

Heartbeat

Monday, April 16

Issue 26



Students chew over Third World country problems



Eat up: From left, Theo Knifton (8T), Science's Mr Long, Megan Howard (8S) and James Tyrell from CAFOD, take part in a *I'm A Celebrity* style 'bush tucker' challenge. The event was to raise awareness of the problems faced in Third World countries

Students from Years 7-9 had a mealtime with a difference recently, as they munched their way through beans and sprouts, sweetcorn and custard and peas and jelly!

Thankfully, the College canteen has not started serving up bizarre meal combinations, as this was the work of CAFOD and their speaker for the day, James Tyrell. His energetic and enthusiastic talk began with some 'bush tucker' trials. Pupils and volunteer teachers took part in the *I'm A Celebrity* style challenges by eating the aforementioned meal combinations.

RE's Mr Bennett, who helped organise the event, said: "Although this was fun, watching the food going in - and coming out in the case of Theo Knifton - forced

us to think about the food we take for granted in a different way."

James then moved on to an interactive multiple choice quiz with a difference. Each person in the audience had to estimate how many people live without the basic needs, such as food, clean water and education, or how many die young.

Mr Bennett added: "Although it was hard to keep track of the many millions of people who live desperately poor and insecure lives, James made the problem real by talking about a friend he had made in Africa who could not walk and who had to live by begging and dragging himself round the dusty streets until CAFOD transformed his life by buying him a wheelchair and helped with his education.

"It was this link, with an actual person, which inspired us all to commit to helping. The first action was to sign a petition for our Government to persuade other rich countries to provide clean water for the poorest people. The second action was to commit to giving something up during Lent to share our extras with those who do not have enough."

Before he left, James said how grateful he was for the 'warm and enthusiastic' welcome he had received. He will be returning after Easter to be presented with a cheque which will be the total raised from the staff who completed the CAFOD Fun Run on Boxing Day; the 'rich man poor man' lunch on Ash Wednesday and all the money collected during Lent.

Year 8 English club spells success for keen learners



The Extra English Club has proven to be a very popular after school activity, *writes Assistant Head of Year 8, Mrs Bradbury*. Held on a Thursday, there are about 20 pupils who are very keen and enthusiastic about improving their English.

As part of our Inclusion programme, pupils from both Year 7 and Year 8 have been invited to join the club.

It involves topics such as reading, poetry, drama, role play and writing. The club aims to help remove barriers for learning and participation and give the students an opportunity to achieve their personal potential in a warm and friendly atmosphere. The pupils recently finished a Christmas story called *The Russian Shoemaker*, which they narrated and performed to staff and pupils in the Hall. They are now producing some interesting stories involving strong winds and hurricanes.

Their imagination is absolutely amazing, as is their commitment to work hard to achieve.

News in brief

There are Eucharistic Services at 8.20am tomorrow and Thursday.
There is an ICT trip meeting for parents at 7pm tomorrow and Silver Surfers meet at 3.40pm on Thursday.

Swimmer Sam takes it to the max



Sam Burns (7C, right), is proving he is hot stuff in the pool.

The dedicated swimmer, along with form mate Maxim Ainsworth (left), have competed in several events already and look to build on the success they have had to date. Sam said: "Every Monday, Thursday and Sunday, Maxim and I train for more than an hour at Crosby Swimming Club. Over the past few years, I have participated in four galas, representing English Martyrs Junior School in one and Crosby Swimming Club in the other three. In the most recent gala, Maxim and I swam in the butterfly race and our team finished second. I really like swimming because it keeps you fit and builds your muscles."