



Head's Newsletter

Dear Reader

PUBLIC SPEAKING COMPETITION

Congratulations go to Year 11 students Victoria Atherton and Olivia Beesley for winning their qualification round of the Liverpool Law Society Public Speaking Competition against Merchant Taylor Girls' School and Caldby Grange Grammar School. The girls delivered a ten minute speech proposing the topic: "evidence obtained from a witness who may have been tortured should be disregarded in all circumstances." The maturity of their research and delivery was exceptional.

We wish them the best of luck for the final round of the competition, taking place at Liverpool City Council Town Hall on 1 March.

HOME ACCESS GRANT

We have been asked to bring to the attention of our parents the recently launched Home Access Grant, which is a government drive to help low-income families get access to a computer and the internet at home. Families have to be in receipt of certain benefits to qualify for a grant to buy a computer and/or a minimum of one year's internet access. Anyone interested can ring the Home Access Grant Helpline on 0333 200 1004 where parents can request an application form. Further information is also available at www.homeaccess.org.uk.

REVISED DATE FOR YEAR 9 PARENTS EVENING AND KEY STAGE 4 CURRICULUM MEETING

This event, which was postponed from last November, has now been rearranged and will take place on Wednesday, 10 March at 3.15 pm.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT FOR PARENTS

On Thursday, 11 February, there is to be an important staff training session and therefore pupils are to arrive in school at the later time of 10.00 am on this day. The 600 bus is able to accommodate our early start and will begin its journey from Aigburth Vale at 9.30 am. Thank you for your co-operation.

I would like to point out that no lessons will be missed during the morning session; the lesson time will be shortened slightly to accommodate the later start.

PROSPECTIVE SIXTH FORM EVENING - 3 FEBRUARY

We will be holding our open evening for pupils who are interested in coming to our Sixth Form on Wednesday, 3 February at 6.30 pm. Year 11 students, make sure you don't miss out on learning more about the exciting opportunities on offer. We firmly believe that our excellent examination results, highly trained staff and wide choice of courses and facilities, make ABS the perfect choice for boys and girls to continue their post-16 studies. The vast majority of our students stay here and go on to gain their first choice of university. They flourish in an environment of continuing excellent pastoral care and with staff who know them well.

Listen out for our adverts on Radio City!

CONGRATULATIONS

We would like to congratulate Lauren Roberts from 9HT who entered a competition to have her 'Penguin Design' created onto one of the Penguins similar to those you may have seen in Liverpool. She was one of 50 successful entries to have their designs displayed in the Liverpool Echo. The winner is to have their design produced onto one of the large Penguins and unveiled at a Gala Charity Auction in February.

SPORTS NEWS

Congratulations and our best wishes go to Grace Boulton and Helen Harper from Year 8 and to Fazeleh Keshktar, Aisha Musa and Lucy Overmire from Year 9 who have reached the County Badminton finals being held today. The girls have successfully won their way to this stage in the Competition after competing against Archbishop Beck, Fazakerley High School and Notre Dame in the preliminary rounds.

The combined Year 7 and 9 Swimming Teams will be participating in the National Schools Final in Coventry on Saturday, 6 February. They are in the top 12 teams in the country, which also include Kelly College and Millfield School. We wish Rebecca Friar, Katie Wilson, Abbie Jones, Jess Stuttard, Faye McMahon and Megan Holland all the very best and hope they enjoy the weekend.

We have enjoyed a successful week with our Netball fixtures and would like to congratulate our Year 7 and Year 11 squads who have defeated teams from St Hilda's and St Edward's this past week.

ATTENDANCE

Congratulations to Year 7 for achieving the highest attendance with 95.9% for the month of December and to 7LD who had the highest attendance with 98.7%. Well done Year 7!

INTERIM REPORTS

Thank you to those parents who have returned their reply slips attached to the interim reports recently sent out. Could I request that any outstanding slips are returned to the Form Teacher as soon as possible.

EARTHQUAKE DISASTER

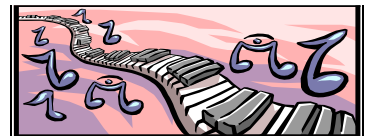
We would like to thank everyone who has contributed to the collection made to help the people of Haiti following the devastating earthquake. I am delighted to report that £1,012 has been raised and will be sent to the Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC) Haiti Earthquake Appeal to help aid the survivors of this terrible disaster.

SIXTH FORM STUDENT REPRESENTS SCHOOL DOWN UNDER

Rachael Cerowski from Year 12 was one of 55 lucky Girl Guides chosen from the UK to take part in a trip of a lifetime to Australia for the Girl Guiding Centenary Jamboree held over Christmas. She was the only Guider chosen to represent Merseyside and had the enormous task of raising over £2,500 to sponsor her journey. Rachael joined over 2,500 girls from all over the world in an international camp and has spoken of the wonderful opportunity this was to take part in all sorts of activities and to meet new friends from different countries.

GALA CONCERT TO CELEBRATE MUSICAL ACHIEVEMENT

The Music Department are holding their main school concert



on Thursday, 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. Tickets are on sale from the school office priced £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.

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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)