

# Heartbeat



Monday, 29 November

Issue 11

## London calling for Year 8

At 7am on Friday, 60 Year 8 pupils set out to sample the delights of the Capital, writes Mrs Garner.

First, we visited Hampton Court Palace for a whistle-stop tour of the Tudor and Stuart state rooms and kitchens with our fantastically entertaining Blue Badge Guide, Nigel Hake.

We then drove to our hotel, the Premier Inn, Putney, and had the added bonus of seeing Aiden Grimshaw outside. We later discovered he was staying there too.

Following an hour to relax and change, we went to Planet Hollywood for a slap-up meal before taking our seats at the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane, for the performance of Oliver.

Everybody agreed the show was amazing and exceeded expectations. Getting to sleep proved to be a bit of a challenge for some after all the excitement!

We were up at 7am and heading back into central London by 8.30am. Nigel then took us on a tour to see the outside of Westminster Abbey, Parliament, St Paul's, Trafalgar Square and, of course, Buckingham Palace.

We then visited the Tower of London to

soak up the rich history of torture and executions as well as seeing a film showing the Queen's Coronation before entering an enormous safe to see the Crown Jewels.

A look inside the Tower and, of course, the obligatory visit to the overpriced gift shop was the icing on the cake.

The cherry on the cake was our visit to Covent Garden, where the Christmas decorations were breathtaking and we indulged in a some serious retail therapy.

A slight delay due to London traffic saw us return safely to school by 8.45pm full of stories to tell our waiting relatives.

The pupils were once again amazing and Nigel complimented them on their high standard of behaviour, which meant he was able to keep the whole group of 60 together during the tours.

Nigel was also very impressed with the many intelligent questions he was asked, which made his job this weekend a 'real pleasure'.

I would certainly like to echo those sentiments. I set the group a challenge which was to be as much of a credit to the school as the group who went to Ypres – and they achieved this brilliantly.



They were an extremely well mannered group so I am sure they will want to join me in thanking Mrs Fagan, Mrs Court, Mrs O'Shaughnessy, Mrs Steele, Mr Griffiths and Mr Gardiner for giving up their time to give them such a fantastic opportunity.



### Revised lunch

Starting on Wednesday, staff and pupils are reminded that the new lunchtime arrangements will come into operation.

### The week in brief

Tomorrow, the SVP group meet at 3.30pm in Nazareth House and they continue their Feed the Homeless initiative on Wednesday, also at 3.30pm. On Thursday, the SVP Silver Surfers meet at 3.30pm and, finally, also on Thursday, is the Year 13 Consultation Evening.

# Young scientist Luke's the part at University

Sixth form pupil Luke Pinnington has been praised for work he carried out over the summer at Liverpool University.

The 13H pupil was one of 127 young scientists chosen to carry out a summer research project. Luke received a bursary from the Nuffield Foundation and carried out an analysis of data from the Large Hadron Collider in Geneva Switzerland.

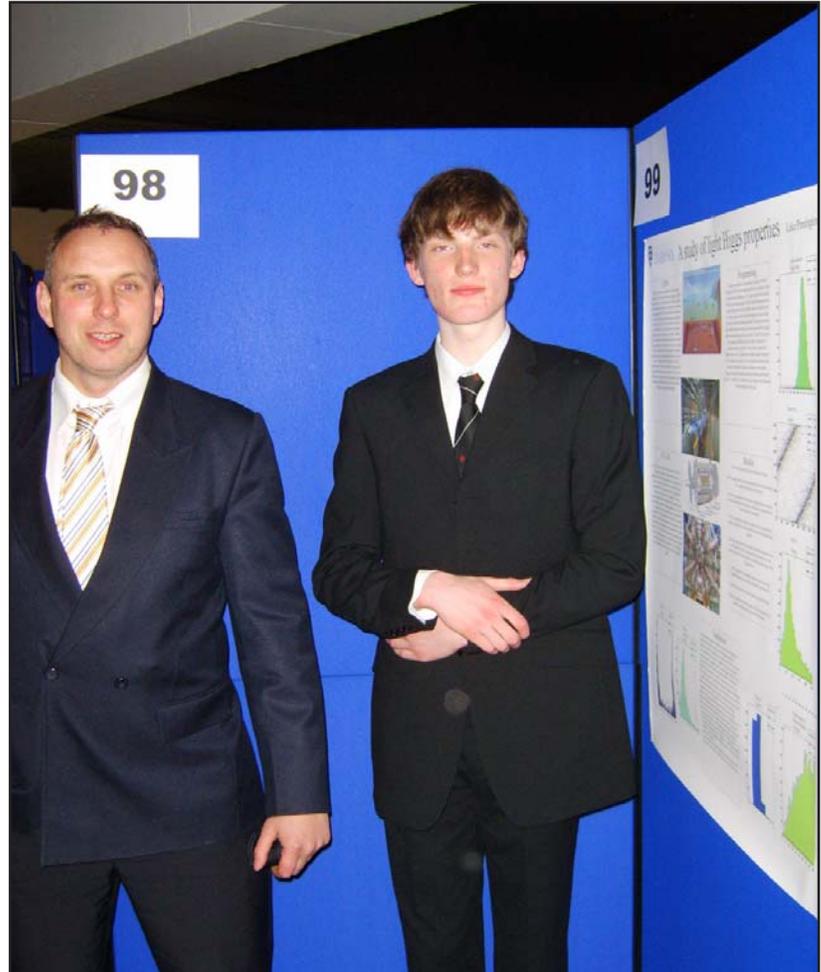
The budding scientist spent four weeks at Liverpool University's Physics department working on his analysis, before presenting his work, *A Study Of Light Higgs Properties*, at the Liverpool World Museum.

Afterwards, Luke was presented with a certificate of achievement from the vice chancellor of Liverpool John Moores University, Professor Michael Brown. Professor Brown explained that this was a 'very competitive' scheme and the standard of work was 'very high'.

Physics teacher, Mr Webster, supported Luke's application and attended the presentation of Luke's work. He said: "The quality of work was outstanding and I am so pleased to have been involved in this scheme promoting science to young people"

Such was the competition to be involved in the project, four pupils applied for every place on the scheme. Other students presented research from work done at Chester Zoo, the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB), NHS and Unilever.

Any Year 12 students interested in the Nuffield Bursary Scheme are invited to talk to Mr Webster or Mrs Allday, who are running the scheme this year.



## Straight in at Number 1

Congratulations to the Sacred Heart Intermediate Girls as they qualified for the North West Cross Country Championship earlier this month at Blackburn.

The girls made light of the cold and wet weather as they triumphed over one of the most difficult courses they have encountered. The victory sees them qualify for the National Finals on December 4, in Northumberland. Pictured, from left, are; Ellie Roberts (9S), Caroline Smith (9T), Erin Donagh (9O), Alice Cribb (9S), Georgina Hannaway (9C), Alicia Burke (10S) and Lydia McGill (10D). Elizabeth McKay (9S) also represented the College.