

# Heartbeat



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Issue 20



## It's good to talk: College hosts top speaking gala

Students are not usually encouraged to talk in class but an exception was made on January 23, as the College hosted the Liverpool Law Society Speaking Competition. Jamie Richardson (10A) and Jessica Smith (10A, both pictured, inset) went up against students from Merchant Taylors' Girls, Savio and Archbishop Beck in the annual competition.

All the students were asked to speak for ten minutes on the weighty topic of whether the voting age should be lowered to 16. Following weeks of intensive research, including a survey of 50 of their peers, Jamie and Jessica, with the help of

English teacher Mrs Weekes, put together a speech proposing their given motion that 16 is too young to vote in a Parliamentary election.

Taking in such wide ranging issues as taxation and the problem posed by the Scottish referendum, the pair set about learning their notes in order to be able to speak and present their case as fluidly as possible.

Jamie and Jessica delivered their speeches in front of a selected judging panel of lawyers, which included Sarah Mansfield and James Mannoush, whilst the President of the Liverpool Law Society, Alistair Fletcher, was there to oversee proceedings.

Jamie and Jessica both delivered their talks concisely and clearly but were narrowly pipped to first prize by their counterparts from Savio.

Despite losing out, Mrs Weekes was proud of Jamie and Jessica's efforts and was quick to praise them both.

Mrs Weekes said: "Jamie and Jessica should be exceptionally proud of their efforts and their achievement in speaking so clearly and concisely.

"It can be a daunting task to speak publicly and not least in front of a panel of judges, but they did really well and were a credit to the College and their parents."

# Tango and cash: Dance events give charities boost

Our swinging students have been putting their dancing skills to the test to raise money for charity.

Back in December, our youngsters donned their dancing shoes and raised a whopping £700 for Jospice, with a further £800 added through various other events (see issue 18 for details).

On Thursday (January 31) our young dancers were at it again with a charity Danceathon. All proceeds from that event have been earmarked for this term's charity, Nugent Care. Details of that event to follow. But it seems our students just can't get enough, as plans are already in place for this year's December Dance.

Among those who helps organise the events is Head of Year 8 Mrs Campbell. She said: "The dance events are always great fun. The students love them and, of course, it is great that we raise so much money for charity."

Our pictures show students at the charity disco held in December.



## News in brief

There is another practice session on the dry ski slope in Runcorn at 5.30pm. The Y12 IT trip to Paris sets off today, returning Thursday. Also on Thursday, there is a meeting at 8.50am for those going on the Prague trip and Silver Surfers meet at 3.40pm in G8.

## Beatles concert aims to please please you

Following the success of a number of concerts in December, our musical students are busy rehearsing, *Here, There and Everywhere*, as they prepare for another extravaganza next month.

Students in the Choir, Orchestra and even the Samba Band have all been

tuning up *Eight Days A Week*, as they look to give us their take on Liverpool's most famous sons, The Beatles. Tickets will go on sale shortly for what promises to be a cracking night's entertainment featuring some of the Fab Four's famous, and even not so famous, songs.

