



The Headmaster's Newsletter

04 June 2007

Dear Parents,

We now enter the examination season! Please remember our students who are taking public examinations, and please stimulate younger boys who have important end of year exams.

Please remember in your prayers ...

Mr. Martin Grace & Mr. Daniel McDonough, who are on sick leave. Mr. McDonough is making a good recovery from his injuries.

Mrs. Anderson's mother who is seriously ill.

Mr. McGowan's father who is seriously ill.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of ...

Mr. Frank Ashworth, father of Mr. P. Ashworth.

Mr. Patrick Halligan, grandfather of Tom Cubbin (Y12), who died recently. Please remember Mr. Ashworth and Mr. Halligan, and their families, in your prayers.

Congratulations to...

Harry Lester (Y13) who recently gave a talk to Birkenhead Rotary on his experiences during the Interact exchange visit to the USA last summer. Birkenhead Rotary sponsored him. Harry spoke confidently and without notes. He was a credit to the College.

Daniel Tolley (Y10) who has won First Prize in the GCSE category of the Microbiology in Schools Advisory Committee's National Schools' competition on 'Salmonella.' He wins £50 for himself and £250 for the College. There were over 1,000 entries. A tremendous achievement!

Scott Wootton (10M) who has been chosen to join the Liverpool FAYouth

Cup winning team on a trip to the USA. Only twice before has a fifteen-year-old been chosen, they were Michael Owen and Steven Gerrard!! Well done, Scott.

The 6th Formers who took part in the recent Pilgrimage to Lourdes for all their fundraising efforts which resulted in them paying reduced fares, in addition to paying for a disabled Pilgrim to travel to Lourdes.

Special mention goes to **Tom McLean (Y12)** and **Mrs. Lennon (Faculty Assistant)** who worked tirelessly to raise a record amount of money.

Cross Country

Our victorious Cross Country squad were featured in a recent article in Athletics Weekly. See our website for a link, or visit athleticsweekly.com.

Athletics

Congratulations to **Adam Peers** in Year 13 upon his selection in the 3000m Steeplechase for the Great Britain Under-20 Team in the Loughborough International last weekend. Adam came a highly creditable 5th!

Once again our Athletes in Years 7-10 have won the Wirral Schools Relay Championships with the Year 7,8 & 10 teams winning the sprint events. Both junior & Intermediate teams have also qualified for the Merseyside round of the English Schools Cup.

Golf Success

Congratulations to our senior team who followed their triumph in the Wirral Schools Championships by winning the inaugural King William's College Golf Tournament on 29th April in the Isle of Man. **Daniel Hopwood, Jonathan Reynolds** and **John McKinney (Y13)** and **Michael Currie, Tom Madden** and **Joe Sephton (Y12)** conquered the prestigious Castletown Golf Club links course under the guidance of **Mr. Reynolds** and **Mr. Witherspoon!**

Tesco's Computers for Schools

Although this promotion has now finished in the stores for this year, do please send in any vouchers you may still have at home.

School Profile

This has replaced the Governors' Report to Parents and can be accessed electronically on

<http://schoolprofile.parentscentre.gov.uk/344/5900/english/2004/>. If you do not

have access to a computer and would like a hard copy, please contact Mrs.

Wilkinson on the College telephone number.

Friends of St. Anselm's (F.O.S.A.)

Next event **Race Night on Friday 15th June**, tickets £4.50pp or £10 for a family ticket, including food!!

We intend to end the year with a **Bollywood** function on Friday 13th July, watch this space!

Health & Safety

It has been brought to our attention that there are a number of boys cycling to school without safety helmets. I would strongly advise parents to provide their sons with protective headgear.

Litter

Please remind your sons not to drop litter (sweet wrappers, empty cans etc.) in public places. These should be disposed of either by using the school bins, street bins, or taken home. We have had several complaints from neighbours regarding this problem. We try very hard to keep on friendly terms with our neighbours who are very understanding. It is therefore

unacceptable that they should have to clear up any mess made by the College community.

Recycling

We intend to make the College a more environmentally friendly institution (see above!) and want to develop our recycling capacity. To this end we are collecting used printer cartridges and redundant mobile phones for recycling. Please send these items (excluding Epson) in to us. The funds raised will be used for environmental projects.

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 we will 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.** This includes boys on the H5&H7 Buses, who must also sign in when the buses are late.

Hair Styles & Uniform

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.

Mobile phones/Walkman/ 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.

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. We will send the newsletter directly to your inbox as well as news and other important information about the College and its community. Look for the mailing list link on the left of the homepage; it couldn't be simpler – so the ICT Dept. inform me!!

College Extranet

Pupils and parents can access curriculum material and College information on this facility which uses the internet. It is accessed via the Joint Technology College website

www.jointtechnologycollege.co.uk, then you click on our logo. Your son has a username and password. The system is easy to navigate. In the event of difficulties please e-mail Mr.Cribb at jointtechnologycollege@yahoo.co.uk

Care for Property

It is evident that boys do not take sufficient care of their personal property, or the College property issued to them, such as books and equipment. Every day we find examples of both abandoned on corridors and carelessly tossed aside. This year the College will be vigorously enforcing a policy of charging parents for damage to books.

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.

Specialist Status

Our recent successes have led to us being awarded a second specialism in Modern Foreign Languages from April 2007. This will enable us to develop curriculum opportunities for our students, for example the opportunity to sample Mandarin Chinese, and also to support the local community. Adult learning classes in a variety of Modern Languages, including beginner and holiday courses, have been advertised in the local press, or contact the College Office for details!

Key Dates

Year 7-9 Summer Exams 5th-8th June.

Year 10 Summer Exams 21st-25th May

Participation Awards 17th July

College Holiday

At the request of Mr. George Flahn, our Principal Guest at Prize-Giving last December, Friday 20th July has been

declared a College holiday, in celebration of our students' achievements, so Summer Term will finish on Thursday 19th July.

Lenten Fundraising

Congratulations to our students who raised £688.24 for Street Child Africa and £500 for the Shrewsbury RC Diocese Good Shepherd Fund during Lent. Equally importantly many boys contributed large amounts of clothes and food for local homeless charities. Thank you for your support!

Parents might be interested to know that Miss Lacey and I, accompanied by Year 10 and 6th Form students, walked the Wirral Coastal Walk last Sunday in support of Street Child Africa. It was great fun, although my feet are still aching!! If you would like to sponsor us retrospectively, please send a donation to the Finance Office. Our collective aim is to raise a further £1000 for this wonderful charity, which supports the poorest, most disadvantaged people on earth.

Extended Schools Consultation

The College, along with other schools, seeks to provide extended services for our students and community. We have long provided a range of experiences and support beyond the normal College day and now seek, in conjunction with other community groups, to identify areas where we could respond to local demand. Please take the time, with your son, to complete the attached questionnaire and return it to the College Office or his Form teacher.

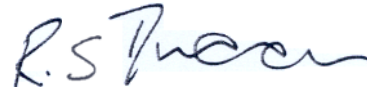
Grammar Schools

You might, like I, have noted the recent comments regarding Grammar Schools from David Willetts, Conservative Shadow Education spokesman. Whilst his remarks doubtless have some relevance to schools in the South East of England, he would be wise to visit us, where our free school meals rate is five times the national average and where boys from all sections of the community enjoy their education and achieve highly.

And Finally....

Please remember our students in Years 11, 12 & 13 in your prayers as they undertake important examinations which will have a significant bearing upon their future career choices and opportunities.

Yours in Christ,



Simon Duggan, Headmaster