

Heartbeat



Monday, February 25

Issue 22

Macmillan sew pleased to bag a 'precious' donation



Textile students in Year 10 have received glowing praise from Macmillan Cancer Care after they made and donated 51 syringe driver bags.

A syringe driver is a small portable pump that can be used to give cancer patients a continuous dose of medicine.

Our students took part in a project to make bags for the syringe drivers. These bags were then given to the Macmillan Nurses who distributed them amongst the palliative care patients at the Royal Liverpool Hospital.

The gesture has been warmly welcomed and the students praised for both their

handiwork and the gesture.

Rita Doyle, a Palliative Care Nurse Specialist and End Of Life Project Manager at Macmillan, was delighted with the donation. She said: "It is hard to find the right words to properly explain the difference these bags will make.

"The syringe pumps are heavy and awkward for patients to carry around, especially when they are not feeling well.

"Before your pupils made the bags, we had nothing to help the patients carry them around and, frequently, they were dropped on the floor and got damaged.

"These syringe drivers are expensive bits

of equipment and it is difficult to manage when we have pumps out of action because they have been dropped.

"Not only will these bags help the patients, but they will reduce the number of pumps getting damaged and, therefore, help our team to make sure we are able to continue our work to make our patients comfortable.

"It is a wonderful example of the value of the voluntary and charitable work having a direct benefit to local people.

"Your students' work is very precious to us and we are extremely grateful."

Continued on p2

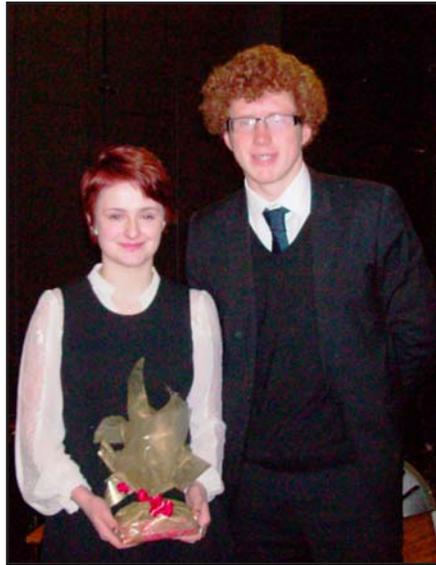
Art of conversation 'alive and well' say top talkers

Is the art of conversation dead?

Not according to Year 12 students Amy Hughes (12E) and David McGivern (12H), who recently spoke for two minutes in front of the toughest audience they could find... their peers.

Mrs Weekes, from the English department, explains more: "Speaking for two minutes each, in front of a panel of judges and 12C, Amy and David both chose to speak about whether technology is killing the art of conversation and we are proud to report it isn't. "With enthusiastic and elaborate arguments, Amy and David boldly put across a number of points, including the idea that social networking sites such as Twitter and Facebook can actually enhance the quality of debate and that the art of conversation is evolving rather than declining."

The event, organised by Mrs Weekes and MFL's Mrs Fagan, was a precursor to the



Catenian Society's competition at Chester Catholic High School next month, where Amy will represent Sacred Heart.

continued from p1

Back in the classroom, Head of Textiles, Miss Gamble, is pleased with the confidence the project has instilled in her students. Miss Gamble said: "As a result of the project, the students' knowledge, confidence and practical skills in using a sewing machine has been enhanced ready for their GCSE course work.

"The project also reinforced topics covered in Citizenship, such as drug education, in Assembly with a talk from Jospice and, with the use of recycled fabrics, environmental issues were also considered.

"Most of all, the enthusiastic Textile students saw the project as a great way of giving back to their community."

The 51 bags, which all have an individual label identifying which students made them, also counted towards 'The Sew Many Challenge' set up by Julie Taylor at 'Making for Charity', in the hope that individuals or groups around the country can make 1,000 syringe driver or personal effect bags this year.

News in brief

There are Eucharistic Services at 8.20am on Upper Site tomorrow and on Thursday at Lower Site, also at 8.20am. There is Paired Numeracy at 8.30am tomorrow and an A2 Drama Night from 7pm. On Wednesday, there is an MFL Speaking Controlled Assessment and a Mock PE GCSE Moderation. Also on Wednesday, there are Orchestra rehearsals at 11.50am in the Prep Hall and Choir rehearsals at 3.40pm, also in the Prep Hall. Also on Wednesday, Y9 Homework Club meet at 3.30pm in G8. On Thursday, GCSE Maths Exams start, the Samba Band meet for rehearsals at 11.50am in the Prep Hall and Silver Surfers meet at 3.45pm in G8.

Dancing the term away



Students at Lower Site celebrated the end of half term by holding a disco. The young movers and shakers bopped till they dropped at Lower Site on the final Tuesday before February half-term. While the disco was a good opportunity for our more energetic students to let their hair down, it also helped a good cause by rais-



ing almost £500 for this term's charity, Nugent Care. A similar disco held in December raised more than £700 for Jospice.