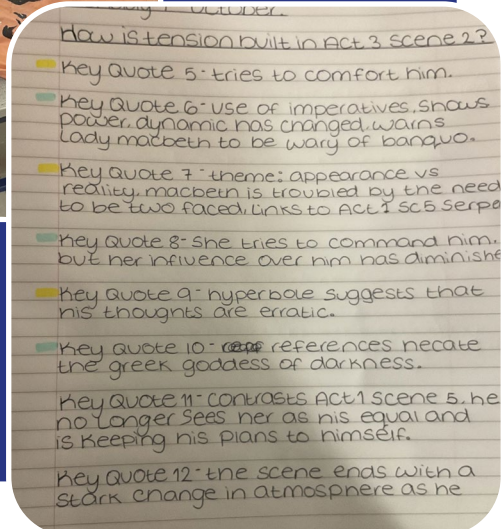
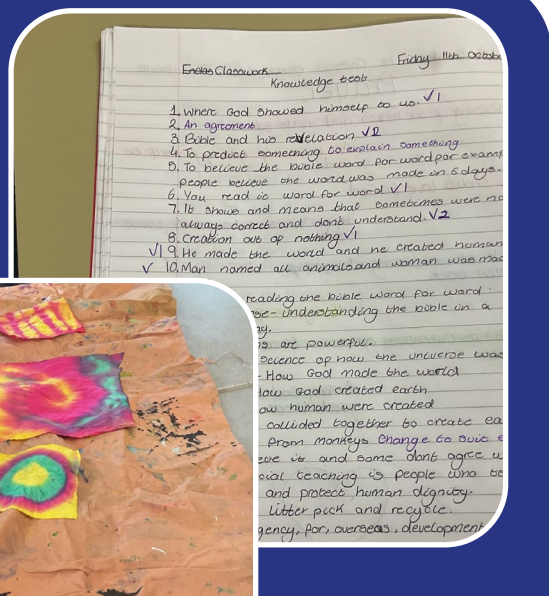
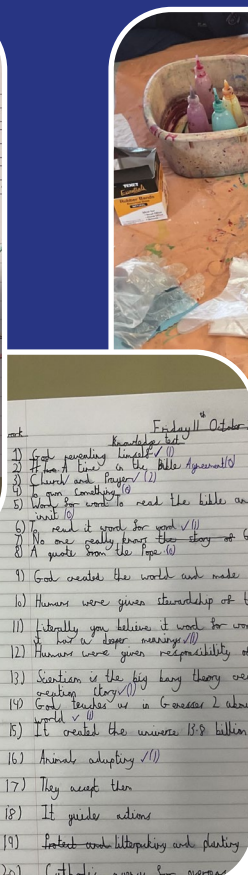
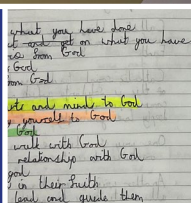
## RRSA SPOTLIGHT:

This month's UNICEF Rights Respecting School spotlight is on article 12 which promotes the right for children to be able to express their views. This week, pupils across all key stages have had the opportunity to apply for our Junior Leadership Team - we have been overwhelmed with the amount of applications that have been received from pupils keen to share their opinions and views and have their voices heard. This week many students have also taken part in student conferencing, an opportunity to meet with leaders within departments and share their views about their learning within different subjects. Pupils' voice is an integral part of what we do here at SJPS and just one way in which we promote this important right.





Following pupil conferencing this week senior staff have selected to share some excellent examples beautiful work shared by pupils from their books



I am delighted to be a member of staff at SJP as well as being a staff governor too. As a staff governor, I am privileged to support our young people pastorally each day whereas being a governor allows me to support them and our wonderful staff within the governing body to positively assist the smooth running of our College.



Year 9 has had an incredible start to the year, with all of the top ten students for positive points in the entire school coming from their year group! We're extremely proud of each of them. To celebrate, they were rewarded with an early lunch on Recognition Friday.





## **YEAR 13 COMPUTER SCIENCE STUDENTS SHOWCASE KEY TOPICS AHEAD OF MOCKS**

Year 13 Computer Science students have been presenting key topics in preparation for their mocks. Daniel Weedall (Year 13) says "We have been learning about different programming paradigms this half term. More recently we have been learning about Event Driven programming. We had to research and present our findings in a presentation".



## **YEAR 11 BUSINESS STUDENTS LAUNCH CINEMA CLUB TO FUNDRAISE FOR PROM**

Year 11 Business Studies students have been bringing their subject knowledge to reality by setting up their own Micro-Enterprise in school. The students are creating and running their own Cinema Club. They are raising funds for their Year 11 Prom through selling tickets to KS3 students to attend their movie night. All donations are greatly appreciated.



## **REMINDER: YEAR 12 AND 13 DEPART FOR RE POLAND TRIP NEXT SATURDAY**

Next Saturday our Year 12s and 13s depart on the RE Poland Trip. A reminder that all students need to be at school for 2.30am on Saturday 26th ready to depart on time to Manchester Airport.



## **YEAR 12 TO PARTICIPATE IN DYNAMIC DRAWING WORKSHOP WITH ENGLISH NATIONAL BALLET**

Year 12 are attending a dynamic drawing workshop on Friday 25th October at the Empire with the English National Ballet. 9am -1.30pm. The work produced will be part of their A Level submission and will form part of an Artist workshop and exhibition next term.

## UNIVERSITY AND CAREERS FAIR AT ANFIELD STADIUM.

We have enjoyed another busy week in Year 12 this week! On Tuesday, over 100 students attended a University and Careers Fair at Anfield Stadium. Students enthusiastically engaged with representatives from universities across England and Wales and came back laden down with information and prospectuses, and plenty of complimentary pens, bags, highlighters and lanyards! We also continue to roll out the National Careers Services courses to all students. This week we had a special guest visitor from the Air Ambulance Service who gave a talk about the work they do and to encourage fundraising. As we race towards completing our first half term, we celebrate our students' achievements next Monday with our first Superstar Spotlight assembly and welcome Liverpool Scholars; we will keep you posted!



## YEAR 13 GEARS UP FOR TRIAL EXAMS WITH FOCUSED REVISION AND PREPARATION

Year 13 are busy preparing for the first set of trial exams as Year 13 students, following a structured revision programme. They have been provided with links to revision resources and the topics to be covered. We hope they make use of the additional hours over half term to fully prepare and are able to walk into their exams confident that they have done their best!

Year 13 Revision Programme Exam Timetable		Monday 10th Nov 2024 (PM, Block A, PM, Block B)		Tuesday 11th Nov 2024 (PM, Block C, PM, Block D)		Wednesday 12th Nov 2024 (PM, Block E, PM, Block F)		Thursday 13th Nov 2024 (PM, Block G, PM, Block H)		Friday 14th Nov 2024 (PM, Block I, PM, Block J)	
Subject	Time	Subject	Time	Subject	Time	Subject	Time	Subject	Time	Subject	Time
Mathematics	10:00-11:00	Mathematics	10:00-11:00	Mathematics	10:00-11:00	Mathematics	10:00-11:00	Mathematics	10:00-11:00	Mathematics	10:00-11:00
Physics	11:00-12:00	Physics	11:00-12:00	Physics	11:00-12:00	Physics	11:00-12:00	Physics	11:00-12:00	Physics	11:00-12:00
Chemistry	12:00-13:00	Chemistry	12:00-13:00	Chemistry	12:00-13:00	Chemistry	12:00-13:00	Chemistry	12:00-13:00	Chemistry	12:00-13:00
English	13:00-14:00	English	13:00-14:00	English	13:00-14:00	English	13:00-14:00	English	13:00-14:00	English	13:00-14:00
History	14:00-15:00	History	14:00-15:00	History	14:00-15:00	History	14:00-15:00	History	14:00-15:00	History	14:00-15:00
Geography	15:00-16:00	Geography	15:00-16:00	Geography	15:00-16:00	Geography	15:00-16:00	Geography	15:00-16:00	Geography	15:00-16:00
Art	16:00-17:00	Art	16:00-17:00	Art	16:00-17:00	Art	16:00-17:00	Art	16:00-17:00	Art	16:00-17:00
Music	17:00-18:00	Music	17:00-18:00	Music	17:00-18:00	Music	17:00-18:00	Music	17:00-18:00	Music	17:00-18:00
PE	18:00-19:00	PE	18:00-19:00	PE	18:00-19:00	PE	18:00-19:00	PE	18:00-19:00	PE	18:00-19:00



## JLT DRIVE SPARKS EXCITEMENT AS OVER 100 STUDENTS APPLY TO JOIN THE TEAM

The team have been thrilled with the response from students in other year groups following their visits to assemblies to launch their JLT drive. We have had a fantastic response with more than 100 applications from other students to join the team. We look forward to getting together in the coming weeks to put our plans into action.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Tuesday 22nd October:

Rugby Leadership Event at Wirral Rugby Club - Mrs Spicer

### Wednesday 23rd October:

Year 7 Welcome Mass - At St Anne's - Reminder to bring a coat!

Enterprise fundraiser - SJP Movie Night 15:15-17:00 - Dont forget to buy your tickets in school.

### Thursday 24th October:

Year 11 EBAC information evening  
She Inspires - Everton in the community trip Ms Pritchard

School finishes at 15:10

### Friday 25th October:

Staff Inset - School closed to all pupils.

## SAFEGUARDING NEWS:

We would like to highlight to you additional support for our students in the local area. The Drop in is open Monday to Friday 2 - 6pm for children and young people aged 11 - 18 and up to 25 for people with SEND to access one to one support on any issues that may be affecting them. From family problems and bullying to worrying and anxiety the team offer comprehensive support aimed at helping young people move forward. The Drop In is designed to help young people to achieve their goals and aspirations through improving mental health and wellbeing. They focus on arts, culture and sport to enable young people to improve emotional health and wellbeing.

Accessing The Drop In is easy. No appointment is needed so just Drop In!

The Drop In is open Monday to Friday 2pm - 6pm.

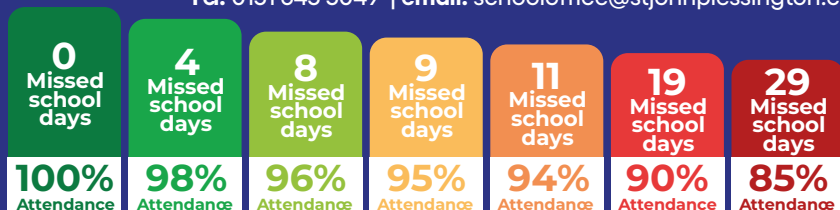
Their Address is Pilgrim Street Youth Arts Centre, 1 Pilgrim Street, Birkenhead, CH415EH

You can find more information about The Drop In on the following website: <https://www.zillowirral.co.uk/the-drop-in>

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**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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