

## Snapper Billy's dog photo becomes an instant hit

Congratulations to Billy Davies after a photograph he took of his dog won global appeal after coming runner-up in a competition.

The Year 9 snapper took the quirky picture of his dog, Maverick, during a trip to the Baltic Market in Liverpool with his family. Billy then entered the photograph into the Photobox Instagram photography awards and his snap has since gone viral after it finished runner up in his category to the eventual winner, professional photographer, Darren Hall.

### Amazed

Proud mum, Christine, said: "Billy and I were invited to the awards ceremony in London in October. Billy then met the organisers, judges and other competitors, who were all amazed someone so young had taken the picture.

"He did really well to be selected in the final 200 from more than 180,000 entries. His picture was highly commended and only beaten in his category by the overall competition winner."

Since then, Billy has been inundated with requests to feature his photo, from national newspapers here and even from a website in Korea.

Billy said: "It has been a surprise, the amount of interest but I am delighted. It has definitely given me the bug to take up photography."



### News in brief

There is a BAE Systems Education Programme Roadshow taking place in St Edward Hall from 2.10pm tomorrow. Year 10 Consultation Evening is on Wednesday from 4.30pm. Term finishes on Thursday, returning on Monday, February 25. The trips to Prague and Austria leave on Friday. Enjoy

# Sixth Formers learn about dementia at Mind Centre

Students from Year 13 visited the Active Mind Day Centre recently as they learned about dementia, *writes RE's Mrs Laybourne.*

The reason behind the visit was to build links with the elderly in our community and was part of the work Year 13 do in conjunction with their community service initiatives and Health & Social course.

The Centre helps people with early on set dementia and cares for the elderly who live alone.

When we arrived, we were given a tour of the Centre and a talk by owner Michelle King, who explained the needs of the elderly.

## Activities

Students were amazed at the homely environment and the variety of activities and events on offer to the elderly in our community.

Michelle said: "The activities on offer are there to stimulate and promote the well being of the elderly."

Our Year 13 students listened intently to the talk and were delighted with the cinema and activity room and cannot wait to revisit.



Danielle McConville (13R) was among those who attended and she was very impressed, both by what the students learned on the day and the work that takes place at the Centre.

Danielle said: "I really enjoyed the visit and feel I learned a lot about the chal-

lenges people with dementia face and the excellent work the staff at the Mind Day Centre do. It was a very interesting day."

Students from Years 11 and 12 will also be visiting the Centre as part of the community service initiatives they regularly participate in.

## Watch out Austria... here we come

Our sporty students have been gearing up for next week's ski trip to Austria by getting in some much needed practice on the dry slopes at Runcorn, *writes former PE teacher Mr Burke.*

The novice skiers have spent an hour each Monday going through some basic skills and exercises that will stand them in good stead when they venture out on to the slopes of the Salzburger



Sportwelt during half-term.

The shrieks of excitement and howls of laughter have been filling the air, as our students try to master skiing for the first time on an artificial slope.

As is always the case, there have been many spectacular falls and crashes, as they realise skiing is not as easy as it looks.

The hour we spend going over the basics is absolutely crucial to ensure our students make the most of their week in Austria.

They have learned how to put their boots and skis on correctly, practised coming down a gentle slope and carried out some fun exercises that has built up their confidence. They may even learn how to stop - although this is not always the case. Above all, they will have great fun.

