



St John Fisher News

9 July 2010

No. 75

Healthy Schools News

Last year we were successful in our bid to achieve Healthy Schools status and now we have had the first check-up. I am pleased to report that this was extremely favourable and have selected some quotes to demonstrate this:

Your dining facilities are excellent and I welcome your encouragement of students eating together in this environment.

The tour of the school was wonderful! Everywhere looked so welcoming and inviting and felt very calm and relaxing, even though a number of different events were taking place at the same time.

The group of young people we spoke to were an absolute delight. They spoke freely and with an enormous amount of enthusiasm about their school. They were also appreciative of the range of extra curricular opportunities that are on offer to them and very complimentary about the food provision in school.

We are proud of our school and our students but it is always gratifying to hear comments such as these from outsiders. My thanks to the students who were part of this review.

A Successful Mission

Last week's school mission was a huge success and the Mission Team left on a high after the final day on Monday. They were impressed by the students, and especially Year 10, and we are equally impressed by the feedback that the students have given. This has proved to be a positive event in our school year and I would like to thank the Mission Team and Mrs Pereira for putting the work into making it such.

Diocesan Inspection

This week we have had our diocesan inspection. Voluntary Aided schools are inspected periodically by their diocese, Anglican or Catholic, usually in line with the Ofsted cycle. As the 2008 Ofsted inspection put the school into Special Measures a diocesan inspection did not follow; this week's was the first since 2005.

The inspection was carried out over two days by one inspector and looked at the Catholic Ethos of the school, Community Cohesion, leadership and management, assemblies and tutor time, and the work of the RE department.

The report is expected soon and will be made available on the website and be reported in the newsletter.

Year 6 Welcome

On Wednesday we said our formal 'Hello' to the students who are joining us in September. A very busy and energetic day for the students was followed by an information meeting for their parents. It is always an exciting day for us as well as the children, as we are always keen to meet them and show off the school to them. It was a very successful day and I hope that the children went away eager to start properly in September. They will be coming in a day earlier than the other students, on Friday 3rd September. This will give them a further chance to settle in and find their way around before the others return on Monday 6th.

My thanks to the staff who helped organise this day and who have visited the children in their primary schools beforehand.

Building Schools for the Future

You will no doubt have heard on the national news this week that the government has cancelled most of the Building Schools for the Future (BSF) projects that had been planned across the country. Unfortunately this includes the Peterborough project which included St John Fisher – not for rebuilding but to be part of a city-wide injection of funds into new ICT facilities. We had already done a huge amount of work towards this over the last year and it now seems that this will have been wasted. However, although we may be disappointed at losing something we had been promised, we recognise the extreme disappointment of Stanground College and Orton Longueville School that their rebuilding has been cancelled. We were fortunate to have been in a previous wave of work and to now enjoy excellent facilities. Across the country hundreds of other projects have also been cancelled.

National Challenge News

Today I have to attend the termly National Challenge meeting to report on our progress and to hear the latest advice and news. We added to our work in this area by having an extra parents evening on Monday for students who are in our target group for 2011. This was a huge success and very much valued by the parents and students I spoke to afterwards.

Next week's newsletter will be the final one for this year and will include arrangements for September.

Sean Hayes

Success in Mathematics

The following students have been nominated for consistent effort or particular achievement in their Mathematics work

Effort

Year 7	Kieran O'Reilly, Toni Curtis
Year 8	Balint Brunner, Dominik Paluszczak
Year 9	Harriet Ayling, Patryk Kopiejka
Year 10	Angela Dos Santos Simoes, Patryk Gacki
Year 12	Zahra Dhanji

Achievement

Year 7	Chelsie Fitzjohn, Rahul Seta
Year 8	Federica Funicello, Sabrina Rodrigues
Year 9	Natalia Bagniewska, Nina Sandorova
Year 10	Tenesha Anderson, Sheetal Patel
Year 12	Erich Kuc

Well done to all!

Ms Harrison

Success in Music

The following students have worked very hard in Music and deserve congratulations:

Effort and Achievement

Year 7	Nataniel Tomaszewski, Patrik Bunczik, Cherise Betts
Year 8	Karen Jones, Rowena Cook
Year 9	Eileen Wells-Thompson, Amy Kemp, James Martin
Year 10	Patryk Zakrocki, Shannan Craig
Year 12	Eleanor Savill, Shaunagh McClean, Esther Beard

Commitment to Extra Curricular and the Music Society:

Stephanie Beara, Zainia James, Kirsty MacIntosh, Kyle O'Sullivan, Sabrina Marzano, Shaunagh McClean, Riah Davis, Shaheen McGrory, Lauren Tappenden, Liam Kehoe, Iziah Robinson, Charlotte Aitken, Rochelle Da Silva, Siobhan Kelly, Siobhan Lakey, Hannah Bolton, Joe Hostead

Well done and thank you.

Miss Vivash

Duke of Edinburgh Award News

Congratulations!

14 Bronze Award candidates from Year 10 have recently been assessed by an official Duke of Edinburgh expedition assessor and all 14 passed the expedition part of their award.

This involved attending many lunchtime and after school training sessions when the group learnt how to use various navigational techniques to walk in open countryside, cook on stoves, put their tents up and various other skills. They also took part in two practice expeditions over two weekends.

The assessment weekend was the hottest on record and litres and litres of water had to be carried. All the groups worked extremely well together helping out with carrying kit and sharing roles. Each group covered 13 km each day walking for about 5 hours with fully loaded rucksacks!

Several impressive blisters slowed some groups down, nevertheless this was not a race but more of a mini marathon.

An amazing result!

Once the record books are returned to school signed off by the Duke of Edinburgh expedition assessor candidates will busy themselves by completing the three other sections which are *skills* (learning a new skill like attending our school lunchtime IT club), *volunteering* (helping out at school in many ways such as being in our school choir) and *physical recreation* (which could involve attending lunchtime sports clubs like table tennis).

All 14 Duke of Edinburgh students will hopefully complete their full Bronze Award by this September.

The DofE staff team are looking into running the Silver Award. This would involve a three day expedition in the Brecon Beacons in October this year with a final assessed expedition in the Peak District in April 2011. Watch this space!

A very big thank you goes to Mr Clifford, Miss Ward and Mrs Davey for giving up so much of their spare time to make Duke of Edinburgh happen. DofE would not run without them.

Congratulations to Miss Ward for qualifying as a Basic Expedition Leader.

Mr Jones, D Of E Co-ordinator



Mission Week

As Mr Hayes has already mentioned, our Mission Week was a huge success and gave students much to think about. Here are just some of the comments from our students. There will be more published on our school website soon.

"Great! It really gave me time to think about what I'm doing and what I could be doing. To use my talents to help others and to live my life the way that God wants me to."

"It was very entertaining and good. I like Steve's wobbly cheeks."

"Emotional, informing, entertaining, fun."

"It was interesting and good. It helped me know about how some people may feel deep inside sometimes and how in future it can affect them more. And this was also really touching."

"It helped me a lot! It was nice knowing that people understood similar situations I've been in. It made me view things differently and I'm not going to wear a mask anymore!"

"Fun but it made me think about God and things in a new way."

"I enjoyed everything about the day. Thank you very much."

"Reflection on life. Gave me time to think."

"I have had a great day today, it was good and I've learnt a lot."

"I've learned that it doesn't matter who you are God will always love you. Also, don't worry about people embarrassing you. Thank you very much."

"I thought the day was very emotional and heart rending. It opened my eyes to different situations and how God ties in with our lives. I feel privileged for the opportunity and I'm very grateful for the experience. Thank you to everyone."

"it was very good and helpful and also I thought it was wonderful and exciting. Overall - fantastic."

"It's made me realise important things and feelings I've bottled up. Today's been breathtaking and a real eye opener. Thank all of you."

"It's helped me look for the positives in life. Instead of always picking out the negatives. It's helped me believe in myself. Now I do feel beautiful. Thank you Steve"

"Today I finally opened up and confronted my worries, fears and feelings."

"I found there was loads of meaning in today's talks and activities. I cried a lot but had loads of fun. Awesome - fun - sad - touching."

Mrs Pereira



St John Fisher catholic High School presents...

Summer Showcase

Thursday 15th July at 7.00pm
In the School Hall

Music from Stage and Screen

Tickets available from Student Services

Tickets are still available from Student Services at a cost of £3.00 for adults and £1.00 for concessions. Don't miss what promises to be a wonderful evening's entertainment.

Reading Matters

We now have a fully functioning electronic library management system called 'Oliver'. Library users will no longer be required to complete a loan slip as records will be updated by scanning an item's barcode and adding it to the borrower's record. When all library items have been added to the catalogue, students and staff will be able to access the records remotely, to search for resources, reserve books, DVDs and journals, renew loans and follow links to find information about resources, authors, publishing and reading trends. Students visiting the library are encouraged to have a look at the new system and learn how to scan and search using Oliver's OPAC (Oliver Personal Account) facility. *Ms Stack*

My Money Week

Our assemblies this week have been focussing on Money and its place in our lives. Financial capability is one of the outcomes of the Every Child Matters agenda and students are being given extra opportunities in their lessons this week to learn about money.

Our Theme next week is 'Women' and we will be exploring issues around equality, exceptional women and respect for others who are different.

Young People's Green Carpet Film Awards

On 7 July, students from **Year 10 Media Studies** put on their best **Oscar night outfits** and headed to the **Peterborough Film Awards** at the Kingsgate Centre. This was the first year that St John Fisher had entered the awards and we knew we faced some stiff competition from the other schools across Peterborough. We entered 2 films into the awards. **Manhunt, a Thriller about a murderous Headteacher** was entered by Emily Kerrigan, Stephanie Beara, Liam Kehoe, Iziah Robinson, Janine Kettle and Riah Davis and received a runners up award Silver Star Trophy. However the highlight of the night came when **The Cousins Carvalho**, a Portuguese language film about two cousins with super powers, won the **Best Foreign Language Film Award**.

Well done to Claudio Marques, Levy Santos, Luis Santos and Eloy Conde who collected their P'OSCAR Trophy, which is now proudly on display in the school trophy cabinet.

Well done to all of you for making our first P'Oscar experience a night to remember.

Ms Stevens

Sports News

Year 7 Rounders Tournament

Year 7 played their first Rounders Tournament on Monday 28 June at Sir Harry Smith in Whittlesey. They played four matches against different schools across Peterborough. They played an excellent first game winning by 4 rounders but, due to a very strong opposition and with 2 players short, lost their 3 final matches. Well done to all girls who took part.

Rounders Club is held every Tuesday after school 3:30 – 4:30 pm. All girls are welcome.

Year 9/10 City Athletics

On Wednesday 30 June a group of Year 9/10 athletes attended the annual City Athletics Championships at the embankment. There were some outstanding individual performances most notably from Chelle Findley (9WM) who finished 2nd in the 100M final in a time of 14.1 seconds. Jordan McCormack in Year 9 finished 4th in his 100M heat in a time of 13.8 seconds, narrowly missing out in a place in the final. Erin McClean in Year 10 finished 5th in the girls' discus final with a throw of 16.95M. Chris Power finished 5th in the Year 10 boys' shot put with a distance of 8.97M.

Year 7/8 City Athletics

On Monday 5 July the Year 7 and 8 athletics team took part in their City Championships at the embankment. Best performances were from: Victoria Kelly-Gobuiwang who finished 8th in the Year 7 girls 800M in 3 minutes 10 seconds. Laura Bowden finished 7th in the Year 7 girls' shot put with a throw of 6.10M. Adrianna Tetnowski was 6th in the Year 7 girls' long jump. Bradley Taylor 3rd in the Year 7 boys' javelin with a throw of 19.30M. Jessica Scutts 3rd in the Year 8 girls' discus, Aleksandra Tetnowski 5th in the Year 8 girls' long jump. The outstanding performance of the day was from Amy Pragnell who won the Year 8 girls' shot with a throw of 7.25M.

Tallington Lakes

On Saturday 3rd July a group of 24 Year 8 and 9 students visited Tallington Lakes Adventure Centre. The group took part in climbing, team building activities, kayaking and sailing. They all thoroughly enjoyed their day despite some falling into the lake on more than one occasion! Mr Baron who led the visit would like to thank PCSOs Jacqui Reid, Luke Kennedy and Robert Goodman for their support with the visit and all the students who were all very well behaved.

Wimbledon Visit

On Thursday 1st July a group of 8 students led by PCSO Jacqui Reid and Mr Stokes had a day out at the Wimbledon Tennis Championships. They had a fantastic day out where they rubbed shoulders with the likes of Rafa Nadal and Andy Murray. They were fortunate to see the men's and women's doubles semi finals on Court 1.
