



Convent of Jesus and Mary Language College

Le Couvent de Jesus et Marie College Specialise en Langues

Issue 11
(Summer Term)

May 2011

Dear Parents/Carers,

What a busy time and what opportunities are offered to the girls! We finished the Easter term with a reflective and moving service that allowed us time to consider our preparations during Lent. As a community we raised just under £4000 which is for supporting the pilgrimage to Lourdes where 9 Sixth Formers will act as Red Caps. Opportunities to fulfil potential also abound. The Easter revision sessions for the examination groups in Key stage 4 and 5 were well attended. Maths challenge was an exciting competition, the chess club held their tournament - good luck with the Mega final on 29th May - and we are currently taking part in Brent athletics. Special congratulations to Weronika, 8 Lourdes, Halima and Cherrelle, 10 Gianna who performed in the National Concert Band Festival in Glasgow. They won! Fantastic. Also to Chloe,, 8 Fatima, Ms Vujicic and Mr Doel who all undertook a sponsored swim last month to raise funds for Marie Curie Cancer. Good Luck to the students, staff and governors who are taking part in one of the many "Race for Life" events across London. More and more public exams are being taken by younger and younger students. They are under pressure to perform to the best of their ability, which they can do with your support and the support of our staff. Please keep the girls in your prayers as they embark upon their public exams.

Mrs Freear, Headteacher

MAY PROCESSION



Having grown up in Harlesden, attended this school and been a parishioner at Our Lady of Willesden it is always a pleasure to visit the parish. My links with the parish go back to my parents who in the 1950s

also used to take part in the May Procession. The old black and white photographs are a reminder of how big this event was in the parish. On Sunday it was another wonderful day with warm sunshine to help us walk the short route in honour of Our Lady. It amazes me that we can stop the Harlesden traffic as we process through the streets in honour of Our Lady. The short stop here at the Convent was for me the highlight of the procession with hundreds of people listening to the homily given by Fr Terry Davis from the Diocese of San Francisco. Our girls were a credit to the school. Our beautiful grounds provided the calm oasis during the Procession. It was good to meet parishioners with a long association with our school. **Mrs G Quinlan, Assistant Headteacher**

The May procession was interesting



and lots of people were there and gave me a sense of peace. **Fikeme, 7 Edith**

*The May procession was fascinating. I had a splendid time praying with my friends. **Emma, 8 Vladimir***

LITURGY FOR EASTER

During Lent our focus in school was encouraged by Archbishop Vincent in his Lent message to the diocese – on the traditional Catholic disciplines of Prayer, Fasting, Almsgiving and Confession. A number of opportunities were offered during Lent for students to make their Confession to a priest in school, all KS3 pupils participated in the Stations of the Cross, and an impressive effort was made across the school to raise funds to support the Sixth Formers who will be travelling to Lourdes in July. A big thank you to staff, parents and especially the students for their effort, determination and monies raised during Lent. The term concluded with a liturgy where we shared the opportunity to focus on Our Lord's suffering in His Passion and Crucifixion.

The Chaplaincy Team

*I enjoyed the Liturgy because it gave me time to reflect on my faith. The video of Jesus from the Passion of Christ went through me. **Jean, 10 Newman***

I enjoyed the Liturgy especially the video about the Passion of Christ because it was heart warming.

Evronia, 10 Seton

*The video that was shown during the liturgical service was very emotional and it touched a spot in my heart. I very much enjoyed the liturgical service. **Diana, 10 Newman***

We enjoyed the Easter Liturgy service as it was very reflective. The video shown from the Passion of Christ was very emotional. It showed what Jesus went through for us and made us want to become better people – even if it is in the minor things we do.

Ewa, 10 Gianna and Patricia, 10 Edith

An **outstanding** school where students reach exceptionally high standards and develop into confident and articulate young women a very special place. OFSTED, May 2009

NATIONAL CONCERT BAND FESTIVAL



The trip to Glasgow was really nice but performing in front of the judges and all those other people was a bit scary. We were all really surprised when they announced the winner - no one could believe that we had won! Next year's competition is in London, so I hope we win that too. **Weronika, 8 Lourdes**

Enomous congratulations to Halima, 10 Gianna who was also part of the band. **Mrs G Freear, Headteacher.**

The National Concert Band Festival (NCBF) was held in Glasgow this year. The trip to Glasgow was fantastic. It was a great experience and was a pleasure to be part of. I played the clarinet as part of the band. In our programme, we also had to play a piece composed by one of the judges, which made it even more nerve-racking!

Cherelle, 10 Gianna



YEAR 7 FRANCE TRIP



It was 4.30 on a Friday morning when I arrived at the Convent. A group of very excited students was already crowded at the front gate. Less than an hour later we were off on our journey to France, which we reached around mid-morning. First we visited the market in Wimereux, a picturesque coastal town, and just after midday we moved on to our next destination: the chocolate factory. A visit to the hypermarket concluded our French experience and by mid-afternoon we were ready to leave. We arrived back late and tired but the girls were still beaming with all the exhilaration of a day abroad!

Dr L. Bonelli, Assistant Headteacher

We were able to see how chocolate bunnies are made. The market was great as it gave an insight of what markets there are in France. The shopping centre was the best part of the whole experience. I would recommend that this trip is organised again. **Kaylah, 7 Esther**

I bought chocolate, clothes and earrings. We went to the beach and I had an ice cream as it was very hot!

Georgia, 7 Esther

I really enjoyed the local and hyper market as it was in-

teresting and lots of fun. I bought so many gifts that I had to buy a bag to put them in! The weather was amazing and I really wish we could stay over. **Carla, 7 Esther**

I thoroughly enjoyed the day and the weather was very hot and sunny. The view was stunning and breathtaking. It was a great experience and I would love to go again. I got to take home a lot of gifts. **Daniella, 7 Deborah**

I think that this was the best day ever! It was a great experience and I saw beautiful things. I enjoyed the local market and the hypermarket. I would really love to go again. **Sandra, 7 Mary**

There were many different activities to try out like shopping and the beach. It was a fantastic experience and I would recommend it to the next Year 7 class. It was great and the weather was perfect! **Gentiana, 7 Mary**

I visited the market, mall, beach and the chocolate factory. It was fun and the whole day was a great experience. **Grazielle, 7 Deborah**



It was a great adventure as we had a long coach trip and learned to be independent. We went shopping with our friends and would like to do this again. **Stephanie, 7 Deborah**

I think that the trip was fabulous - I loved it. The croissants were yummy! I hope we could do it again!

Sotonye, 7 Judith

LONDON MINI MARATHON 2011



Congratulations to Paula Tudek in our Year 11 who took part in the Mini London Marathon during the Easter holidays. The Virgin Money Giving London Marathon is put on by the organisers of the London Marathon and starts at Old Billingsgate and ends at the Mall, in central Lon-

don. Paula was one of 31 young people picked to run for Brent and ran against young people in other boroughs. Phillips Idowu was on the start line and greeted the young athletes. Well done to Paula on this great achievement. **Mrs G Quinlan, Assistant Headteacher**

Running the marathon for the second year was a fantastic experience. I was surrounded by thousands of people aged 12-17. I set myself a pace and stuck to it. Loads of people watching who didn't know me were cheering me on. It shows what a great community we have. I am looking forward to next year's marathon and hopefully getting in the top 100.

Paula Tudek, 11 George

CHESS CLUB AND CHESS CHALLENGE



20 girls participated in the UK Chess Challenge. Pairings were done on a simplified Swiss System. Some of the girls started from scratch and learnt the basics. Others devel-

oped strategies and problem-solving skills. They learnt that it is important to watch what the other player is doing, not only focus on their own plan. The tournament winners were Sarah, 9F, Chi-ian, 8G, Thimali, 8G and Jaydee, 8G. All 4 girls qualified for the Megafinal on 29th May. Jamie-Lee, 7J who was top in the U12 category, qualified too. **Mr Sztranyovszky, Teacher of Mathematics** *Playing chess is a great experience. Many people have helped me learn how to play the game and after playing more than once, you want to play again until you win! I*

would advise everyone to join! **Jaydee, 8 Guadalupe** *Chess is fun even though people might think that it's not. It helps you with your Maths and you can win prizes. I enjoy chess and I am now confident.* **Chloe, 7 Mary** *Chess is fun despite what people say that it's geeky. It was a great laugh and we all just talked and played at the same time. It was nice to be around new people. I will definitely be going next year!* **Sarah, 9 Fourviere** *It was fun and it helped me build up my confidence. I would encourage others to join.* **Lourassa, 7 Mary** *I was lucky to be part of the chess competition. I did not win, it was great to take part and enjoying it with others. I want to do this again.*

Francisca, 8 Fatima *I'm so happy that I've got 2nd place! I hope that I'll win again!*

Chi-ian, 8 Guadalupe



YEAR 7 BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

I am extremely proud of the Year 7 basketball team. They were all dedicated to playing in the tournament and engaged in many extra basketball sessions to develop their knowledge and skills in time for the tournament. They played with heart and courage displaying complete determination. Well done girls!

Ms K Wiltshire, PE Teacher

I thoroughly enjoyed the tournament at Capital City Academy. It was great fun. As captain I am extremely proud of my team. In total we played against three teams including Capital City Academy, Ark Academy and Kingsbury High. We drew one, lost one and won one game.

We tried our hardest and succeeded. I am glad that we

achieved second place overall. I was especially pleased with how the newer team players played as they had only been with the team for a couple of weeks. We will continue to train hard and look forward to our next match.



Basketball training is on Friday after school from 3.20 – 4.30pm in the old gym with Ms Wiltshire. Basketball training is for year 7-11 if anyone wishes to join.

Georgia, 7 Esther

DUKE OF EDINBURGH WEEKEND EXPEDITION 1

A group of girls from Year 9 are working hard to achieve their Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award. As part of the programme all participants have to complete a number of tasks, voluntary work and expeditions. Participants are required to complete three weekend expeditions where they need to be completely self sufficient. Participants walked for approximately 9 hrs to the designated campsite, navigating their own journey and carrying a heavy backpack. Backpacks included clothes, wash kit, food, water, tent, sleeping bag and mat, Trangia cooker and fuel amongst other chosen items. Once they had arrived at the campsite they had to set up their tents and cook their food before tucking into their sleeping bag ready for a cosy night's sleep. The tasks were reversed for all to make their way home the following day. Hopefully all tasks and walks will be completed quicker on the next expedition to allow for some fun, play or exploration time with the participants from other schools.



All of the girls put their heart and soul into this expedition and managed to see it through from start to end. They should all be proud of themselves. The staff who attended from the school are extremely proud of the girls,



as am I. I look forward to the next expedition, scheduled for 7th & 8th May 2011.

Ms K Wiltshire, PE Teacher

I had loads of fun in the camping and hiking. It was a new experience for me and a lot of walking. The best part for me was when we were walking there and having a laugh. Hope I can do it again.

Leticia, 9 Rahweh

When I went camping I thought that it was fun, except for the walking. The walking was really hard and I was happy once I had finished. I enjoyed this experience because I spent it with my friends.

Esere, 9 Rahweh

JACK PETCHY AWARD WINNERS



The Jack Petchy Awards are awarded monthly to young people who have either made a significant contribution to the community or have made a marked and sustained improvement in their studies. Our Jack Petchy winners for 2011: February, Jessica Kodjovi Year 7 and March, Jessica Masi Year 12. We are moving to a system where candidates are to be nominated by students as well as staff. All winners are given a cheque for £200.00 which they can

spend on something for the school community.

Mr D Haran, Deputy Headteacher

I received my Jack Petchy Award for the month of February. This was due to my help in the Music Department and the Sixth Form, being a Prefect, a Form Representative, paired reading with Yr 7s during morning registration, promoting the 6th form to year 11s, being a general role model throughout the school, helping out at various occasions such as Parents Evenings and Open Evenings. I am very glad for this award and hope it will make a difference to the department of my choice.

Jessica Masi, 12 Ignatius

I won the Jack Petchy award for March 2011. I won this award for being 7Mary's form captain, and also student council representative for Year 7. I am always telling my year group that if they have any problems or needs they can always come to me for advice, or if I don't know the answer I will help them find it. I am very dedicated to the school council, and do everything I can to help us achieve our goals. I hope giving the money to my chosen department will help a lot.

Jessica Kodjovi, 7 Mary

BOUYGUES TRIP

On Tuesday 12th April the Year 11 French Asset Advanced class visited the Bouygues UK Head Office to follow up their previous successful workshop with the company. We had a tour of the company and the girls presented their research on Bouygues which they had been working on, with prizes for the winning group. This provided the girls with real-life examples of how languages are used in the workplace and helped develop their team-working, communication and presenting skills. **Miss A McKee, MFL**

*I learnt a lot about how languages can be used and you don't have to be just a French teacher. It was especially good because my group won a prize for the best presentation! I had a really good day. **Abigail, 11 David***



Not only did we have to stand up in front of our class but it had to be in French! My group did not win but it was really fun and good practice for the future.

Lavaun, 11 David



We found out how languages can help with future careers. Overall it was a great experience.

Leila, 11 Fisher

Our presentations was in French

*and learnt that any new languages would help us with future careers. In general, it was an informative trip. **Jessica, 11 Bruno***

*We had a great time and gained confidence in our speaking skills by presenting a slideshow on Bouygues and won prizes. It was fun seeing what office life is. **Susan, 11 David***
*It was interesting learning words in other languages. We won prizes and it was really fun! **Maya, 11 David***

UKMT MATHEMATICS CHALLENGE

UKMT Maths Challenge took place at Preston Manor High School. This was a regional competition which involved 24 schools. Our team consisted of two year 8 students, Francisca, 8F and Chi-lan, 8G, and two year 9 students, Alexandra, 9F and Kamila, 9F. The Competition has 4 rounds: Group Competition, Crossnumber, Head-to-Head and Relay Race. The girls finished 15th, but enjoyed the competition, especially the Relay Race, and are looking forward to next year's competition. They are determined to work hard so they can achieve even better results in next year's competition.

Mr A Sztranyovszky, Teacher of Mathematics

I was a member of the team representing the school at UKUT Maths Challenge. During the lead up to the competition, Mr Sztranyovszky held lunchtime revision sessions.

Although we did not win, we did improve our position from last year. I hope that next year's team will enjoy taking part as much as I did and I wish them good luck.

Alexandra, 9 Fourviere

The UKMT team challenge was a great experience. It was better than last year because this time we are in Year 9 and have a better knowledge of Maths. Our Maths teacher, Mr Sztranyovszky, was very supportive and helped us prepare.

Kamila, 9 Fourviere

*I had so much fun in the Maths Challenge! All the rounds were hard and needed lots of concentration in order to get the answer and all the questions were linked so if we got one answer wrong, everything collapsed! But I had lots of fun with friends and enjoyed all the challenges. I hope I can go again next year. **Chi-ian, 8 Guadalupe***