



# Convent of Jesus and Mary Language College

Le Couvent de Jesus et Marie College Specialise en Langues

Issue 6  
(Winter Term)

January 2012

Dear Parents/Carers,

Once again a busy start to the term with public exams being taken and results arriving at school. Enormous congratulations to so many year 11 girls who are being awarded "Going for Gold" badges – a sign of their having achieved at least one GCSE.

Thank you so much to those parents who have responded to the governors' consultation on the academy status. It has been really interesting to hear views and once again assure you that should the governors take the decision to convert, we will remain as an outstanding catholic school. We are not looking to convert because we are not outstanding as may have been the case for sponsored academies but to enable us to work more closely with our family of Catholic schools.

I will let you know the governors' decision as soon as it is known.

Mrs G Freear, Headteacher

## 2012 – OUR READING COMMUNITY

### A BOOK IS NOT JUST FOR CHRISTMAS !

As part of our lead up to World Book Day on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2012, we are going to celebrate our being a reading community. At the end of the autumn term, we sent out letters to all Year 7 parents inviting them to join in our celebration by encouraging the whole family to read for pleasure. Recent research from the National Literacy Trust found that "children and young people who read a book a week or more are more likely to enjoy reading and to do better at school." As part of our celebration, we aim to create tutor group "Book Blankets" or collages made up of photographs of students and their families reading over the holidays. These "Book Blankets" will be a visual presentation across the school, highlighting to all of us the importance and pleasure of reading. The photos taken by Year 7 and their families have been delightful. Over Christmas, staffs have avidly taken photos of themselves reading alone or with family members. They will be creating their own "blanket" for display. Websites which are useful and informative when trying to help your daughters find exciting and challenging books are: <http://www.lovereading4kids.co.uk>, [www.cool-reads.co.uk/](http://www.cool-reads.co.uk/), [www.guardian.co.uk](http://www.guardian.co.uk) and [school.familyeducation.com](http://school.familyeducation.com)

#### Ms J Khawam, Advanced Skills Teacher

The book I'm reading is called "The stuff of nightmares" by Malorie Blackmore. It is about a boy, Kyle, who is going on a school trip and on the way the train crashes. During that period of time, he goes into the heads of others and sees their nightmares. The book is phenomenal and spellbinding, full of mystery, fun and danger.

#### Johara West, 7 David

The book I am reading is called "Clarice Bean-Utterly Me" by Lauren Child. Clarice Bean tells us about the mysteries in her own life like 'Where has her best friend, Betty Moody, gone?', 'Why is her normally smelly and unfriendly brother out of his room and smelling like soap?'. She tries to solve these puzzles throughout the book. Her



teacher gives the class a book project, with a prize for the best one. With Betty Moody gone, she must work with Karl, who is weird and she is not happy about this turn of events. She is amazed to discover that Karl is actually nice; he is fun to

work with and makes her laugh. Karl believes he can invent gadgets, such as detective walkie-talkies to impress their teacher. To win the competition, they need to prove that Clarice has learned something important from her books.

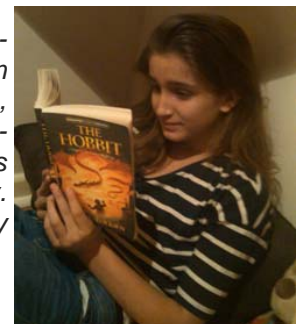
#### Sapphire, 7 David

"The Sea of Adventure": Marooned far from the mainland on a deserted coast, Philip, Dinah, Lucy-Ann and Jack find themselves playing a dangerous game with an unknown enemy. Will they escape from the enemy and save their lives?

#### Leona, 7 David

I have chosen the book "Zelah Green, Queen of Clean". It is very funny and I have learnt a lot of difficult words. I love this book and at the moment it's my favourite book and it is about a 12 year old girl sent to a care home for her treatment for OCD. I would recommend it to people who are into humour and higher level of reading.

#### Cleonice, 7 David



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

## AN INTEGRATION WITH A DIFFERENCE



During the week beginning 16<sup>th</sup> January we hosted a group of students from the Liceo delle Scienze Umane “E. Gianturco”. Unlike previous integrations where the visit had not been reciprocal, on this occasion our own students were given a chance to experience school and family life in Italy just before Christmas. Both groups of students greatly enjoyed the exchange. The Italian students especially valued the opportunity to ‘interact with the girls, make new friends and attend lessons’ and to ‘come into contact with [different] cultures, lifestyles and customs’ as well as an entirely different school system. They were also impressed by our resources and the way these supported learning.

**Dr L. Bonelli, Deputy Headteacher**



On 10<sup>th</sup> December Mr Waplington and I accompanied 14 girls from Years 11-13 to Potenza for an exchange trip to an Italian school. This trip provided the girls with a wonderful opportunity to experience Italian culture and the Italian school system. Upon arrival, feeling both nervous and excited, the girls quickly immersed themselves in various activities, trips round the Basilicata region and lessons in the Italian school. Staying with host families enabled the girls to experience Italian family life, generous Italian hospitality and practise their Italian. It was a once in a lifetime opportunity of which, I am sure, the girls will have many happy memories.

**Miss A McKee, MFL Department**

Each one of the Italian families with whom the students and staff stayed were so welcoming –they made us feel part of the family. The best way to learn a language is to immerse oneself in the culture, and staying with a family allowed us to do this. The Italian school system is quite different to that of the Convent and our girls benefitted greatly from getting to experience *la dolce vita*.

**Mr C Waplington SEN Department**

*In Italy I had a great experience. I met wonderful people and learnt about the Italian culture. I am very glad and grateful for this opportunity.* **Kauana, 12 Vincent**

*My Italian experience was better than I imagined. The family I stayed with was very nice and welcoming. I learnt so much about Italian culture and have become aware of a different reality. I am truly grateful for this experience and all the people I met.* **Nicole, 13 Ignatius**

*It was good to experience living with an Italian family and comparing the two different school systems in Italy and England. We thoroughly enjoyed it and made many new friends.* **Alexa, 13 Claudine**

*It was a wonderful experience. I learnt that Italy’s school system is completely different. The best part of Italy was living with my Italian buddy and her family. Everybody was so friendly and welcoming!* **Sabrina, 11 Gianna**



## WINTER WONDERLAND



Congratulations to the girls who were invited to our Winter Wonderland day out in Hyde Park. The staff of the SEN department would like to thank the girls for the ex-

emplary behaviour that they showed throughout the day. The girls were chosen for various reasons like constant attendance to our homework club, reading club and lunch club since September. We were fortunate with the weather so the girls went to Zippo’s Christmas Circus and it was a joy to watch some of the expressions on their faces as this was the first time for some of them. There were many stalls displaying amazing jewellery, beautiful candles but best of all sweets and chocolates packaged so attractively and inviting to our girls (and staff). Well done, girls! **SEN Department**

## VISIT TO THE NATIONAL GRID'S ENERGY EDUCATION CENTRE



The trip to the N.G.E.E.C. was educational and enjoyable, the students were able to understand what the National Grid does and all about the project that is going on at Willesden. The girls' behaviour was exquisite. They asked very intelligent questions, which were commended by the organisers. I was very proud to lead the group.

**Mrs M Anthony, Acting Curriculum Leader Science**

*It was a good experience and was very educational as the trip included a lot of information about electricity and how it is transported. There was an exercise area that included games for a group to play.*

**Chanel-Marie, 10 Gervasio**

*The trip was a great experience and very educational as it introduced a lot of information about electricity and how it is transported.* **Natalia, 10 Gervasio**

*The trip to the National Grid was really exciting. I learned so many interesting things. It was enjoyable and they had lots of educational games. I would go back again some time.* **Adanma, 10 Gervasio**

*The national grid trip was very interesting. We learnt how electricity is made. The person who talked was extremely inspiring and I am now considering engineering as a career choice.* **Amara, 10 Fourviere**

*The trip to the National Grid was very enjoyable and educational. I have learnt a lot of interesting things I did not know before. I would definitely go again.*

**Francesca, 10 Fouriere**

*The visit to the trip to the National Grid was great and very educational. We learnt a lot about how electricity is distributed and how much energy we use at different times of the day. I thoroughly enjoyed this trip and learnt a lot.* **Kamila, 10 Fourviere**

*I really enjoyed the National Grid. It gave us an opportunity to have a better understanding of where energy in the UK comes from. The people working there were nice and explained things well. I hope to go again sometime.*

**Sara, 10 Gervasio**

### MY BALLET SHOW

*On Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> December the ballet school that I go to, put on their annual Christmas show. I performed a tap dance to the music of 'You can't stop the Beat' from Hair-spray. It was really fun and my fellow dancers and I did very well. I also enjoyed watching all the little girls dancing to their music in their little costumes as it was so cute!*

*All in all, it was a success and everyone enjoyed themselves. There are about 8 grades which get harder as you progress, and I am in grade 4 in ballet and grade 3 in tap and I am hoping to continue dancing.*

**Alice Mullahy, 9 Fatima**

### PUNCTUALITY REPORT - 100% ATTENDANCE AND 100% PUNCTUALITY

Here at the Convent we have always celebrated excellent attendance with the girls. The ultimate prize is the annual trip to either Thorpe Park or Chessington World of Adventures for those students who achieve 98% attendance or above.

Statistics show that of pupils who miss more than 50% of school, only three percent manage to achieve five A\*-Cs, including English and Maths. Of pupils who miss between 10 percent and 20 percent of school, only 35 percent manage to achieve five A\* to C GCSEs, including English and Maths. Congratulations to the following girls in each of the Year groups who have already achieved 100% attendance and punctuality since the start of this academic year. They are giving themselves every opportunity to excel and lead.

**Mrs G Quinlan, Deputy Headteacher**

**Year 7**—Molly Banbury, Mariam Facouri, Lorraine Fernandes, Jade Magtoto, Janice Owusu, Deborah Belu, Lucy Davies, Eire Healy, Sheba Jonathan, Keisha Juggan-Tull, Solange Ortiz, Micaela Petito, Madalin Blenman, Tamara Canada, Jeana Damaj, Elodie Devadasan, Gjeni Doda, Rachel Duggan, Porsha Jervier-Felix, Caneho Moloi, Videshika Arachchge, Alisha Shazan, Natalia Vaz, Leilah Bartley, Olivia Blissett, Sinead Bleasdille, Ines Guerra-Riola, Sara Jabot, Opeyemi Orimoloye, Tallulah Ugur (30)

**Year 8**—Maria-Larisa Andronoiu, Veronica Fernandes, Yvonne Hategeka, Ellen Jatta, Elsaïda Banushi, Tianna Bryan, Grace Ifura, Olamide Oyewo, Ayanna Daniel, Lisa Freitas Da Silva, Faith Panda, Reem Futsum, Reem Kanaan, Anoushka Pacquette, Chloe Reade, Lavinia Allen, Sunshine Briones, Carla Da Silva, Kaylah Frimpong-Mensah, Joy Ibekwe, Arsema Kiflai, Amarni Lee, Fatima

Majekodunmi, Georgina McCabe, Lisa McGee, Camila Mendes, Bluebell Molloy, Lisa Pitton, Rio Rocque, Fikeme Simeï-Akajagbo, Lauren Walsh, Reta Zaia, Ecilla Enniful, Monisolami Orimoloye, Naomi Osei, Angela Torres (36)

**Year 9**—Christobell Adjei-Mensah, Jude Mae Balanag, Sofia Freitas Da Silva, Vanessa Freitas Lopes, Sally Khalife, Kyra Lafinhan, Geïlla Negussie, Tamesha Ollivierre, Diana Oluku, Fatme Charafeddine, Tanya De Freitas, Emily Hayes, Justyna Lesniowska, Aiyanna Albert-Steven, Marcy Calderon, Jinu Koshy, Julia Podkowinski, Natasha Twumasi, Laurel Wilson-Gayle, Jacqueline Zuokumor, Ella Berthier, Shannon Fallon-Ford, Emma Marshall, Sandali Archchge, Winifred Njambi Karaya, Deborah Orukotan, Jovita Pinto (27)

**Year 10**—Diana Androni, Jadeena McWilliams-Thormille, Jesmina Braganca, Ali Mahema, Esere Simeï-Akajagbo, Takyisha Akoto, Absarah Alazar, Amaani Jiva, Rima Farah, Joanna Lordanou, Natalia Jaworska, Tianna Johnson, Chante Mathurin, Montana Mullings, Esperanca Raimundo Pereira, Georgina Williams, Sheila Amedodah, Sarah Esprit, Lisa Essandoh, Alexandra Ferrari, Joana Ferreira, Shantell Gyabeng, Judy Ibelgauptiene, Louise Innes, Katia Martins (25)

**Year 11**—Sinead McDonnell, Monae Minors-Gibbs, Jade Morris, Patricia Correia, Ana Fernances, Ellen Bradshaw, Abimbola Sajuyigbe, Jedidja Sukadi N'Koua, Cherrelle Wynter, Mary Denn Llamido, Rebecca Lopes McDermid, Oyinkansola Otukoya (12)

**Year 12**—Marina Facouri, Abigayle O'Dowd, Chloe Smith, Cezara Stropsa, Jessica Viltaki, Sophia Gatinao (6)

**Year 13**—Jessica Masi, Tracy Abi-Khalil, Hilesa Asiedu, Aine Barrett (4)

## FAIRTRADE



Peter Moore returned to school after his visit last year to launch Fairtrade week in March. Since his visit the Fairtrade group have met and started their very own fairtrade stationary shop. Peter visited the school to speak to year 12 and 13 to encourage them to take on leadership roles to support the work of the organisation and to promote their skills in leadership for their UCAS applications. At present we sell fairtrade bananas in the canteen and fairtrade Kit Kats are sold at the stationery shop. During Fairtrade week all of the tea, coffee

and sugar were from fairtrade sources. The Shop is open every Tuesday at break outside the Library.

**Ms N Walsh, Assistant Headteacher**

*Fairtrade is a way we can make a difference to peoples' lives who may not be privileged as we are. By buying a bar of fairtrade chocolate or bananas we can make a difference to those who need a fair pay to survive.* **Rita, 13 Claudine**

*The fairtrade seminar was informative about the importance of fairtrade and how it improves the lives of those involved. We also discussed how important it was*

*to raise awareness of fairtrade products in school.* **Rahel, 12 Edith**

*Peter came to talk about fairtrade, its importance and how it is implemented worldwide. This valuable information helped me realise the importance of fairtrade and why it is needed. I gained a lot of knowledge and I want to take part.*

**Aine, 13 Aristotle**



## CHARITY FUNDRAISING

As a school community we have supported a number of charities during the Autumn term. A big 'thank you' to students, parents and staff. In September for Macmillan £108.48 was raised in our Coffee morning. In October, CAFOD Family Fast Day raised £40.60 and later in the month £759 was raised for Wear It Pink Day. To support AIDS awareness in December we raised £102. Our main drive, however, was during the period of Advent and the following Charities were supported and the amount raised donated—Year 7: The Catholic Children's Society - £602.20; Year 8: Sisters of Jesus and Mary - £608.86; Year 9: CAFOD - £607.13; Year 10: St Luke's Hospice - £618.94; Year 11: Cardinal Hume Centre - £411.31; Years 12/13: Lourdes—Red Cap Diocesan Pilgrimage - £683.32. This gave us a total of over £4500.

**Mrs A Sylvester-Charles, Liturgical team Co-ordinator**

Thank you to you, your staff, students, parents and friends of Convent of Jesus and Mary Language College for collecting donations to the sum of £602.20. We would be delighted to put the donation toward our 2011 crib appeal and use it this Christmas to put smiles on the faces of the children, young

people and families we support. It is with the support of schools, amongst the parishes and individuals, that we could not do without. Thank you for thinking of the Catholic Children's Society (Westminster) at this time of the year. God's blessings for 2012. Thank you for **making a difference** to our families. **Ms Elise Campbell-Hand, Fundraising Officer**

On behalf of the Samaritans, I would like to thank you for your generous donation of £100.00. Please pass on our thanks to everyone who contributed to this special collection – their support is very much appreciated. You can find out all about our work on our website: [www.samaritans.org](http://www.samaritans.org).

**Ms Jayne Johnson, Supporter Care Manager**

Thank you for your donation to CAFOD. Your gift enables us to continue our vital work around the world. We support local organisations in over 60 countries as they strive to tackle poverty and give hope to the poorest communities.... Please continue to pray for peace and justice for all the people in need wherever they may be. On behalf of CAFOD's family worldwide, may I thank you once again.

**Steve Tassie, Head of Supporter Services, CAFOD**

## GRAND CHRISTMAS RAFFLE FOR LOURDES PILGRIMAGE



What excitement there was in the school leading up to Christmas! The girls excelled themselves selling raffle tickets to raise money for our 6<sup>th</sup> Form Annual Lourdes Pilgrimage. The 1st prize was 4 concert tickets to see One Direction—it wasn't the two boxes of chocolates as additional prizes that caused the frenzy and swooning that was occurring with the girls! The kindness from parents and those associated with the Convent was appreciated and generous donations were gratefully received. The 1<sup>st</sup> prize was won by Olivia Naughton's (8 Judith) grandmother-congratulations to her. The girls who sold the most tickets were also rewarded: congratulations to Donielle, 13 Ignatius and Gemma, 7 Patrick. The total raised from our raffle was £1862. Well done.

**Mrs A Gallivan, SEN Department**

**1<sup>st</sup> Prize – 4 tickets to One Direction**

—M. Carroll (Olivia, 8 Judith)

**2<sup>nd</sup> Prize - £50 cash**—Victor Pinto (Margarida, 8 Sarah)

**3<sup>rd</sup> Prize - £25 cash**—Celeste, 7 Bruno

**OTHER PRIZES**

**Case of wine**—Lara Goodwin

**Moet and Chandon**—Corinne Rampaul

**Christmas Cake donated by Mrs Carr**

- Mae Galindo (Laura, 13 Ignatius)

**Christmas Cake donated by Ms Rose**—Amanda, 9 Fatima

**£20 Tesco Voucher**—Bruno (Louise, 9 Fatima)

**Fruit Basket**—Fatima (Micheala, 7 Fisher)

**Side of Gammon**—Kashmere Kyacinth

(Gragasin, 8 Deborah)

**Thorntons Chocolates**—Ms McDonagh

**Ferrero Rocher**—Mrs R O'Reilly

**Biscuit Tin**—Lydia, 7 David

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

31 Jan—9 Feb	Synagogue Trip Year 8	Fri., 10 Feb	Blind Date with a Book
Fri., 3 Feb	Feast of St Claudine—Carnival Workshops	Mon., 13 Feb	Half Term Holiday