



# Convent of Jesus and Mary Language College

Le Couvent de Jesus et Marie College Specialise en Langues

Issue 4  
(Winter Term)

December 2011

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are moving into the final weeks of our Advent preparation. In Jesus we celebrate the best of our humanity, the beauty and strength of what we can be. The girls continue to be the best they can in all that they do. We have celebrated incredible talent at the recent St Cecilia's Day concert. A variety of activities both in and outside school support the girls in their personal development. It was the second opportunity for girls to celebrate achievement at the Brent Town Hall as a number of them received their awards from the Jack Petchey Foundation. They were awarded for outstanding contribution to the school community. For the second time in a year we hosted a visit from Michigan State University in the USA. The visitors came to learn about systems and procedures in our school which support the girls in their pursuit of excellence. Finally, a review of teaching and learning took place in the week beginning 5th December. This was carried out by Challenge Partners. In the next newsletter we will share information about this. The girls again were true ambassadors for our community.

Mrs G Freear, Headteacher

## ST CECILIA'S CONCERT



*The St Cecilia's Concert was really good and I had a nice time listening to people perform. Everyone was really good as they have put in a lot of effort into making it a success! I thought that the choir was good and I had a lot of fun. India, 9 Lourdes*

*It was all about music and singing. Many girls were playing different instruments, including teachers. There were solos and groups. I was part of the choir with Ms Greenrod and Ms Maguire leading us. It was lovely and I thoroughly enjoyed it! Audrey, 9 Guadalupe*

*I loved every minute of it! Mr F Vaz, parent*

*I enjoyed God's given talent tonight. Keep the wonderful standard of music going! Ms S Baker, parent*

*An inspiring performance by all the girls. Enjoyable!*

**Mrs M Tranza, Vice Chair of Governors and parent**

*Very inspiring and well performed. Mrs P Harbinson, parent*

*Astounding performance, both vocal and instrumental. Mr Betts, Headteacher, St Joseph's Junior School*

Over 60 students took part in St Cecilia's Music concert this year and once again the standard of performing was outstanding. There was something for everyone with performances from both soloists and ensembles. Each year group was represented at the evening and the students should be commended for their drive and ambition to prepare themselves for the performance, especially the ensembles. A particular thank you must go to the choir who all attended and sang in excellent voice. The success of this outstanding evening can be attributed to the hard work of all students and teachers involved. The atmosphere in the room was one of appreciation and enjoyment. It was lovely to see the students contribute and share in such a warm environment and appreciate all the music that was being presented. Thank you to the students, parents and teachers who attended the concert and encouraged the students with their applause. We thank the students and teachers from St Joseph's school, Wembley who came as our special guests.

**Miss M Greenrod, Curriculum Leader, Music**

*I really enjoyed it! There were great singers and musicians and I can't wait to be part of it next year!*

**Alicia, 7 Bruno**



## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

14th Dec 2011	PTA AT 6.30 pm
20th Dec 2011	Non Uniform Day
21st Dec 2011	Last Day of Term
9th Jan 2012	Term Starts

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

## INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS DAY



*This was really enjoyable because it gave us the experience of what it would be like to open our own business and how hard it can be. I would like to have this opportunity again.* **Alice, 9 Fatima**

*I really enjoyed International Business Day because I got to work with a good team and created a good product. We created a hotel and brand. It was a great opportunity to learn about what factors we needed to consider if we wanted to own our own business.* **Amy, 9 Guadalupe**

*International Business Day was interesting because we worked in groups of 5 and had to create a poster which advertised our the hotel and then presented to the class.* **Jasmin, 9 Monserrat**

On Thursday 17th November we held our annual International Business Day for year 9 students. The MFL and Business Studies departments organised a day where students could learn some marketing skills and use them with their language skills to create a piece of advertising. This year, they had to advertise the opening of a new hotel and the students were able to choose the facilities the hotel would have and who their target market would be. I am always amazed at the creative ideas our students come up with to advertise their product. I was really impressed by the way the girls worked together in a team and how well they worked to a tight deadline. Being a busy advertising executive for the day seemed quite



*I learnt a lot from the day which I could use in the future - and it was also fun and interesting.*

**Rhianna, 9 Guadalupe**

*The International Business Day was very interesting. We had to create a poster to present our hotel in groups of 4-5. We had to design a leaflet too. Although we did not win, we learnt a lot, especially new words. We had a lot of fun.* **Audrey, 9 Guadalupe**

*International Business Day was very educational and great fun. It was quite hard and challenging as towards the end we were rushing to finish. The displays were really good and our group won, which was a great surprise. We won small prizes and I really learnt a lot.*

**Hannah, 9 Guadalupe**

*International Business Day was fun but very challenging as we worked in groups to produce leaflets and posters. We used our creativity and imagination to achieve good results. It was enjoyable and we learnt a lot!*

**Martha, 9 Guadalupe**

stressful for some students but they all finished their work in the end! The work was displayed and judged by a small panel of 'experts' who work in jobs using languages every day. The day hopefully highlighted to students the importance of learning a language in this global economy and the range of jobs it can lead to. Well done to the winning teams for French, Spanish and Italian, but especially to the French winners as they were awarded overall champions for the day. Félicitations!

**Ms O Cousins, Curriculum Leader Languages**



## JACK PETCHY ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS 2011



This wonderful evening took place at Brent Town Hall on Thursday 10th November. Six of our girls were awarded prestigious prizes on the evening. This was in recognition of their significant contributions to the school community

in the last academic year. Congratulations to Aine and Jessica, Year 13, Chris-Ann and Lubiana Year 11, Lily, Year 10 and Jessica, Year 8. They were presented their awards by the Mayor of Brent.

### **Mrs Quinlan, Deputy Headteacher**

*What stood out for me was their motto: 'If you think you can, you can'. I still use it today. **Jessica, 8 Mary***

*It was an entertaining evening where we were rewarded for all our achievements which shows that we are appreciated. **Aine, 13 Aristotle***

*I received a medallion for being an outstanding achiever. We enjoyed the various performances. I felt grateful to have been chosen*

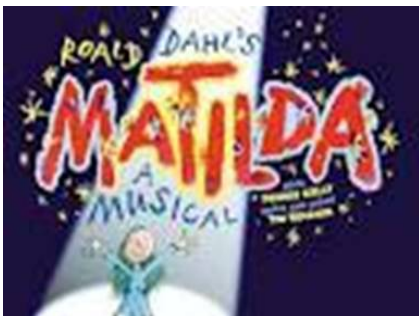
*to receive this award. **Jessica, 13 Ignatius***

*It was a very enjoyable evening and I am very glad that I was privileged to have been chosen. **Lily, 10 Ipswich***

**Lily, 10 Ipswich**



## THEATRE TO SEE MATILDA



We were very fortunate to be given the opportunity for 29 of our students to attend the performance of Matilda at the Cambridge Theatre in London. Mr Mills secured the tickets from Ms Elaine Grant from Mousetrap productions.

A selection of students across Years 7-13 was able to see the musical. The girls were so proud to be selected and thoroughly enjoyed the show. Thank you firstly to Ms Grant for giving us this opportunity and to Mr Mills for taking the girls. As expected, the girls behaved in an exemplary manner.

### **Mrs Quinlan, Deputy Headteacher**

*It was a great opportunity to see live theatre and a nice break from our studies. It was a great way to be recognised for our hard work and we would recommend the show to all. The opportunities are rare to see live theatre because of the expense, so we were all grateful. We*

*would happily welcome more trips like this in the future - it was amazing. **Najah and Zoe, Year 12 and Jessica A and Jessica M, Year 13.***

*It was a privilege to be picked. The best part was the lighting and we had very good seats. The costumes were fanciful and I enjoyed it! **Alyah, 10 Ipswich***

*I loved Matilda! It was amazing and it's like Christmas has come early. It made us think of the character and what we should and should not do. It is one of the best memories for me. **Gift, 10 Thornton***

*Matilda was fantastic, fun, and exciting as I have never seen anything like this before. I liked everything and it made me laugh. **Rachette, 7 Patrick***

*I was chosen out of many to go and watch Matilda the Musical. It was exciting and quite funny! I would definitely watch it again! **Sharday, 11 Newman***

*I thought it was amazing and the actors were fantastic as well. **Kaylah, 7 Fisher***

*Matilda the musical was the best musical I've ever been to. The actors were so young but still so talented. Even though we were at the back of the theatre, we could still see and hear everything perfectly. The set was spectacular as was the singing and dancing. **Matilde, 8 Deborah***

## LONDON CHILDREN'S BALLET—'RUMPLESTILTSKIN'

I am writing on behalf of the London Children's Ballet to thank you for giving Maggie Innes permission to have time off school earlier this term, in order to be part of the LCB2 Touring Company. Maggie worked extremely hard during rehearsals and on the performances days and I believe the tour was a very positive experience for her. As well as dancing beautifully on the tour, Maggie behaved impeccably and was charming when talking to the audience members after each performance.

### **Victoria Collinson, Outreach Tour Director**

*In September, I went on tour with the London Children's*

*Ballet and performed 'Rumplestiltskin'. The audition process was nerve-racking but very exciting! When I got through the auditions I was very happy and looked forward to the tour. On the first day of rehearsals, the director held a casting session to find out which role suited each dancer. I was cast as the milliner's assistant and a moth all of which are exciting roles. We had five days of rehearsals, practiced six hours a day and went on tour for four days in three different venues! I made new friends, thoroughly enjoyed the experience and have now auditioned for next year's performance! **Maggie, 8 Deborah***

## DAY OF THE DEAD — *DÍA de los MUERTOS*



The Day of the Dead is a special day celebrated in Mexico which focuses on the celebration and remembrance of friends and family who have passed away. The celebration occurs on 2nd November and is in connection with the Catholic feasts of All Saints Day (1<sup>st</sup> November) and All Souls Day (2<sup>nd</sup> November). On Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup>



November students in Year 9 had the opportunity to participate in different workshops entitled 'Around the world with the dead', 'Comical Calaveras', 'Greensleaves', 'Papel Picado', 'Bread of the Dead' and 'Flowery Skulls'; these were offered by staff from a variety of Departments – thank you! All the students commented on the workshops being rewarding, different and sharing literacy as well as creative skills. **Mrs A Sylvester-Charles, Liturgical Team Co-ordinator**

*Day of the Dead in Food Technology was amazing. We made biscuits shaped into skulls, tombs, and ghosts. I learned how to make bread and shape it into a skull. It was very exciting.*

**Jaydee, 9 Guadalupe**

*It was enjoyable. We learnt about the different food that was usually eaten at celebrations in Mexico. We got the*



*opportunity to make cookies shaped as bats and a cat. We used black and white icing. They were very delicious and at the end we were able to share them with our friends. **Dana, 9 Guadalupe***

*It was really good doing all the activities because we got a day out of lessons and did fun things. Making the bread was my favourite because it tasted great and was fun to make. **Amy, 9 Guadalupe***

*It was fun and really good to celebrate the death of people but in a way that it focused more on their life than their death. I enjoyed making the cookies because we got to eat them and they tasted good. **Alice, 9 Fatima***

*I enjoyed the Day of the Dead workshop very much. We all had a chance to take part in various activities. I liked Bread of the Dead because we had the opportunity to cook. We decorated cookies even though some of them got burnt! They were still very tasty and I hope to do it again next year. **Esther, 9 Gualadupe***



## FOOD TECHNOLOGY—READY, STEADY COOK COMPETITION



Year 9 had an opportunity to participate in a "Ready Steady Cook Competition". The girls showed off their cooking skills by preparing a variety of dishes. They en-

joyed the challenge and increased their confidence and self-esteem. The girls welcomed the presence of Mrs Heffernan who judged the finished dishes according to set standards. The winner and runner-ups received certificates and prizes.

**Ms K Mitchell-Shakes, Food Technology Teacher**

*The Ready Steady Cook competition was fun especially when we won. It allowed us to show off our culinary skills.*

**Emma and Shannon, 9 Fatima**

*I enjoyed the competition because it gave me a chance to cook dishes that I never tried before. I had a chance to compete against other students in my class.*

**Chloe, 9 Fatima**

*The competition was really fantastic and it gave us an opportunity to work under pressure. **Alice, 9 Fatima***

*We were all given the opportunity to explore various dishes and to work like a professional chef. I hope to do it again. **Theresa, 9 Fatima***