

Medal winning gymnast Daniel takes to the floor

An Olympic medal winner dropped in last month after students tweeted him asking for his help.

Former student Daniel Purvis paid a visit after students, Eva Berni, Ben Morrin, Peter Richards and Callum Clarke, tweeted the gymnast asking if he would come in for an interview and give a talk as part of one of their school projects.

To their surprise, Daniel replied and said he would be only too happy to help.

Overseeing the visit was Mr Gardiner, who said: "Daniel had a very busy schedule, training ahead of the Commonwealth Games, so it was fantastic that he could come back to his old school and help out.

"He talked about various topics, including motivation, inspiration and life as a competitive gymnast.

"He also brought in his medals from his recent British Gymnastic championships (two bronzes and a silver) and we wished him well in the Commonwealth Games at Australia's Gold Coast."

Daniel has since added to his collection of medals, after last week claiming Bronze on the Floor at the Games.

His latest success confirms Daniel's position as one of the most successful men's artistic gymnasts, having won British, Commonwealth, European, World and Olympic medals. He is also a regular presence in British teams and played a major role in the historic bronze medal won by Team GB at the London 2012 Olympics.



News in brief

Year 10 Examinations take place throughout this week.

There are also GCSE Art and Year 12 Preparation Exams taking place today. Year 9 Consultation Evening takes place from 4.30pm on Thursday in the Lower Site Hall.

Daniel has designs on England rugby career



From one successful Daniel to another, as we congratulate Daniel McQueen (11A) who, back in February, was selected to attend the England v Wales Six Nations Rugby Match at Twickenham.

The trip came about after Daniel, along with Ben Clayton (12A) and Lawrence Galfarsoro (12H), designed the College's new rugby kit.

Daniel was then selected by PE teacher, Mr O'Malley, to attend the Six Nations match at Twickenham as a special guest of the RFU.

Dan explains: "I feel privileged to have been selected to represent Sacred Heart at such an event.

"We arrived in Twickenham at 11am for our information and a rehearsal.

"Myself and 60 other pupils from schools around the country were selected to receive the kits we had all designed for our respective schools.

"As part of the day, we had to walk out on to the pitch with our school flag at the start of the match.

"I was excited but also nervous to walk out

in front of a full capacity crowd of 82,000. "When we arrived, I received the registration pack and information for the day. We had guest speakers that we got to meet. The speaker I found most interesting was Ellis Genge.

"Ellis (pictured, inset) plays club rugby for Leicester Tigers and has represented England.

"His position is prop and, at 23, he is already an England international. He only started playing rugby when he was 14. When he spoke, he was very interesting and inspirational.

"The most interesting thing was how quickly he has advanced, from only starting playing in Year 9 at school, to within nine years being at the highest level in rugby. It shows that if you really apply yourself you can achieve great success.

"After we listened to the guest speakers and rehearsed walking out on to the pitch, we made our way over to the stadium.

"I couldn't believe how big it was and how many people were there.

"Waiting to walk out on to the pitch was

really exciting, as we could hear the noise from the crowd. When we walked out, we received a loud cheer and round of applause from both England and Wales fans. "I can only imagine how nervous the players would have been before such a big match. After the national anthems, we returned to our seats to watch the match.

"The game was superb. Although England made a better start, it was very competitive and Wales came back in the second half to make it a very hard fought win for England.

"The final score was 12-6, although there was a disputed 'No Try' for Wales that could have made the game even tighter, had the referee ruled in Wales' favour.

"After the match we travelled back to Liverpool. I was really tired after an action-packed day but it was well worth it.

"I am really happy to have been selected for the event and I thoroughly enjoyed it.

"Hopefully, next time I am on the pitch at Twickenham, I will be wearing an England rugby shirt and be part of the starting line up."