

DATES FOR ACADEMIC YEAR 2009-2010



ST. ANSELM'S COLLEGE

AUTUMN TERM 2009

of **Number**
Days Open
*** Teachers/**
Students

Open	(Teachers)	Wednesday, 2 September Thursday, 3 September	*T	*S
	(Students)	Friday, 4 September		
	Years 7 and 12	Monday, 7 September		
	Years 8,9,10,11 & 13		(38)	(37)
Close		Friday 23 October		
HALF TERM		Monday 26 October to Friday 30 October		
Open		Monday 2 November		
Close		Friday 18 December	(35)	(35)
CHRISTMAS BREAK		Monday 21 December to Friday 1 January		

SPRING TERM 2010

Open		Monday 4 January		
Close		Friday 12 February	(30)	(30)
HALF TERM		Monday 15 February to Friday 19 February		
Open		Monday 22 February		
Close		Friday 26 March	(25)	(25)
EASTER BREAK		Monday 29 March to Friday 9 April		

SUMMER TERM 2010

Open		Monday 12 April		
Close		Friday 28 May	(34)	(34)
HALF TERM		Monday 31 May to Friday 4 June		
Open		Monday 7 June		
Close		Friday 16 July	(33)	(33)
		Total Number of school days	195	194

STAFF INSET DATES: Wednesday, 2nd September 2009
Thursday, 3rd September 2009
Friday, 12th February 2010
Friday, 30th April 2010

N.B.

May Day Bank Holiday – Monday, 3rd May 2010



The Headmaster's Newsletter

17 July 2009

Dear Parents,

We have now reached the end of a long year. It has been a very successful one! Some recent highlights, and information for the start of the next academic year, are included below.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of

Tracy Bramall, sister of Joe Bramall (caretaker) who died suddenly and tragically this week. Please remember Tracy, Joe and their family in your prayers.

Congratulations to

Joe Jones (200m), Andrew Desmond (400m) and Will Reynolds (800m) who were selected to represent Merseyside County Schools at the English Schools' Athletics Championships earlier this month in Sheffield.

Robocup

Our team recently represented the UK in the Robocup Junior World Championship in Graz, Austria. The students involved, drawn from **Years 8 & 9** were **Jake Dolan, Liam Cottier, Elliott Swift-Barrett, Nick Kelly, Joe Neal, Aris Robinson, Alex St. John & Michael Suffield**. Our team, supported by **Mr. Davis & Mr. Harris**, took their 2 robots to compete against 24 teams from around the world. They matched or defeated opponents using similar equipment. However, our Lego Technic robots could not match the winning teams' metal robots in terms of speed or power. We finished the tournament in a creditable 11th place and have many ideas for improvements next year! This enterprise was sponsored by our Technology College.

Books for Schools

Thank you to all who sent in tokens. We collected 1600 tokens from The Times and The Sunday Times which we exchanged for 27 free books for the College Library.

Wirral Paperback of the Year 2009

Thank you to the following boys who read for The Wirral Paperback of the Year 2009:

Patrick Hawthorne, Rory Hinchey, Cormac Hayes, Harry Robinson, James Power, Daniel Gronow, Isaac Callaghan, Patrick Lloyd (all 8G), Matthew Hay (9E), Jack Hulme, Tashi Jackson (9G), Adam Jowett (9M) and Jonathan Hay, Liam Callaghan (9P).

The winning book is 'Poison Study' by Maria V. Snyder.

Key Dates

July
17th End of Summer Term
September
4th New Yrs. 7 & 12 return to College
7th Yrs. 8,9,10,11,13 return to College. All students back!
A calendar for the academic year 2009/2010 is attached to this Newsletter.

The SHARP System

SHARP stands for School Help and Advice Reporting Page. This has been set up by Merseyside Police to allow students to report, in confidence, incidents to do with bullying, health, community issues, weapons and hate crimes. There is a link from the College website to the SHARP System and from the Anti-Bullying section of the MLE. The web address is www.thesharpsystem.com

Once on, students need to go to **sharp schools** then **north west** and then **Wirral** (they will need to scroll quite far down the page). They will then find St. Anselm's

College, where there are a series of links on issues relevant to young people today. They can also report issues concerning them from this page via email.

Free School Meals

If you, or your spouse, are in receipt of Income Support OR Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance OR Guaranteed Pension Credit OR Child Tax Credit, with a total annual taxable income of **LESS THAN £14,495 BUT NOT RECEIVING WORKING TAX CREDIT**, you may be eligible to apply for free school meals and a school uniform grant (for Year 7 only). You should contact the Local Authority if you think you meet the above criteria.

Forgotten lunches PE kits

Please remind your sons that if they have left their lunch, PE kits or any other property at home to please go to Reception to check if it has been handed in by a parent. Items (marked with the boy's name) will then be left in the 'Collections Tray' for collection by them. The staff in the Main Office are extremely busy and it can take several minutes checking the timetable and then delivering the items to the student concerned.

Absence line

A further reminder – if your son is absent please call the direct line for absentees – **651 3576** – and leave a message **before 9.00 am** on each day that he is off school.

Absence Calls

If a boy is not marked in the Register he is regarded as absent and the Receptionist, Mrs. Peers has been instructed to ring a parental contact number. All boys who are late must sign the late book to prevent this happening. These calls can cause distress to parents, but have to be made to ensure a boy's welfare. **If your son is late and has failed to sign the late book then he is to blame for any distress caused. Please**

emphasise to him that it is HIS responsibility to ensure that he signs the late book . This includes boys on the H5&H7 Buses, who must also sign in when the buses are late.

Hair Styles & Appearance

The College Policy is clear. Boys who have shaved heads will be sent home until their hair grows as will those with hair below the collar until it is cut. **No dyed or highlighted hair is allowed.** This rule applies equally to 6th Formers. I am the ultimate arbiter of what constitutes an acceptable haircut. **Anyone returning in September** with an inappropriate hairstyle will be sent home.

No earrings or piercings are allowed, including for 6th Formers.

IPods/CD Players

A reminder of the College Policy. Boys SHOULD NOT bring these increasingly expensive items to College as we cannot guarantee their security. If a boy in Y7-11 openly brandishes one it is liable to confiscation. Any boy bringing a mobile phone to College does so at his own risk. Confiscated items will only be returned on Fridays after school. To reclaim an item, a pupil must bring a letter from a parent, which Mrs. Howlett or myself will countersign. Confiscated items cannot be reclaimed on any day other than Friday. Electronic equipment, including personal possessions, now plays an important part in student learning. However, it can be misused! I remind all parents that we retain the right to confiscate such equipment if we suspect misuse, such as inappropriate material being brought into the College or circulated.

St. Anselm's College Mailing List

Keep up-to-date with life at St. Anselm's College by visiting www.st-anselms.com to join our mailing list. Look for the mailing list link on the left of the homepage; it couldn't be simpler – so the ICT Dept. inform me!!

Pupil Amendment Details

If there are any changes to the details we currently hold on file for your son (e.g. change of address, telephone numbers etc.), please ask him to collect the necessary form from Reception. This should be completed by you and returned to the school office as soon as possible.

College Buses

We have received news only this week that Huggins, who provide the H5 & H7 Bus services, are not renewing their licence after 16 years service. Do not panic! We are currently working with Mersey Travel to ensure that a new operator takes over these routes. Further details will be available on the College website in August.

FOSA NEWS

Thank you to those families who supported the recent Race Night on 10th July. Our next function is the ever-popular Wine Tasting in September. New volunteers and committee members are always welcome. Our next meeting is at 6.30pm on Tuesday 8th September at the College.

Specialist College Funding

Help Needed!

I am aware that this is not the ideal economic and financial climate in which to make this request. Following our recent successes we have been re-designated as a Specialist College and invited to assume a 3rd Specialism as a Leadership Partner School.

All specialist schools that successfully re-designate have the opportunity to access a £25k capital fund, if they can match this with £25k of sponsorship.

This would allow us to renew facilities and equipment, eg: in ICT, and to assume and sustain relationships with local business partners.

The 1st £10k must be secured in cash or kind (goods/services) from businesses and employers. The remainder can come from employer organisations or charitable donations. The sponsorship must be unconditionally pledged.

If anyone is able or willing to assist, or interested in more details, please contact myself or Mr.Rumsby.

Staffing News

At the end of term we bid farewell to the following staff:

Mr. Ben Cribb, Technology College Manager, who is leaving us for a post at Wirral Local Authority. **Mrs. Caroline McLeod (Art)**, **Mrs. Julia Wilson (SEN & English Faculty Assistant)**, **Mr. Anthony Whitehead** and **Mrs. Jean Robinson** who have both taught English on a part-time basis this year. Part-time teachers **Mr. Stephen Edwards (PE)**, **Mrs. Grace Coleman (Music)** and **Mr. Roy Owen (Psychology)** are also departing, all to new posts. **Mrs. Mary Roberts**, our Librarian, retires after 18 years dedicated service. We wish these colleagues future success and happiness and thank them for their tremendous contribution to College life.

Chaplaincy

We are seeking volunteers to support the work of our Chaplaincy Team. Anyone interested in helping is invited to contact **Mr. Jones**, Head of RE, or myself, at the College.

Edmund Rice Week was a great success. Our theme was that of **“Building a Christian community.”** We had an excellent programme of activities involving visiting speakers, reflections, games, competitions and exhibitions. Visitors included **Fr. William**, a Benedictine monk like our patron, St. Anselm, and coaches from the Liverpool FC Community Programme. **Mr. Mark Chesters** helpfully brought the Champions League trophy with him, providing some great photo opportunities and enabling Evertonians to discover what it looks like!!

The annual **Br. Kerrigan Walk**, to raise funds for the Edmund Rice Mission in Sierra Leone, was held on Friday, 3rd July. **Please encourage your son to return £10 in sponsorship, by post or at the start of next term.** Every penny raised will go to support our twin school, St. Francis, Makeni in Sierra Leone. I have visited it and seen large classes engaged in rote learning. We aim to provide laptops and projectors to improve the quality of teaching & learning there.

Athletics

Christian Brothers' Athletics Championships – 24th June:

There were excellent performances from Yrs. 8, 9 & 10 teams to win the team prizes in both the junior and inter age groups. There were excellent Yr. 8 performances from **C. Clayton, B.**

Hodrien and J. Jones and excellent Yr. 10 performances from **Andrew Hatton, Jordan Lomax and Daniel Ward.**

English Schools' Cup Final – 4 July:

The Junior Team finished an excellent 5th, scoring 486 points (only 26 points behind 3rd place). There were excellent performances by **Joe Jones (Captain), Harry Sutton and Kieran Jones.** All boys demonstrated an excellent team spirit and attitude and were a credit to the College.

The Intermediate Team produced some good performances to finish 10th. There were excellent performances by **Jack Williams, Andrew Desmond and Sean Sullivan.**

Sports Day was a great success on 1st July, with a very good turnout from parents. The events were conducted in a very sporting manner. Congratulations to the winning forms: **7E, 8M, 9G & 10M.**

Cricket Success!

Congratulations to our Wirral Cup winning teams! Year 7 defeated Wirral GS by 2 wickets following good bowling by **Ben Stobbart, Harry Southern & Liam Sundve.** Year 8 defeated the same opponents by 5 wickets following excellent bowling by **Jordan Scott & Alex Jones** and a match-winning innings by **Alex Strother.** Year 10 were unlucky to lose their final by 5 runs following good innings from **Daniel Rivett and Stephen Hird.**

Swine Flu!

The topic of the moment! We recently posted a letter from the local Authority giving the latest guidance to families. A further copy is attached. I hope and pray that you will avoid this unpleasant virus.

Letters will be sent out separately to all students in years 11-13.

Y13 can collect GCE results from 9.30-11am on Thursday 20th August. Y12 can collect their AS results from 11am on the same day.

Y11 GCSE results will be available from 9.30am on Thursday 27th August and Y10 GCSE results from 12 Noon the same day.

And Finally,

I hope that you and your families will enjoy a relaxing summer break. Your sons have made a tremendous contribution to the life of the College, as celebrated most recently at the Participation Awards last Monday, when the Hall was full of parents, mainly from years 7-9. It was a pleasure to recognise their achievements. I look forward to welcoming them back to the College in September.

Yours in Christ,

Headmaster