

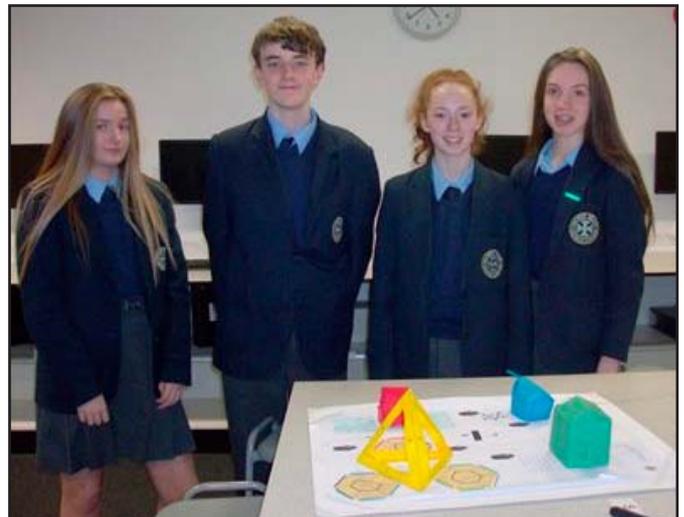
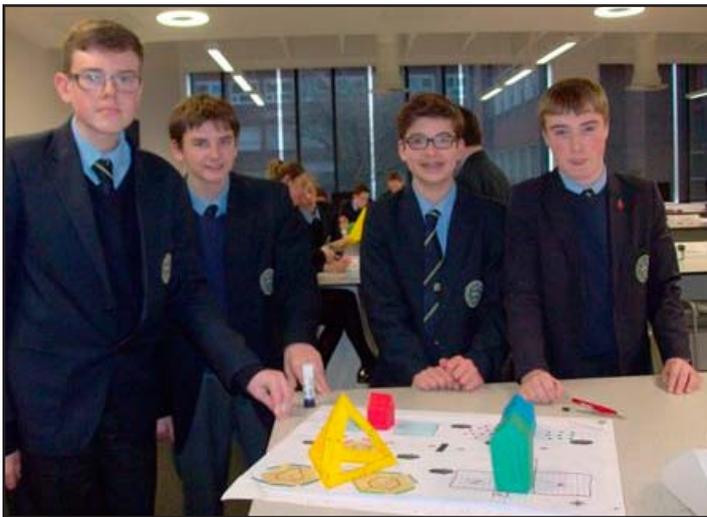
# Heartbeat



Monday, February 1

Issue 19

## Simulation is stimulation for super STEM students



Eight of our students swapped studies for sim city recently as they took part in a Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) event.

The day was split into three tasks: finding out what additives were used in certain confectionary, rebuilding a town using mathematical skills and investigating the problems faced if you lived on a volcanic island.

Accompanying the students was Science's Dr Hanrahan, who said: "In their first task, they analysed the confectionary, Skittles. Using spectrometers, they found out which E numbers are present in the sweets.

"As part of Disaster in Mathemagicland, they had to use their mathematical skills to rebuild a town. Although this was difficult, they enjoyed using their mathematical skills. "Finally, as part of Turtle Island, they had to investigate the hazards involved in inhabiting a volcanic island.

"The students really enjoyed the STEM day. They found it fun and informative and enjoyed all of the workshops."



### Trip blogs available

**Our annual jaunts to Prague and Austria are just a fortnight away and you can stay abreast of all the latest information with our trip blogs.**

Available on the College website (address below), the blogs will be updated throughout both trips, which depart during half term. You can also get updates via e-mail by subscribing. \*Photo from last year's Prague trip.

### News in brief

There are MFL speaking tests taking place in Conference Room 2 today, Wednesday and Friday. Year 11 Intervention Evening takes place from 6.30pm tonight in St Edward Hall. There is a meeting at 6pm in St Edward Hall tomorrow for the parents of those students going on the Paris Netball trip. On Wednesday, the final meeting regarding the Prague trip will be held at 8.50am in the Drama Studio. Year 12 Consultation Evening also takes place on Wednesday. There are theatre trips on Thursday to the Liverpool Playhouse and Bolton Octagon. Good luck to those students taking part in sporting activities from 1pm on Thursday and, finally, good luck, also, to those students taking part in the Poetry Speaking Competition at the Bluecoat Chambers from 10am on Saturday.

## The Hall was alive with the Sound of Music



Students in costumes with the hall packed and happy, these are a few of our favourite things. Yes, you've guessed it, the Sound of Music has come to Sacred Heart. The story of the Von Trapp family delighted the audiences who had filled St Edward Hall on three nights last week. Our photo is from Wednesday's special matinee performance that was laid on for our partner primary schools. There will be a more detailed write up about the performances later in the month.

# Students' messages of hope to 'prisoners of injustice'

Caring students have sent letters to 'prisoners of injustice' to offer them hope in their battles for freedom.

The students have worked closely with Head of RE, Mr Moorhead, and human rights organisation Amnesty International, to ensure the messages of hope have been received by those prisoners they are representing.

Among them is Albert Woodfox, who has spent 43 years in solitary confinement in a Louisiana prison for a crime he has always maintained he did not commit.

Mr Woodfox believes he was targeted because of his affiliation to a now defunct civil rights movement.

His conviction has been overturned three times, yet he remains in prison as the state appeals every decision in his favour.

In December, Luke Anderson (8D) wrote

to Mr Woodfox to offer him hope and the knowledge he has widespread support.

Luke wrote: "Dear Albert, hope is what I want this Christmas. Hope that you are free this Christmas and reunited with the people you love. Christmas is a time for hope; it is a candle on your advent wreath.

"I hope I am bringing light in this dark time for you. Never give up on your hope. Remember this message in this dark time, stay strong and remember me, because although I'm not with you, I'm thinking of you."

Sixth Form students (pictured) wrote to another victim, Waleed Abu al-Khair, who was severely punished and remains in prison for blogging about free speech.

Mr Moorhead has praised the students, saying: "The students' response to the Amnesty International Christmas campaign has been truly inspiring."

