



Head's Newsletter

Dear Reader

CAROL SERVICE TUESDAY, 15 DECEMBER

Our annual Carol Service will be held on Tuesday, 15 December at 7.00 pm in the Liverpool Cathedral. This is a compulsory event for all non-Muslim students. Pupils are to be seated by 6.45 pm at the latest. All parents and friends are welcome to this family service, which usually finishes around 8.15 pm. On this occasion there will be no car parking charges at the Cathedral.

School will close at 12.30 pm on the afternoon of Tuesday, 15 December to all except our Muslim students, who will be in school for instruction from a Representative of the Muslim Community. A sandwich lunch will be available for Muslim pupils on 15 December if this has been booked prior to the event through Mrs McElhinney-Samson. Any pupils who usually receive free school meals may order a sandwich if they wish; again please see Mrs McElhinney-Samson as soon as possible.

SHOE BOX APPEAL

We are absolutely delighted to report that 252 lucky children in Romania will enjoy a wonderful Christmas Day treat courtesy of the generosity of our school community. The boxes began their journey to Romania last Thursday evening. A big thank you to all who donated a Christmas Shoe Box filled with goodies for Operation Christmas Child. In difficult financial times, to receive this amount of boxes has been an amazing achievement.



ATTENDANCE

Congratulations go to Year 7 who achieved the highest attendance for the month of November with 97.1%. I would also like to congratulate 7LD who were the form who had the highest attendance with 98.3%. Well done to Year 7!

EARLY SCHOOL CLOSURES

Tuesday, 15 December - Carol Service

Friday, 18 December - End of term

School will close at 12.30 pm on both of these days. Could you please make arrangements for your daughter to leave school at these earlier finishing times. Please note that only the 600 bus is available on Tuesday, 15 December but both the 600 and 646 buses will be available to collect pupils at 12.30 pm on Friday, 18 December.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE BEGINNING OF NEXT TERM

Spring Term starts for all pupils on Monday, 4 January 2010 at the normal time.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to all the staff and pupils who took part in the Santa Dash last Sunday morning and who have raised money for various charities.

We would also like to congratulate Rebecca Friar, Abbie Jones, Katie Wilson, and Jess Stuttard who have qualified for the 52nd English Schools' Swimming Association Secondary School Team Championship finals which will be held in Coventry on Saturday, 6 February 2010. This is a fantastic achievement for the Year 8 & 9 girls and the first time that Archbishop Blanch School has sent representatives to the national finals.

CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Casa Blanca will be serving Christmas Lunch on Wednesday, 16 December. We will be treated to a traditional Christmas dinner and pudding for the price of £2.50. There will also be a vegetarian option available. Tickets can be purchased on Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday at the Bistro. As we have the Cashless Catering system in place this year, please ensure that your daughter will have enough money on the system to purchase the ticket plus any additional money she may require for any other purchases on that day. The Christmas Lunch is available to pupils entitled to free school meals without any extra payment - please ask your daughter to collect a ticket in advance from Casa Blanca.

ADVENT



We will be holding our final Advent Communion Service on Tuesday morning in the Quiet Room at 8.00 am. All are very welcome to join us.

SPREADING FESTIVE CHEER!

On Wednesday, 16 December, students from Year 12 will pay their annual visit to Telford Court sheltered housing to deliver Christmas cards and presents to the residents. The students will serve refreshments and spend time with the residents. Some students will hopefully return in January to help out with shopping during the winter months and continue the links made. A number of our students have formed a small group to help with the Carol singing, which always goes down a treat and is very much appreciated.

CREEPY CRAWLIES IN ABS!

Pupils in Year 9 were treated to a visit by Zoolab yesterday, who came into school bringing animals that live in the Rainforest. There was a giant millipede, Madagascar cockroach, tarantula, corn snake, giant African snail and a tree frog. The Representative from Zoolab gave a very informative talk to the pupils and some of the braver members of Year 9 were able to hold the animals.



'FAVOURABLE WINDS'

Mr Charlesworth reported that this Concert was a great success. The audience were treated to a varied programme of band and ensemble pieces which Anne James (Music Education Lecturer), Sean Chandler (Hope PGCE student and former ABS Brass Teacher) and Mr Charlesworth conducted. Sean was trumpet soloist in "Evening Breeze", and just before the final item, it was announced that Sean had received the Roy Newsome award from Salford University for conducting and ensemble playing.

HALL LANE IMPROVEMENT WORKS

Parents should be made aware that works are starting on the road improvement scheme in the New Year and are expected to continue until August 2010. Delays will be inevitable on the roads surrounding the school.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Thursday, 14 January, 3.15-6.00 pm:
Year 11 Parents Meeting

Monday, 25 January, 3.15-6.00 pm:
Year 10 Parents Meeting

Wednesday, 3 February, 6.30-8.30 pm:
Prospective Sixth Form Evening for Year 11

CHARITY FUNDRAISING

I am delighted at the amount of fundraising which is taking place at this time of year and especially with the financial restraints that many families are working under. I have already mentioned the Shoe Box Appeal and Santa Dash but in addition there are so many others. Mr Moss organised the Music Practice-a-thon, Mrs Robson the Readathon, Mrs Collier the 'Operation Send a Smile', we have just had Children in Need, raising an amazing amount of money for this Charity and today funds were collected for the Talent Show taking place next Friday. Money from this will be split between Claire House Children's Hospice and our link school in Africa. Other Charities supported include Jeans for Genes, Bradbury Fields, Marie Curie Cancer Care and the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal. I would like to sincerely thank all those who have contributed in any way to these events.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a joyous Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

