

# Heartbeat



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Issue 15

## Future engineers could stem from Robert's robot

Four of our Year 9 students went all Robot Wars recently as they took part in a Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) competition.

Matthew Parry, Ben Edmunds, Jennifer Forshaw and Daniel Cassidy (all 9C) made up the Sacred Heart team that would take on other schools from across the region in the Mersey STEM Robot Challenge, which was held in South Sefton.

The day started with the students working in pairs, building the initial parts of a robot, before working together to complete the assembly.

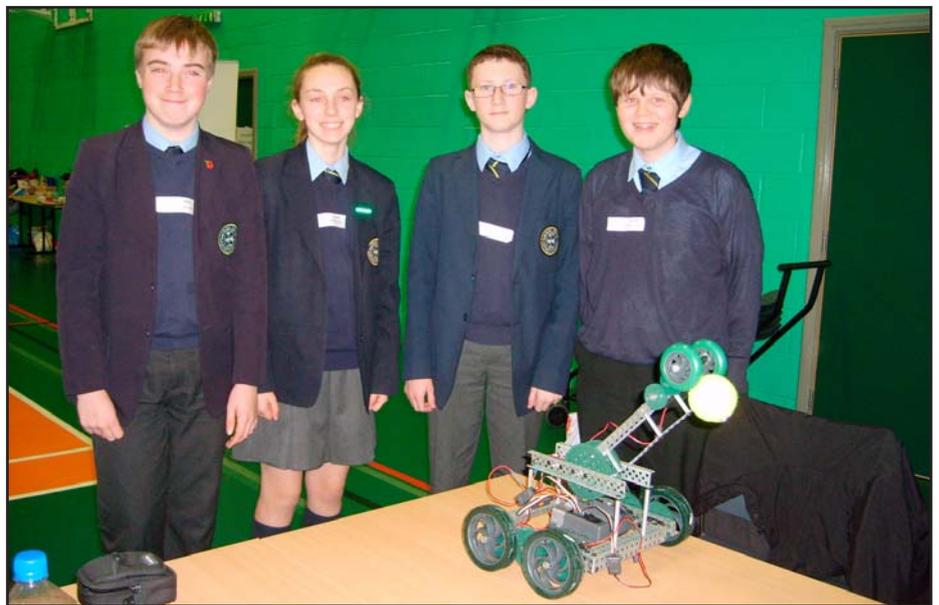
Accompanying the students was Science's Mrs Harper, who said: "They were all fantastic at following the complex instructions. Jennifer is a natural engineer and her construction skills were outstanding."

### Competed

The robot, which our team named Robert, competed with the other schools' robots in the afternoon. Ben was in charge of the controls and he won two of the four heats, which involved collecting tennis balls and placing them in a goal.

Mrs Harper added: "It was very competitive and exciting to watch. There were a lot of crashes, with some of the other schools' robots falling to pieces and toppling over. We came third in the heats, beating the eventual winners in the process.

"Overall, it was a wonderful day. The students were a pleasure to spend time with and they loved the whole experience, which gave them the chance to try new construction, engineering and electronics techniques. "The day has widened the students' experience of STEM projects and introduced them to a world of possibilities in terms of future careers.



# Students ‘make a noise’ about beating bullying

Students from Years 7-10 embraced the message of Anti-Bullying week recently, writes *Miss Murphy*.

The theme of this year’s event was, ‘Make A Noise About Bullying’, and one of the many activities planned was a two day visit from anti-bullying organisation, Bully Busters.

Students were given a talk about gang culture as a form of bullying and how it can lead to individuals feeling excluded and rejected, as well as the obvious issues of intimidation and fear.

The presentation included a film describing the effects of gang culture, which the students said they found enjoyable and a valuable lesson.

The following day, our Year 7 and 8s were given a presentation which focussed on recognising bullying in its many different forms, including face-to-face and cyberbullying, which led to one Year 7 pupil saying: “A lady called Sherrell explained what bullying actually was.

## Power

“She told us bullying is the repetitive, intentional hurting of one person or group by another person or group, where the relationship involves an imbalance of power.

“The presentation explained more about different types of bullying to us and what we can do about it. At the end, she played a video of a song called *Hopeful*, by Bars and Melody. As soon as the song started, everyone in the Hall was happy and it was filled with laughter. We all enjoyed this presentation.”

The two day visit clearly provided a powerful message and ended on a high. The following PSE lesson was also dedicated to National Anti-Bullying Week, and amongst the activities, was an Action-work competition based on the theme of the week.

## News in brief

Happy New Year and welcome back. Sixth Form Preparation Examinations are taking place throughout the week.



## Holly waltzes past the competition



Congratulations to Holly Martin-Bell who has scooped a raft of medals for dancing.

Holly (8T), recently claimed two first place medals for her Modern/Tap routines and followed that up by claiming two second place gongs for her Ballet routines.

The talented 13-year-old started dancing at the age of two and has already appeared at the Liverpool Empire, aged just nine, in the English Youth Ballet’s production of *Copelia*, a role Holly beat 100 other young dancers to the part for.

The energetic youngster, who trains five times a week, already has big ambitions. She said: “I am looking forward to taking part in more competitions next month and dancing at the Sefton Shining Stars Awards Ceremony. When I leave school, I would like to become a dancer in the West End.”

