

Heartbeat



Monday, January 5

Issue 15

Year 7 say 'bonjour' to Bon Voyage stage show



Year 7 had a French lesson with a difference recently as they were treated to a performance from a theatre company.

Using full theatrical props, the show, entitled *Bon Voyage*, was aimed at helping to motivate the learning process and inspire the use of French.

During the show, which featured mime, comedy, illusion, juggling, balancing, music and dance, pupils were able to use vocabulary related to food, the weather, numbers, time, colours, gender and parts of the body.

French teacher, Mrs O'Grady, explained more: "Bon Voyage, was directed towards interacting with the audience using their language skills and was an engaging experience of the French language."

Bon Voyage was certainly a hit with the students from 7C. Daniel Withell said: "The French play was funny and enjoyable. The actors were amazing at the magic and dangerous performance at the end. Considering they weren't French, you couldn't tell the difference when they

were performing. Overall, it was an amazing play."

Freya Jenkinson agreed, adding: "It was really great, I understood more than I thought and it was really funny. I thought it was fantastic and a great play to watch."

Roslyn Kirby also enjoyed the show: "I really enjoyed the French play as it was funny, entertaining and jam-packed with things to learn.

"It was a very different and fun way of learning and I enjoyed it immensely."

Mark Reader echoed those views, adding: "I really enjoyed the French play because it was very entertaining and funny but at the same time, educational. It was very good and I enjoyed it."

Joe Waterman also thought the show was fun, he said: "The French play was a fun and entertaining way to learn about the French language. It was a wonderful play to experience."

That sentiment was shared by Ali Calvillo Antrobus, who added: "I loved

the French play, it was really funny.

"When I came home with the letter, my mum said it would be fantastic and that I would have a lot of fun and I did. I didn't know how much French I knew."

The overriding feeling about the play was that the students enjoyed the performance and were glad *Le Théâtre Volant* visited. Mrs O'Grady summed up the feeling of the day by adding: "Tout le monde s'est bien amusé", which, for those not fluent in French, reads, "a good time was had by all".

Welcome back to College

This week's News in Brief sees **Bully Buster** sessions for Years 9, 10 & 11 taking place today, tomorrow and Wednesday. Year 13 Mock Examinations take place on Wednesday, there is a Eucharistic Service at Upper Site on Thursday and a Mass at Lower Site's St Bede's Chapel on Friday.

Exchange trip sees pupils boost French connection



A number of our students played host to 18 French 6th Formers recently, *writes Head of MFL, John Sayer*

Our guests, from the Sixth Form College, Lycée Bellevue in Saintes, Western France, were here as part of the annual French Exchange initiative.

The students stayed with some of our Year 11, 12 and 13 students, who had the opportunity to boost their studies in French language and culture.

This is a fantastic opportunity for everyone involved to experience a new culture and way of life, as well as developing their language skills.

The French students come to improve their English and, for our students, it is a chance to practise their French with native speakers.

However, the new friendships forged over the week are perhaps what many of our students will remember the most.

The French group arrived with their accompanying teachers and they were enthusiastically welcomed by their hosts for the week.

A leisurely weekend was spent with the host families, who showed their French

partners the many sights and attractions of the city.

Monday was spent out and about in Liverpool city centre. We discovered something of Liverpool's past in the Museum of Liverpool and watched shows on The Beatles and the history of football in our city. This was followed by a refreshing trip on the Mersey Ferry. After a lunch in Liverpool One, we lived the high life at the top of the Radio City Tower, from where we took in the breathtaking views of the city and beyond.

During their stay, the French students spent two-and-a-half days in College, going to lessons with their English partners.

They had the opportunity to see at first hand what life is like inside a British school. They saw lessons ranging from the familiar Maths, English and French, to the not so familiar Art and Textiles.

After a very busy but enjoyable week, the time came all too soon for the French party to leave. On their final Friday, we waved them off back to the airport, sorry to see our new friends go, but looking forward to our visit to France next month to see them all again.

Views in brief

It was strange having a French person living in my house, but we got on extremely well and I have made a life-long friend. The experience is something I will remember forever and I can't wait until I go to France.

Rhys Wilson, 11R

My favourite part of the exchange was showing my partner around Liverpool and improving my French.

Jane Rowley, 12T

I really enjoyed the French Exchange and felt it was really beneficial. It has improved my language skills and allowed me to make new friends.

Jonathan Harrison, 12T

I liked meeting people from another culture and I have grown more confident in my spoken French.

Emilly Carroll, 12T

My French language skills have improved a lot. It was a good experience as I have made a new friend and had a great time.

Laura Kelly, 12R