



# Head's Newsletter

Dear Parent(s)

## **BAD WEATHER**

As there appears to have been some confusion in the message that has gone home with pupils I would like to confirm our extreme weather policy. On very rare occasions, the Headteacher may decide to close the school at short notice in extreme weather conditions, such as dense fog or heavy snowfall. If a decision is made not to open the school one morning, an announcement will be made on both Radio City and Radio Merseyside from 7.00 am that day. If no announcement is made the school is open. These arrangements only come into effect in extreme weather conditions.

## **SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENING**

Many thanks to all the staff and students who helped to make our Sixth Form Open Evening this week such a success. The Hall was packed for the main presentation, and we gave away a record number of Information Packs on the evening - so much so that we have had to have more printed. If you missed your copy please ring school. The high attendance and the enthusiasm expressed by students on the evening, confirms how increasingly popular Archbishop Blanch School is becoming for Sixth Form studies. Special thanks to Mrs Teasdale and Mrs Barnes for the organisation of the event.

## **EARLY SCHOOL CLOSURES**

**Monday, 9 February 2009 - Year 7 Parents' Meeting**

**Tuesday, 24 February 2009 - Sixth Form Parents' Meeting**

School will close at 3.00 pm on both these dates. Could you please make arrangements for your daughter to leave school at these earlier finish times. The 600 bus will be available at 3.00 pm but not the 646. The 646 bus will arrive at its usual time (3.45 pm) and any pupil wishing to catch this bus can stay in Homework Club (held in the Careers Room) until the bus arrives.

## **KENSINGTON SHOWCASE**

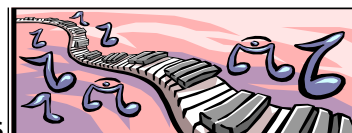
The Geography Department have taken part in an exciting project with Year 7 pupils in conjunction with Liverpool Vision Regeneration Company, focusing on the Kensington Area of Liverpool. The first part of the project was a half-day fieldtrip to Kensington in December and the second took place on Wednesday, 28 January, when the pupils enjoyed the opportunity to interpret and showcase their findings in a cross-curricular context within school. Pupils worked with Curtis Watt a performance poet; Dave Bixter an artist who helped produce models of their aspirations for the area; Nicky Swift to produce drama interpretations; Laura a dance teacher to interpret their findings in a street dance; John Platt using apple Mac computers; Dai Gwynne an architect to produce computerised models of Kensington in the future and the grandparents of Rhiannon Hughes (7NC) who are Kensington residents to look at the history and religious changes in the area. Thanks go to Mrs Carson for arranging the project.

## **GALA CONCERT TO CELEBRATE MUSICAL ACHIEVEMENT**

Next week our Music Department is holding their main school concert on Wednesday, 11 February at 7.00 pm in the School Hall. This promises to be another superb opportunity to hear the many talents of students and staff. There are still tickets available from the school office priced at just £4 Adult, £3 Child/OAP or £12 for a family ticket (2 adults/2 children). Please complete the reply slip below to order your tickets.



### **REPLY SLIP**



I would like the following tickets for the Gala Concert on 11 February:

Adult: \_\_\_\_\_ Child/OAP \_\_\_\_\_ Family \_\_\_\_\_

I enclose £\_\_\_\_\_ (Cheques should be made payable to Archbishop Blanch School)

## **YEAR 7 PARENTS MEETING**

For the benefit of parents for whom this will be their first Parents Evening at the school, I would like to confirm that your daughter is very welcome to attend the meeting with you.

## **HALF TERM BREAK**

We finish school next Friday, 13 February at 3.30 pm for our half term holiday and school will re-open on Monday, 23 February at the normal time.

## **7DP'S POETRY DAY**

On 3rd February 7DP worked for a whole day with the writer Alison Down. This gave them a unique chance to spend a whole day focusing on writing poetry and they really rose to the challenge. The morning was spent hearing some poems by John Hegley and by Alison herself and working on exercises designed to stimulate creativity and imagination. In the afternoon the girls worked hard to draft and produce an anthology: 'Memories that Remain'. Everyone contributed poems on subjects as diverse as: Snow, Sats Tests, My Family, Football, Holidays and Hide and Seek. The anthologies were 'published' and taken home at the end of the day. Alison was very impressed with the quality of the work. Well done 7DP!

## **BEST WISHES**

We would like to wish all our pupils in Year 10 the best of luck with their work experience placements, which they will undertake after half term. Thank you to Ellie Jones, our Work Experience Co-ordinator, for her hard work in the organisation of this huge task.

We also send our best wishes for a safe and enjoyable trip to the pupils and staff who embark on their skiing holiday on Friday, 13 February(!)

To our PGCE trainee teachers who finish their placement with us today. I would like to thank them for their enthusiasm and commitment during their time with us. We wish them success in their next school and in their future careers.

## **PARENTS' ASSOCIATION**

Advance notice that the Parents' Association are holding an Easter Bingo on Thursday, 19 March with lots of lovely prizes. Eyes down 7.30pm. Look out for more details in a later Newsletter.

## **INTERIM REPORTS**

Parents of pupils in Years 7 to 10 should have received interim reports for their daughters. If you have not already done so, could you please return the reply slip as soon as possible to Form Tutors. Thank you for your help.

## **ROAD WORKS**

I know that many parents will now be aware of the disruption caused by road works on Prescott Street, Liverpool 7. I have received, somewhat late, a notification from Merseytravel advising of the diversions that have been put in place, which I would like to pass on to you for your information. Temporary bus stops have been put in place as buses will be omitting a section of Low Hill and Prescott Street and I understand that these works will be for an approximate duration of 8 weeks.

**Services 12, 112, 13, 113, 18A, 218:** Circular routes as normal from Liverpool City Centre to Low Hill then via Erskine Street, Moss Street, Daulby Street then as normal route to Liverpool City Centre.

**Services 14, 14A, B & C, 114, 17, 117, 118, 19, 19A, 119, 244:** As normal from various locations to Everton Road then via Brunswick Road, Low Hill, Erskine Street, Moss Street, Daulby Street then as normal route to Liverpool City Centre. Return via the normal routes.

**Service 15:** As normal from Huyton to West Derby Road then via Brunswick Road, Low Hill, Erskine Street, Moss Street, Daulby Street then as normal to Liverpool City Centre. Return via the normal route.

**Service 101:** As normal from Walton to Everton Road then via Brunswick Road, Low Hill, Erskine Street, Moss Street, Daulby Street then as normal route to Walton.

## **BOOKS FOR SCHOOLS**

A reminder for you to collect the 'Books for Schools' tokens which you will find every day in The Times and Sunday Times. Tokens can be deposited in our special collection box in Reception. It would be great if you could encourage any family or friends to collect on our behalf.

## **SNAP, CRACKLE, POP!**

We are still running the Promotion 'Books for Schools' promoted by Nestlé Cereals/Dorling Kindersley. Please continue to collect the tokens found on top of Nestlé cereal boxes.