

Heartbeat



Monday, 17 January

Issue 15

GCSE results puts the College top of the league

Sacred Heart is top of the league following the publication of the GCSE results.

The GCSE measure of 5+ A* - C including English and Mathematics shows the College to be one of the top three comprehensives in Sefton and at the top of the league within the area, with 73% of students achieving this measure, an increase of 8% on the previous year.

Our Sixth Form continues to provide outstanding outcomes for our students, being the top comprehensive Sixth Form in Sefton having the highest average point score per student at 814.3.

Mr Walker congratulated staff and pupils on their efforts. He said: "We have celebrated these results at our GCSE and A-Level Presentation evenings, which always give us the opportunity to praise the hard work and dedication of all our students and staff.

"With the continued support of parents and our many partners we look forward to going from strength to strength in the years to come."

Our picture shows Sophie Mahar with an award for her excellent performance in Design & Technology.

* For further details about the Sixth Form Presentation Evening, turn to p2.



Council cash boost

Members of the Middle School Council raised £300 for charity last month. Young councillors from Year 9 sold biscuits and cakes to raise money for Cancer Relief, Year 10 for Alder Hey and Year 11 for Water Aid. Miss Clarke and Mrs Wallis were delighted with the pupils' efforts. They said: "The pupils all worked really hard and should be congratulated. A big well done to all involved."

Our photo shows the pupils from Year 9 involved with the charity work.



College honours pupils

Staff, pupils and parents gathered on Friday, 7 January, for the Sixth Form Presentation Evening.

The evening was a celebration of the results gained by last year's pupils, covering A-Level, Applied A-Level and BTec examinations.

Pupils who received exceptional grades in their examinations were also honoured. Among those who helped organise the event was Deputy Head Teacher, Mr Harrison. He said: "This year we have the greatest number of students with A* and A grades, with some students gaining the highest grades in all of their subjects.

"We also recognise in the Special Award section, the highest achievers in each subject area and the contribution students have made to the college and local community. "This year one of our Special Awards was to recognise 100% attendance from Year 7 to Year 13."

Guest Speaker this year was the novelist

and playwright, Frank Cottrell Boyce, who is best remembered for his best-selling children's book, *Millions*, and his role in the Papal visit.

Mr Harrison added: "Frank inspired us with his desire to embrace life to the full, conveying his message in a witty speech.

"It is always special to have our former-Sixth Formers return to the College and update us on the ways they are meeting the new challenges in their lives. We wish them all every success for the future, knowing that they will continue to have a part of them that is Sacred Heart."

Among those honoured on the night were; Laura Hewlett (pictured) *Citizenship Award*, Faye Hughes, *Catherine Gilmore Memorial Prize*, Rebecca Choong, *Ann Newell Award*, Clara Wilson, *Felicity Brown Award*, Kieran Lawler, *Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Mary Award* and Sarah Haggart and Tom Doyle, *Specialist College Prize*.



The week in brief

GCE Modular Examinations and the Year 13 ICT Controlled assessments continue throughout the week.

At 5.30pm this evening, there is Dry Ski Run practice in Runcorn.

The SVP group meet at 3.30pm in Nazareth House tomorrow and on Wednesday, the Feed the Homeless initiative continues at 3.30pm. Also on Wednesday, the Y10 Diphtheria, Polio and Tetanus jabs take place in the morning. Finally, on Thursday, the Silver Surfers meet at 3.30pm.



Young bookworms get to read all about it

Bookworms in Year 7 recently received a free book of their choice. The keen readers could choose from a wide selection of quality children's writing that was published last year. Titles ranged from the popular gothic title, *Crowfield Curse*, to the more romantic, *Love Aubrey* and the non-fiction collection of trivia, *How to avoid a wombat's bum!*

English teacher Mrs Weekes was pleased with how the scheme went.

She said: "The books were very well received and having now read their first choices, pupils are busily swapping amongst their friends." Charlotte Cain (7H), is delighted with her free book, which she described as 'spooky and mysterious' and, having caught the reading bug says she will definitely be reading more titles by the same author.

The books are issued by the Book-Trust, a charitable organisation which

supports reading right through infancy.

Head of English, Mrs Fraser, is delighted with the scheme, saying it 'supported the love of literature', which is what the department aims to foster.

* Reading Club takes place in L18 during Monday lunchtime (12.00 - 12.25) and is the ideal place for pupils to swap their 'Booked Up' books and develop their personal reading