

Dear Reader

EVENING TO CELEBRATE ACHIEVEMENT

Prizegiving this year is to be held on Wednesday, 4 November, starting at 7:00pm in the Liverpool Anglican Cathedral. Our speaker this year is Miss Clare Molyneux OBE, Chief Executive, Open the Door Theatre in Education; we look forward to welcoming her as our guest for the evening. Miss Molyneux is an accomplished playwright; she is the founder-director of an educational theatre company and runs her own property development company. She was Cosmopolitan Magazine's Ultimate Business Woman of the Year 2008. All pupils in Years 10 and above are required to attend, so we can celebrate with them their successes in their GCSEs and A-Levels; attendance is also compulsory for lower school prize winners and Musicians. A register will be taken on the evening. Pupils are to attend in correct winter uniform and be seated by 6.45 pm at the very latest. Please be aware that if you bring your car, the Cathedral will charge £3 for car parking in their grounds. The evening should end by approximately 8.45 pm.

Any pupils who are entitled to a free school meal should notify Mrs McElhinney-Samson by Monday, 2 November if they wish to order sandwiches.

EARLY SCHOOL CLOSURE

A reminder that school will close for all pupils at 12.30 pm on **Friday, 6 November**. Any pupils who are entitled to a free school meal should notify Mrs McElhinney-Samson by Monday, 2 November if they wish to order sandwiches. Those pupils in Years 10 and 11 who do not attend Speech Night, will be expected to remain in school on Friday afternoon.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

We would like to remind parents that pupils are to return to school after half term in full winter school uniform.

HALF TERM

School closes today for half term and re-opens on Monday, 2 November at the normal time.

DEBATING SUCCESS

On the evening of 12 October, Archbishop Blanch School won the Merseyside qualifying heat of the Debating Matters competition, organised by The Institute of Ideas. Congratulations go to sixth formers **Elizabeth O'Connell** and **Emily Parry** for their success against King David High School. The girls proposed the motion: "competitive boxing is beneficial for young people", and were praised for their teamwork and tenacity. After their victory, **Grace Nquoy** and **Emma Slattery** defeated Howell's Independent School by proposing the motion: "it is undemocratic to treat the BNP differently from other political parties". We wish the team the best of luck as they progress to the regional finals in Manchester in the new year.

ATTENDANCE

I would like to congratulate Year 7 pupils who have achieved the highest attendance during September with 97.4%. Year 7 also has the form with the best attendance, with 7CG achieving a fantastic 99.6%. Well done Year 7!

I would like to take this opportunity of reminding Parents of the procedure for reporting pupil absence. We have a dedicated absence line (**706 9760**) and parents are asked to call this number and leave a message on the answer machine **as early as possible** and before 9.00 am on the first morning of absence. If your daughter/son remains poorly, then a follow-up call is appreciated on the fourth day of their absence. On their return all pupils must bring in a letter explaining their absence. Your assistance with this is greatly appreciated.

CONGRATULATIONS

Many congratulations go to Dr Wainwright and Monsieur Perais and their families on the birth of a daughter and son respectively. Caitlin Christina was born to Mrs Wainwright on 15 October, weighing 8lb 5oz and Mrs Perais gave birth to Raphaël William on Saturday, 17 October, weighing 7 lbs 11 oz. Welcome to Caitlin and Raphaël.

MUSIC DEPARTMENT NEWS

I am pleased to announce that the Music Department will be organising a sponsored PRACTICE-A-THON in aid of the Charity Clic Sargent, which supports children with cancer. The event is to encourage pupils to practise over a two week period at home or in school and to be sponsored for this. Hopefully, as

well as raising money for a good cause, it will encourage our musicians to develop good practice habits and to enjoy their music making even more! There is also the opportunity for the Music Department to raise funds through this activity, as the charity asks that 75% of the funds raised will be donated to the charity and 25% to the school. Pupils can start this event on the week beginning 19 October. There will also be prizes for the pupils who raise the most money and who practise the most.

OBOE LESSONS

There are currently vacancies for pupils who wish to have oboe lessons with our excellent Oboe teacher, Miss Walker. Please see Mr Moss if you wish to start.

LESSONS FROM AUSCHWITZ

Two of our sixth formers, Elizabeth O'Connell and Emily Parry, have been selected to participate in this year's Lesson from Auschwitz Project organised through the Holocaust Educational Trust. Based on the premise that "hearing is not like seeing", the girls are currently taking part in a four-part course exploring the universal lessons of the Holocaust and its relevance for today, highlighting what can happen if prejudice and racism become acceptable. The girls have taken part in a pre-visit seminar, listening to a Holocaust survivor speak, and last Wednesday flew to Poland to visit the former Nazi extermination camp of Auschwitz-Birkenau. A follow up seminar will ensure an exceptional educational experience. We look forward to the girls sharing their experiences and insights.

FABS AUTUMN DRAW

The FABS draw took place today and the prize winners are as follows:

- 1st Prize - Debbie Lees
- 2nd prize - Liz Ball
- 3rd prize - Jayne McClaren
- 4th prize - Mrs B Goulding

CALLING ALL PARENTS

Pupils will bring home today a poster advertising a free taster session for Parents in Exercise to Music/Toning. This is to take

place on Wednesday, 11 November, 1.30 - 2.30 pm in the School Gym. All are welcome!

SPONSORED SWIM

There are still a few pupils who have not brought in their sponsorship money into school. Could we please ask that this is brought back immediately after half term. Thank you for your help.

CARE FOR THE FAMILY

I have been asked to pass on information received from this organisation, who are holding a special evening at the Britannia Adelphi Hotel, 7.30-10.00 pm on Tuesday, 24 November. Top family speaker, Rob Parsons will be presenting 'Teenagers! What Every Parent Has to Know' - a light hearted evening from the national charity Care for the Family. This evening would be particularly helpful for parents of children who are about to become teenagers, or who are adapting to the transition to secondary school. Tickets cost £6 each. More information is available at www.careforthefamily.org.uk/teens

FREE ICT CLASSES FOR ADULTS

European Computer Driving Licence: Modules in Word-processing, Spreadsheets, Databases, Communication, Presentation, File Management and Concepts of Information Technology. Classes, which are free, are due to start on Monday, 2 November from 6.30 to 8.30 pm. However, if you wish to take exams, a fee will be payable. Anyone wishing to attend should contact Mrs Sandra West, Archbishop Blanch School office, on 709 1452.

PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

There will be a meeting of the Parents' Association on Monday, 2 November at 7.00pm in school. All parents are welcome.

MORRISONS LET'S GROW

This campaign ends on 1 November and it would be appreciated if you could send any vouchers into school immediately after half term.

FREE BOOKS FOR SCHOOLS

Please continue to send in your tokens on the top of Nestlé cereal boxes; collection boxes for which are place in school.