



# Convent of Jesus and Mary Language College

Le Couvent de Jesus et Marie College Specialise en Langues

Issue  
(Spring Term)

April 2011

*Dear Parent/Carer,*

*As we bring the term to a close we will take time out to reflect on the final preparations we are making for our special celebration of Easter. At school we have provided opportunities for the girls to celebrate the sacraments in particular reconciliation—my sincere thanks to the parish priests who were able to help us. Our fund raising has again been exemplary and the opportunities for prayer before school, during the day and at formal times when we have come together, have been opportunities for reflection and meditation. We also have had some excellent displays of gifts and talents—our Spring concert was amazing with instrument solos and voice solos of an outstanding standard from years 7 through to 13. It has been a busy time for students taking exams and the countdown is bringing written papers ever closer. Good luck to our girls and they are in our thoughts and prayers as they prepare for these important examinations. I also take this opportunity to wish you all a happy and Holy Easter.*

*Mrs G Freear, Headteacher*

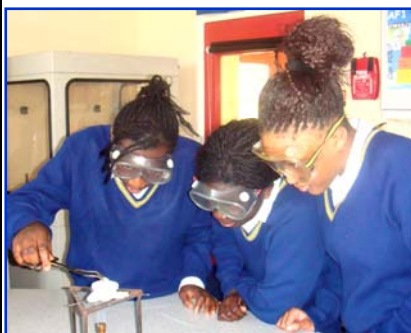
## YEAR 7 GIFTED AND TALENTED DAY

On Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> March we organised an activity day for year 7 pupils who have been identified as Gifted and Talented. The aim of the project was to stimulate pupils by proving them with a varied diet of problem solving, higher order thinking skills and new knowledge with a strong academic bias. **Miss A Patel, Teacher of Science with responsibility for Gifted and Talented pupils**

*We participated in ice breaking games and learned to make glass which was interesting and fun. We had drama on the life of a factory worker who lived a hard laborious life in the 1980's. I learnt that, by asking the right questions, one can easily find the answer. I enjoyed this fantastic experience, especially the glass making.*

**Georgina, 7 Esther**

*On 24th March, the year 7 Gifted and Talented students participated in an activity day where we were involved in lots of challenging*



*and fun activities. We played games and solved challenging problems by asking the right questions. I learnt to make glass and entered the world of a factory worker. I enjoyed myself thor-*

*oughly and hope to do it again with more team building activities.*

**Parisha, 7 Esther**

*We participated in ice breaking games, glass making and had a drama session on the life of a factory worker. I really enjoyed the experience, especially the*

*glass making and ice breaking games. I wished we had more colours to make the glass.*

**Rio, 7 Esther**

*The workshop was enjoyable and we played different games which involved us using our concentration skills. We learnt how to make glass and the difficulties that the glass makers experience. I learnt how to ask the right questions to help solve a problem and felt that the drama was good for logical reasoning.*

**Kaylah, 7 Esther**

*I learnt that glass is made at around 1700 degrees. A factory worker would work bare-chested and could get cuts from flying glass and splinters. It was an enjoyable day.*

**Camila, 7 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

## EXSCITEC'S 'REACH-OUT LAB' AT IMPERIAL COLLEGE



The Science department offered the Gifted and Talented cohort in year 9 a trip to Imperial College as part of which the pupils had an exceptional opportunity to participate in several science-based activities that could not be conducted in a school laboratory. The interactive two day-long course was taught through mini-lectures, seminars and group work, providing ample opportunities to discuss ideas with tutors and fellow students in an informal environment.

I would like to thank Mr Colley, our Aim Higher coordinator for securing this rare opportunity for the pupils.

### **Miss A Patel, Teacher of Science with responsibility for Gifted and Talented pupils**

*I really enjoyed it, although the first time we went it was boring because it was just lectures. However, it gave us the feeling of what it's like to be at university. The second time we went it was much more exciting. We had to dissect a mouse and learnt about blood types. As I want to be a vet, dissecting a mouse was a very beneficial experience. I am really grateful for being part of it.*

### **Michaela, 9 Fourviere**

*The trip to Imperial College was a great experience. Over the course of two days we sat through lectures and did experiments. We got to dissect a mouse. It was gross at first but then became good fun. I still remember the smell of the mouse. I loved the experience and hope to go again.*

### **Louise, 9 Fourviere**



*When we went to Imperial College it was a really great experience; we did lots of practical experiments that I had*

*never done before. We even did a mouse dissection and we had to remove the organs! It was an amazing experience and I would really like to go again.*

### **Kate, 9 Fourviere**

*The trip to Imperial College was extremely enjoyable! On the first day we sat through lectures which were really interesting. I*

*enjoyed the second visit to Imperial College even more as we even got to perform CSI investigation and we performed a mouse dissection! The trip was amazing and I really want to go again.*

### **Sarah, 9 Fourviere**



*We went to Imperial College and had an interesting experience which included Crime Scene Investigation and the dissection of a mouse. After that we had to remove the organs which felt weird but I enjoyed it at the same time. I really enjoyed the experience and thank the undergraduates and the people who took us.*

### **Maia, 9 Gervasio**

*The trip to Imperial College was a once in a lifetime experience. The second time we went we got to do blood typing and solve a murder. After lunch we did a dissection of a mouse. It was an amazing experience and I hope I get to go again.*

### **Joanna, 9 Gervasio**

## ST JOSEPH'S YEAR 5 AT MATHEMATICS CHALLENGE CERTIFICATE

On 14<sup>th</sup> February we were pleased to welcome eight year 5 students from St Joseph's primary school who came along with one of their teachers and parents to receive their medals and certificates for the Primary Maths Challenge. The children completed this in November 2010 and were congratulated on their achievement by Mrs Freear. The Primary Maths Challenge is a national competition taken by many other children in the UK and the children did well to receive certificates and medals. The children and their parents enjoyed their visit to the school and are looking forward to continuing their extra Maths studies with Mr Addo on Wednesday afternoons.

### **Ms D Thompson, Curriculum Leader Mathematics**



## SPRING MUSIC CONCERT

Each year I attend the Spring Concert with a rising sense of anticipation as I often hear snippets of preparation floating from the music room in advance of the evening. This year was no exception. It was great to see so many of our students performing—some still beginning to learn their craft others displaying well honed skills, including our year 13 students. What a wonderful display of talents for our visiting year 6 students, our parents, staff and students. The choir opened in good voice with 'What the Lord has done for me'. I enjoyed watching parents swinging to the beat of 'Mission Impossible' and 'She's not there', audience participation in 'Can't take my eyes of you' and student engagement in the more contemporary 'Rolling in the Deep' by Adele. The programme offered even more variety this year involving over 100 students. It was wonderful to see the confidence with which the students performed, including a range of soloists performing with a variety of instruments including voice, piano, guitar, drum, violin, clarinet, flute and recorder. Most especially I enjoyed the Senior Ensemble performing 'Feeling good' a personal favourite and one which has had me humming (to the annoyance of my family) since. A delightful evening as ever. See and hear for yourselves on our home page link to videos of the evening! **Ms Heffernan, Deputy Headteacher**

*The spring music concert was a fantastic achievement. It was a brilliant opportunity for us as students to convey our talents. It was really enjoyable and it let us show all of our hard work through out the year. Everyone had a*

*great time and I really enjoyed myself.*

**Megan, 10 Gianna**

*It was a great day. Thank you, Harlesden and goodnight.*

**Gina, 10 Gianna**

*The whole of the leading up to the concert was an amazing experience. I enjoyed the whole night thoroughly and I thank Miss Greenrod for all the effort she put into the whole thing.*

**Jerrylyn, 10 Gianna**

*The Spring Concert was a very enjoyable event. I was able to perform three times and each time it was such a great experience especially to be able to play alongside friends. Huge thanks go to Miss Greenrod for organising the event and helping us perform to the best of our ability. I hope I am able to perform again.*

**Wambui, 10 Gianna**

*The spring music concert was an amazing experience. It was lovely to see what the whole of the music department achieved during the last term. The concert showed how different performers had grown since the last concert and was a great credit to the school. I feel that the concert inspired other young musicians to put more effort into their instruments and could have encouraged others who have never considered playing an instrument to take one up. The audience clearly enjoyed the concert and were delighted at what they saw. The concert took a lot of hard work from Miss Greenrod and Mr Da Silva and their hard work paid off. It was a breathtaking event.*

**Tsimang, 10 Edith**

## MOCK TRIAL COMPETITION – BRENT HEAT

Students from year 8 and 9 participated in a competition at Brent magistrates which involved a team of students taking on the roles of magistrates, lawyers, witnesses and court staff to prepare a specially written case. Schools in Brent competed against each other in a live format at a real magistrates' court. Four of our students, Kamila, Rhianna, Kate, and Sarah (9 Fourviere) won a spot prize for best in role in Brent. It was an enjoyable



day for all the students and they are all very keen to enter the competition next year. I would like to thank several people for preparing the pupils: Mr Doel, Miss S Daly, Mr M Aksanoglu and Ms M Patel, Trainee Solicitors. **Miss A Patel, Teacher of Science with responsibility for Gifted and Talented pupils**

*It was fun. Thank you, Ms Patel, for giving me a chance to experience what actually happens inside a court room. Even though we didn't win it was a great experience and I would love to pursue a career in law because of this.*

**Monique, 8 Fatima**

*It was an opportunity to act in court and do the competition. I enjoyed my role—being a witness—and it was fun meeting people from different schools as well.*

**Sandali, 8 Fatima**



## FAIRTRADE

*I am in charge of the steering group (which includes a group of year 10 students) for Fairtrade which meets every Monday at break time. It has been a fun experience so far as we have managed to publicise Fairtrade across the school through a Fairtrade cake sale. We will be opening a store soon where various school utilities will be sold including sweets, bracelets and chocolates, so I am hoping to see you all at the store as it will really be helping the cause. **Alexa, 12 Claudine***



## BOUYGUES WORKSHOP

We were very lucky to have an employee from Bouygues UK, Miss Jackson, visit the Year 11 Asset Advanced French class to run a workshop. Through a variety of activities the girls learnt about Bouygues and saw real-life examples of how foreign languages are useful in the world of work, in particular French.

### **Miss A McKee, MFL Teacher**

*The workshop with Miss Jackson was really good. It helped us put our French to the test in real-life situations and we learnt many things about business and how languages are helpful.*

### **Katarzyna, 11 David**

*I found it really helpful when Miss Jackson visited from Bouygues. She showed us how relevant French can be to us and how it can help us in our later careers. She encouraged us to learn more about French companies by playing a series of quizzes and games with us.*

### **Louisa, 11 David**

*The meeting with Bouygues showed me the potential that learning foreign languages gives you. There are count-*



*less jobs that you can do when you know more than one language and you have a better chance of getting a job if you are multi-lingual.*

### **Darian, 11 David**

*When Miss Jackson came in to do the workshop I found it very interesting to learn that knowing a different language is a very valuable skill to have for your career, as you can communicate with people all over the world.*

### **Zoe, 11 David**

## TRANSLATION AND INTERPRETING WORKSHOP

On Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March our year 8 and 9 Polish speaking students were invited to take part in a workshop organised by Language Connect. The session included a presentation which outlined various types of language services, an area the company specialises in, as well as an opportunity for the girls to act out a short dialogue set either in a doctor's surgery or in a court of justice – these were modelled for them first by professional interpreters. The best role plays were awarded certificates.

### **Dr L. Bonelli, Assistant Headteacher**

*The translation workshop was great! I really enjoyed the role plays and it was really funny. I learnt a lot about being an interpreter.*

### **Justyna, 8 Montserrat**

*My day at the Language Connect Junior Interpreter workshop was very exciting. I learnt what it is like to be an interpreter and what kind of people and places you can*

*work in. We had some role plays in teams and each team had to prepare a short sketch in front of other groups, carrying our medical or legal interpretation. It was fantastic and interesting as when someone said something in English, the interpreter translated it into Polish, and then the other way round. There were two teams that won and were awarded certificates for completing the interpreter's role play. It was very educational and I learnt a lot from it.*

### **Patrycja, 9 Willesden**

*I think that the interpreting and translating workshop was a great opportunity for us to find out about something that we can think about doing in our future. I answered a lot of the questions at first but then we got into groups and did a bit of our own interpreting. It was great fun especially the role plays.*

### **Alicja, 8 Fatima**

## ROME TRIP



*We went to the Coliseum and there were lots of people. It was lovely. We saw lots of beautiful paintings by famous artists.*

### **Reem, 7 Mary**

*It was a very enjoyable experience; I had an amazing time visiting all the famous monuments such as the Spanish Steps, Trevi Fountain and the Coliseum.*

### **Morgana, 11 Fisher**

*I really enjoyed the trip to Rome as it was amazing finding out the interesting facts about the history of Rome. What I enjoyed most was visiting the Coliseum as I was not expecting it to be so massive and sad at the same time as so many people have died there.*

### **Deborah, 11 Fisher**

*The Rome trip was a great experience (especially as it was my first time there!) We went to many different places like the Coliseum, the Vatican, St. Peter's Square, the Spanish Steps (home to Gucci and Prada) and my favourite – the Trevi Fountain. After throwing a coin in, I hope that I will get to come back!!*

### **Olivia, 8 Fatima**

On 18<sup>th</sup> February, Mr Moore, Ms Bowman and I accompanied 22 girls from Year 7-12 on a memorable trip to Rome. During our four day visit we visited some of the most famous sights in Rome and indeed the world, such as the Vatican museums, the Sistine Chapel, the Coliseum and the Trevi Fountain. The trip provided an excellent opportunity for the girls to explore the ancient city, practise their Italian and experience a different culture.

### **Miss A McKee, MFL Teacher**