



Dear Reader

GALA CONCERT TO CELEBRATE MUSICAL ACHIEVEMENT

Wow! What an evening it was! I'm sure all who were able to attend our Gala Concert last night will have been as thrilled and delighted as I was with both the standard of the music and the huge number of pupils who took part. Many, many thanks to Mr Moss, Miss Callanan and all the Music team for the 'blood, sweat, toil and tears' that are necessary to make such an evening possible.

MUSIC INSTRUMENTAL LESSONS

The Music department currently have some vacancies for instrumental lessons on most instruments throughout the year. Pupils wishing to start a new instrument should see Mr Nielsen if they are interested.

PARENT GOVERNOR VACANCY

All parents should have received a letter and nomination form yesterday regarding the vacancy we have for a Parent Governor. This is a unique opportunity for parents to participate in the governance of the school and we look forward to receiving nominations on our return from half term.

PROSPECTIVE SIXTH FORM EVENING

It was a real pleasure to welcome so many of our own Year 11 pupils and those from other schools to our Sixth Form Evening held on 3 February - the highest turn out to date. The evening was very informative, with interesting and entertaining talks by former students.

OTHER SIXTH FORM NEWS

This week the Interact Group have successfully collected a large number of contributions for their appeal for good quality clothing to be forwarded to the Red Cross.

SAFEGUARDING OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY

In order to ensure the safety and wellbeing of our school community, and in line with Ofsted recommendations, a new safety structure will be put in place during the half term holiday. This will effectively close off access to the main school playground to outside visitors. Pupils will be able to come into school through gates in the structure, which will be open at the beginning and end of the day. Visitors will only be able to enter the school by the main school reception.

EARLY SCHOOL CLOSURES

YEAR 7 PARENTS' MEETING - WEDNESDAY, 24 FEBRUARY AND

YEAR 8 PARENTS' MEETING - TUESDAY, 2 MARCH School will close at 3.00 pm to accommodate these events. Could you please make arrangements for your daughter to leave school at this earlier finish time on both these dates. The 600 bus will be available at 3.00 pm but not the 646. The 646 bus will arrive at its usual time and any pupil wishing to catch this bus can stay in Homework Club (held in the Careers Room) until the bus arrives.

E-SAFETY NEWS

Congratulations to Year 8 ICT pupils who have just completed a project to make videos about safe digital collaboration.

As part of E-safety awareness we would like to encourage parents and pupils to find out a bit more about staying safe on the Web by visiting the 'Think U Know' website at <http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk>

Liverpool schools have been invited to submit illustrations/posters on the theme of E-Safety - 'Think Before You Post'. Winning entries will be used to illustrate this year's Byrom Review (Safer Children in a Digital World). We also want to use pupils' designs in our own school display to promote e-safety.

Pupils could design a poster or image about one of the following issues: Posting images online; Social Networking issues; Cyberbullying online; Responsible use of Social Networking /Instant Messaging tools. Designs can be hand drawn or produced using a computer. Entries must be given to Mrs Cartledge by Wednesday 24 February and should promote the safe use of technology amongst young people.

LENT

The season of Lent begins next week and when we return from half term we will be holding an early morning Communion Service each Tuesday morning at 8.00 am in the Quiet Room. Parents, pupils and friends are very welcome to join us for these services.



MOBILE PHONES

May I remind parents that pupils' mobile phones should remain switched off during the school day. It has come to my attention that pupils are using the mobile phones during the day and texting their parents. There are procedures in place for contacting parents in an emergency and pupils who are feeling unwell should report to their Year Head. I would be grateful if parents would reiterate this school policy to their daughters.

SPORTS NEWS

Congratulations to the year 11 netball squad who came second in the Liverpool preliminary netball tournament. They will now compete in the Merseyside final to be held 9/10 March at Wirral grammar school.

The Junior Swimming Team of Rebecca Friar, Megan Holland, Abbie Jones, Jess Stuttard and Katie Wilson participated in the English Schools National Final in Coventry last weekend. The Team swam well in the final of the medley relay and were placed ninth out of sixteen finalists. They were excellent ambassadors for the school and Liverpool. Well done girls!

PARENTS' ASSOCIATION NEWS

EASTER BINGO: The PA is holding an Easter Bingo on Thursday, 18 March at 7.00 pm. Tickets will be on sale after half term, priced 50p.

SCHOOL DISCO: Advance notice that there will be a disco for Years 7-9 on Thursday, 25 March. Details will be given out in the next Newsletter.

P A MEETING: Please note that the next Parents' Association meeting on 1 March will be at the earlier time of **6.30 pm**.

FRIENDS OF ABS

The FABS Committee will be holding their next Committee meeting on Monday, 22 February at 7.00 pm in school.

ATTENDANCE

Congratulations AGAIN to Year 7 for achieving the highest attendance with 97% for the month of January and AGAIN to 7LD who had the highest attendance with 98.5%. Well done Year 7!

YEAR 10 WORK EXPERIENCE

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.

HALF TERM BREAK

School closes today for our half term break and re-opens on Monday, 22 February at the normal time.



I would like to wish all those taking part in the Ski trip during the half term break a safe and happy time in Ravaschetto, Italy.

FAREWELL

Farewell 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.

AWARD IN FOOD SAFETY IN CATERING

Chartered Institute of Environmental Health - Level 2 Award in Food Safety in Catering - Saturday, 20 March 2010, 9.30 am - 4.00 pm

An opportunity has arisen under our Applied Learning status to offer the above course to the Community. This may be of interest to those people who carry out voluntary work and are involved in any sort of catering. Places will be offered on a "First come first served" basis. If you are interested in booking a place please complete the slip below and return to school as soon as possible. The course will be held in school. More details to follow.

PLEASE RETURN TO MRS ADDY

I would like to book a place on the above course / I would like to know more details (*Please indicate*)

Name: _____

Contact No: _____