

SMART

St Michael's Academy Rumours & Tales

issues 54 – 56

Nov. – Dec., 1977

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The SMART newspaper was launched in November 1973 by
Mr John Kelly, Principal Teacher of English,
and was produced from 1974 to 1979 by
Mr Ian J Dickson, Principal Teacher of Classics
and the SMART team of reporters, staplers and sellers,
with further issues edited in 1980/81
by Mr Ricardo Lucchesi, English department

from previous page)

which was connected by wires to the sack.

He picked his way cautiously through the carpark of the Mall. Suddenly coming up the ramp was a Cyberman. Firing the gun at the Cyberman, it stumbled and fell back, a green fluid oozing from the mouth and joints. A second Cyberman appeared only to receive the same fate.

More appeared. The Doctor dealt with three of them. But he was stopped when two Cybermen picked up a car and threw it. An open door glanced off his head and he took an unexpected nap.

Waites ran forward and fired the gun again and again making the alien invaders retreat from lack of numbers.

In the Cyber-craft, the second-in-command was in front of the Cyberleader again, "You have failed". Even though Cybermen have no feeling it was possible to detect the menacing undertones in its voice. "Prepare for lift off."

A now fully recovered Doctor sat listening as the Brigadier reported that the space-craft took off to meet a second space-craft now orbiting Earth.

At a rocket base the newly developed Z-bomb was being loaded onto a Demeter rocket. As the countdown reached zero, twenty tons of deadly payload soared into the sky.

In space the two Cyber-craft were docking. In the first the Cyberleader turned to the pilot. "What is happening?"

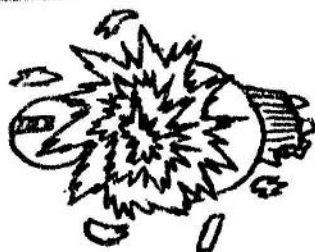
"A missile approaching from Earth, leader".

"Take evasive action."

The two ships turned to the right. The Cyberleader was still giving instructions when the missile struck home. The Cyberleader, his crews and crafts were blasted into infinity.

A camera attached to the missile gave the events of the last few seconds of the Cybercrafts.

(by James Rooney 203 and
Gerald Donnelly 207)



Your Lucky Number ~ 2146

SMART MICHAELS ACADEMY RAZORS & TALES

NO. 54

7th Nov, 1977

LUCKY NUMBER ISSUE

Your number is on the back page.

The winning numbers will be put up on the circular notice board at 2.30 p.m. on Tuesday afternoon.

All copies sold on Monday and on Tuesday up to 1.30 will have a chance.

Top prize £1 Consolation prizes

EXTRA COPIES

If you miss your copy of SMART on Monday morning, spares will be on sale at room 26.

SMART MENTIONED IN NEWSPAPER - see page 3

3p

THE MENAGERIE SHOP - a true tale

The shop recently had Snakes, but we couldn't bear it when the rats increased the price to 2p. Mice (Mickey Mouse variety) were around for a time, though we did not bother with Hedgehogs. Fly-ing in last week came a swarm of Bumble Bees (we could not get Ladybirds). Eels, we decided, might be too slippery for the customers, and might in any case have been eaten by the Tiger Chews. After badger-ing from the girls who beaver away selling each day, the Shop bought Daggers (1p each), which may manage to keep the assorted livestock under control. For jerbils, see the Biology Department. For pelicans and puffans, see the library. For beetles, see the car park. For horses, see the P.E. Dept.. For chipmunks, try Home Economics, dining-hall or Fr. Walsh.

(by 'Minos')

TUCK SHOP PRICE LIST and PROFIT NEWS:

Mars - 10p; Crisps (Pickled Onion, Gammon, Vinegar) 7p; Cup Drinks (Orange, Cola) - 6p; Double Agents, Chewits - 5p; Bumble Bees - 3p; Daggers - 1p; Mojos - 1p.

So far, since opening 6 weeks ago, the tuck shop has made over £100 profit for the school funds. Warning - chewing damages your teeth.

DEBATING

A mock debate was held last Wednesday on the motion that "Pop is the enemy of culture". Annabelle Millar and Mairi Dalton, against the motion, won by acclamation against the proposers, Shirley Wright and Eddie McArdle. Two of these four will represent the school in the first round of the "Daily Express" Debating Competition in Kilmarnock Academy next Thursday (10th). If you are interested in supporting us, get more details from Mr Cassidy.

'SMART' NEWS FROM SCHOOL PUPILS

OUR RECENT diary article on the Ravenspark Academy school newspaper has prompted another group of budding young writers from St Michael's Academy to send us a copy of their publication.

The "Saint Michael's Academy Rumours And Tales" - SMART for short - is published every two or three weeks by a group of pupils aged from 12 to 18.

It is a collection of school news, features, short stories, cartoons and crossword puzzles.

On sale at 3p a time and with an average circulation of about 310, the paper is largely self-financing. Any losses are made up out of school funds.

CONFERENCE

Each week, representatives from every class in the school hold an editorial conference to discuss what the contents of the next issue should be.

The representatives - picked by their classmates - are responsible for making the newspaper, up and contributing reports and articles themselves.

Those who are not keen on the writing side of the business can still make a contribution by stapling SMART together and selling it.

from
the

"Irvine
Times"

28th Oct. 1977

BRAIN-TEASER ANSWER

Sports Report

(by S.Ed.)

An aeroplane flies in a square, each side of which is 100 miles. It flies the first side at 100 mph, the second at 200 mph, the third at 300 mph and the fourth at 400 mph. What is the average speed of the aeroplane.

This was the brain-teaser in the last issue. There were 45 entries, but 39 were wrong.

Most entrants divided the four speeds total by four and answered 250. But average speed is found by dividing the no. of miles by the time taken, i.e. 400 miles by 2hrs 5 mins. So the correct answer was 192 m.p.h.

From the few correct answers, Thomas Barrett (201) and James Mason (203) were drawn as winners. They can collect 25p each from room 26. The teaser was given us by Mr McEvoy, who used to teach here.

CROSSWORD WINNERS

There were 67 entries, though several had mistakes. Winners drawn were T. Gilligan (207) 50p, J Jennings (105) 30p, and S Rolfe (301) 20p. They can collect their cash from room 26.

This Week's Problem

This has been sent in by the uncle of a pupil; he has donated a prize of £1 for the winning entry.

Sir Galahad, goofing off one day, came across a gathering of the local peons (St Michael's former pupils). It appeared that a horse race was in progress - two local worthies astride their fine looking mares were obviously the contestants - and equally obviously going nowhere. Sir Galahad inquired as to the rules of this race and was informed that the owner of the slowest horse would be the

The time around the October holidays does tend to be a barren time for sport. As is the case this year. But we have coverage of what has happened . . .

SCOTTISH CUP: St Michael's 4 Lesmahagow 5
(after extra time)

The 2nd year footballers have no-one but themselves to blame after outplaying their A74 opponents who surely should have suffered 'bus-lag' on their ninety minute journey.

Our tactics worked well early on and Dennis McKay put us in the lead in the opening minutes. But this intense pressure failed to provide another goal. Disaster struck when against the run of play Lesmahagow equalised just before half-time. The second half brought plenty of incident but no goals so extra time began.

This was when fortunes changed rapidly. On three occasions we scored only to find our lead nullified by the Lesmahagow attack. Then with only a matter of minutes to go they beat the offside trap and slid the ball past Paul Ruddy.

Scorers: McKay, McDonald, McGeough (2)

continued on next page →

winner. Not wishing to spend all day waiting for the result of this strange race, Sir Galahad decided to speed things up - therefore he whispered a couple of words to each contestant, whereupon they immediately took off for the winning post.

Question: What were the two words? Prize: £1

Answer:

Name:
Class:

BASKETBALL: Carrick 42 St Michael's 12 (Ayrshire Cup)

Statistics give the false impression of the performance of the 1st year basketball team's play. When all things are considered their performance was quite a good one. Their Maybole opponents were 2nd years, had played as a team for that time and had better facilities in which to practise. In fact if their coach had a pool of ten players each boy would have had a basket at which to shoot.

(Cup/

BASKETBALL: St Michael's 36 St Andrews 42 (League)
The 2nd years too played well without any luck. They held their opponents in defence and on the break away John Hutcheon excelled. The decisive period was late in the second half when St Andrews were able to penetrate the St Mike's zone to great effect. Paul Kytzia also played well.

On Wednesday 2nd Nov. the under-16 BADMINTON team went to Carnock Academy to play a friendly game. Out of the few games we played we never win, so I don't think we all enjoyed it very much; the only thing we liked about it was the ginger and crisps.
(from Theresa Nelson, 306)

CHESS (from Thomas Barrett, 201) Marr College v. St Michael's, 13th Oct.. The senior team won $4\frac{1}{2}$ - $1\frac{1}{2}$ whilst the juniors slumped to a 5-1 defeat. The seniors would have won $5\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$ if William Douglas had turned up. Those who won their games were T. Barrett, P Harrison, R Cochrane, S O'Connell and B Teaz. R Smith drew.

(and from R Smith, V) On Monday 31st October the Chess team played their first home game of the season against Ardrossan Academy. The junior team started three up but the top three players all lost and the score was 3-3. In the senior match B Teaz recorded an easy win, but each of the top two players, R Smith and T Barrett could only manage a draw, making the score 2-4 for Ardrossan.

Sports Report compiled by S.Ed. (Sports Editor,
not Smart Editor)

Christmas Draw

There will be a Christmas Draw to help raise some of the rest of the money needed for the new minibus. Books of tickets will be available from register teachers starting a week today, Monday 14th. There will be three large cash prizes: £100, £50 and £25. The pupils who sell most tickets will win £5, £4 and £3. Counterfoils will have to be in by the 16th December and the draw will take place on Thursday 22nd December in the Assembly Hall. There will also be £2 for the seller of the winning ticket. Get your tickets from your register teacher next Monday.

THE MISCARRIAGE OF JUSTICE - a tale

Once upon a time there was a boy who shall remain nameless called George Brown who lived in Kilwinning (well, I suppose you have to live somewhere). George was a keen badminton player who was trying to get money for a new badminton racket. So he tried to con money from some twit. A year previously he bought a Tesco reject badminton racket for £2. He noticed the similarities between his Tesco reject and the expensive £17 Vicort racket. George in his crooked quest for money painted a V on the handle and strings making it look the exact double of the Vicort. He promptly sold it to an overwhelmed D. J. who couldn't believe his luck in getting it for the meagre sum of £7.50. George has now moved to Dumfries and if anyone knows his address would they please pass it on to D. J. who plans to give George a facelift.

(by Sydney Buttocks and Zebedee Eyeball, VI)

SCOOP CLUB (from 'Ace')

Mrs Gardner will be starting the Scoop Club once again. For those who don't know about SCOOP, it is a paperback club from which you can get paperbacks cheaper than in the shops. More details will be available later. Watch out in SMART.

FIRE DRILL REPORT

(by 'P.6')

"Hello, Fire Brigade? This is St Michael's, Kilwinning. We're on fire . . ."

Just imagine the scene; you're sitting in a lovely Maths class or a great (sooper?) French class and the fire bell goes (not that you'd know, because we don't know what it sounds like!) - would you know what to do?

Our chief fireraiser (sorry, firemaster) Mr P. was interviewed last week by one of your reporters (who knows what to do in a fire . . . Panic!). Asking several 'hot' questions, he soon had a sheet full of answers. The first question was "Why was it so long since our last fire drill?" "The new bell being fitted" was the answer and they hope it won't cause too much confusion. Some other answers are set out below.

Weather: the met office are not consulted for a fire drill, but no normal drill will be carried out in heavy rain (no mention of actual fires, though).

Fire Signal: New bell is an "on, off" arrangement like the 'old' peruod bell.

Safety standards: These are adequate and the appliances are checked each year.

He does not intend separate duties for prefects or different assembly points for each year.

The hoses are connected to the mains and the fire doors should be kept open all day.

Our chief fire alarmist (sorry, firemaster) also thinks that no-one should smoke in school, which includes staff, pupils, prefects, rectors, etc. !

His advice in a fire is, more or less, save ourselves first and let the school burn (anyone who doesn't shout hurrah is a sook for the school micet). He also thinks that the present way is fine IF pupils would strictly adhere to the rules for emergency evacuation as set down in the rules displayed in every classroom (how about some in the prefect's room, 5th & 6th yrs girls rooms, etc.?)

continued on next page →

By the way, should you be in a Science class and be working with a dangerous experiment, your teacher knows what to do (we hope).

Finally, when asked if there were any improvements or more comments, he said that he would like to have a klaxon in stead of a bell (like on a fire engine?). He would also like to see pupils take a responsible attitude to fire drills and take them seriously (let's keep him happy or he'll hit us with his white helmet), move quickly, **IN SILENCE** and stand quickly at assembly points.

MR KEENAN

Mr Keenan taught part-time for 3 years and full time for three weeks. His last school was St Thomas Aquinas; before that Vlevedon Secondary; both in Glasgow. He worked with community education service in Glasgow as Director of Glasgow Youth Band.

He likes all music, not any in particular, and has played with the BBC and Scottish National Orchestra and Scottish Opera. His favourite and main instrument is the trumpet.

Mr Keenan has quite a few favourite jokes. One of them is: "Did you hear about the Irishman who failed his driving test?" - "he opened the door to let out the clutch!"

His favourite sports are Karate, badminton and table tennis. And you'll be glad to know, girls, he is still single.

(by your roving reporters, Lainey, Caroline & Pauline)

STDP PRESS: SPORT: BASKETBALL

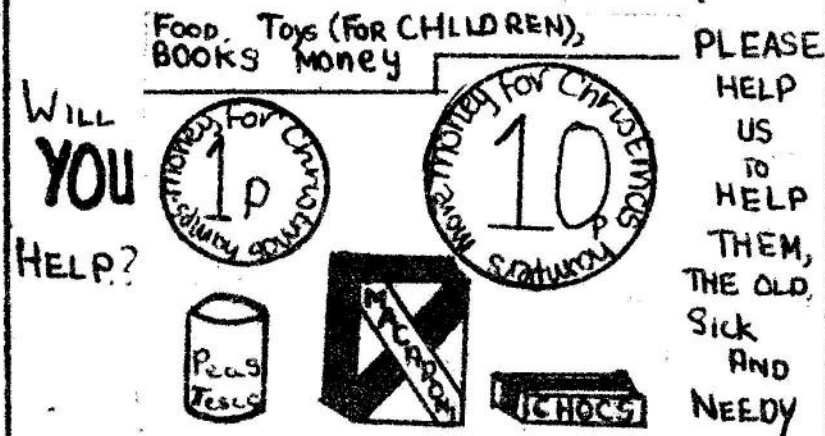
St Michael's 60 Irvine Royal Ac. 8

John Hutcheon again led the way for this 2nd year victory. He scored twenty points in a 'massacre' of the newest members to the league. (from S.Ed.)

Rumour: Miss C. & Mr. R. were both at the 1st yr disco

WANTED

by Sixth Year, R.6



For Christmas Hampers for the Old

Mini-bus latest: quotations are still being received, and an order will soon be placed.

Librarian latest: the lady chosen turned down the job, so the job is being advertised again.

Did you know? . . . that the school has 943 pupils.

A SCOTLAND FAN

His name is Graham Richardson and this is his first school as he is only on his first year out of college. You will be glad to know, girls, that he is NOT married! Mr Richardson's favourite type of music is 'country-rock' and some of his favourite groups and artists include the Eagles, Yes and Boz Scaggs.

His favourite sports include football and volleyball. When asked what he thought was the most important sport for pupils he said "A sport which involves both physical and mental skill (e.g. a team sport). Pupils should experience a wide variety of sports so that they have a choice when they get older."

Mr Richardson, who lives in Kilmarnock, doesn't support Killie; he only goes to internationals to see Scotland. He says if anyone wants to donate some money to help him to go to Argentina they have to go to see him and he will gladly accept. He likes St Michael's so far !?!

When we asked what was his favourite joke he said, "I can't think of any ones which aren't rude!" But then he said: "Q: What do you call an Irishman who fires bullets at a brick wall?
A: Rick O'Sheigh."

(by your roving reporters, Lainey, Caroline & Pauline)

CALLING ALL SMART REPRESENTATIVES

Remember the SMART team meeting tomorrow (Tuesday) in room 26 at interval. How good SMART is depends on your opinions and ideas.

NEXT P.T.A. event

Supper Dance in St Mary's Hall on Fri., 11th Nov. Further details and tickets available from school.



SPOT THE DIARY OWNER

Are you always forgetting things?

Then don't forget to place your order for a 1978 diary (complete with P.V.C. wallet for dinner and season tickets) with Mr Smith of the Art Department or with your register teacher.

This week

20p each

ON THE ROAD

Men with picks and axes
Out on a sunny day.
Puddles of sweat from one man,
Puddles of sweat from another.
Laughing voices and joking voices,
Men with picks and axes.

Men with hammers and machines.
Hard working men.
Strenuous working men,
Some of them puffing and panting,
Wanting to go home to their beds.

Men with pneumatic drills,
Wishing the weather would change.
Red backs, toasted backs,
And even some white backs.
Men with pneumatic drills

by Jean Fraser 105

HITCH-HIKING

I'd like to go hitch-hiking
Along the road so high
It'd be a lovely sight
To see the cars go by.

Some are going to London,
Some are going to Spain,
Some are going to Italy,
But I'M just going home.

by Rosemary Docherty 106

RUMOUR -- that one of the car park spaces is
marked 'Big Ears'.

DOCTOR WHO and the TERROR OF THE CYBERMEN

A short story

The space-ship flew through the countless galaxies of the Universe, each one as different as the pebbles on the beach. In the flight deck giant, motionless figures sat at a main console. They all turned to the central figure, the black helmeted Cyberleader who gestured to one of his subordinates. One of the Cybermen reached out to operate the Cyber-craft. It turned to its new course - Earth.

In the U.N.I.T. H.Q. Brigadier Alastair Gordon Lethbridge Stewart was having one of his all too frequent arguments. W.O. Benton and Leela were acting as spectators to the scene. The Brigadier was as usual on the defensive, "Doctor, we can't get the spare parts for you. It's just not possible."

"Brigadier, you're the most obstinate, pig-headed, stubborn . . ."

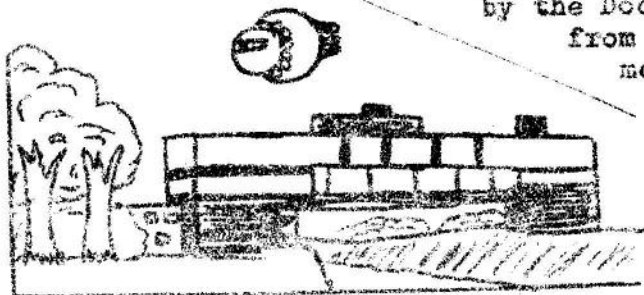
"After all, you said they weren't important".

Suddenly Surgeon Lt. Harry Sullivan ex R.N. burst into the lab., handed a note to the Brigadier, who skimmed through it quickly. "Doctor, Benton, Miss, oh, Leela, we are going on a trip to a town called Irvine in Scotland. Sullivan, get a plane for the troops and prepare my private jet; oh, by the way, liaise with the Regulars."

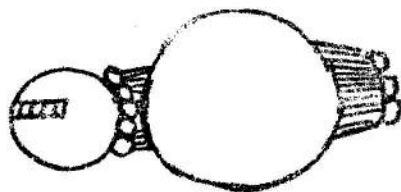
"Yes, sir," Harry said, turned and left.

The space-craft had landed beside the Magnum Centre. Major Waites, flanked by two guards, walked up to the Cyber-craft watched by the Doctor and party

from U.N.I.T.'s
mobile H.Q..



continued
on next
page →



(from previous page)

Slowly the door opened, and framed in the doorway was the menacing form of a Cyberman.

It was a good seven feet tall, with handle-like projections where ears should be; and an accordion-like attachment on its lurchest - its heart & lungs.

The Cyberman's massive hand reached for a control on its chest; a flash of light from its helmet and the soldier on the left of Waites fell dead with a scream of pure agony.

The second soldier sent a hail of bullets spraying across the Cyberman's chest unit. To his horror and astonishment it ignored the bullets like flea bites.

Walking down the ramp he grabbed the sub-machine gun. After a brief tug of war the Cyberman swung the gun effortlessly, breaking the man's skull like an eggshell. Blood spurted out like a burst water pipe.

Waites sprinted away like an Olympic runner. More Cybermen emerged and started a pitched battle with U.N.I.T. forces.

The Cybermen had captured most of Irvine after driving back the U.N.I.T. forces, who had taken refuge in the shopping centre.

In the gleaming space-ship, the Cyberleader was addressing his second-in-command. "Inform our second Cyber-craft to come here immediately".

"But, leader, we have barely gained a foothold".

"You have your orders".

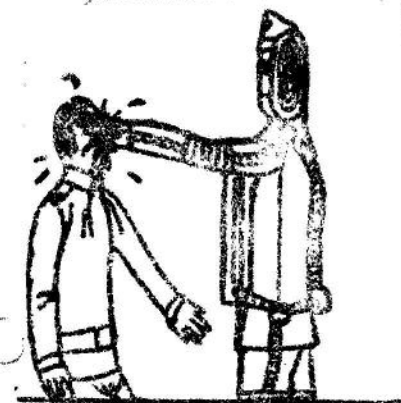
"I have my orders." Then he turned and left.

In an office in the Mall, the Doctor was engaged in fixing two wires together. Leela watched him rather bemused. "Doctor, what are you trying to make?"

"I'm not trying to make anything; I'm making it."

He straightened up. Carrying his equipment in both hands, he went outside. Fastening a rucksack on his back and carrying a large sort of pistol,

(continued on next page →)



CHRISTMAS PARTIES ?

1st Year: There have been no arrangements made yet for the first year party but what we do know is that there will probably be one. As soon as there have been any arrangements made we will let you know. (by M.McL.)

3rd Year: Mr McKinley says that at this moment the exams have 'top priority' so the party has not been discussed. There might not be one because of the carry on at last year's party. So all third years keep your fingers crossed. (by O.S. & M.R.W.)

Senior Christmas Dance: The climax of our social year will come to a head on Thursday 15th Dec., which as most of you know is the date of the senior dance. It will be run along much the same lines as last year's with a band and a buffet. There has been a great response from the senior school and we hope this will be echoed by the response from members of staff.

Being resourceful people we went along to see Mr Campbell to ask for some comments on this strange event. His carefully thought out reply was that he knows nothing and he thinks Smart's rubbish anyway (your cheque's in the post, sir).

As to the question of dress, it seems to be that some of the gentlemen will be adorned in dinner suits (with dishy bow ties). And they're not the only ones out to attract attention. A young lady I happened to be speaking to informed me that she was wearing a little black plastic number, classic but not flamboyant (obviously courtesy of CDC refuse dept.)

I believe that Mr Scullion (who's an expert on what the man about town wears) will be having a word with all you denim clad maniacs. While Mrs McGuinness will be steering all us girls clear of social failure.

One last word of advice: I suggest that everyone wear steel toe cap shoes to save their toes since $\frac{2}{3}$ of the dancing will be modern ballroom.

(by A. and friends)

This week's cartoons by R. Teele

Next issue of SMART: probably Monday 12th Dec. (Christmas special)

ST. MICHAELS ACADEMY RUMOURS & TALES

NO.

55

21st Nov. 1977

3p

THE INSPECTORS ARE COMING !

On Thursday we interviewed Mr McCutcheon on his views about the school inspectors. Fortunately for us we had just missed the one who was inspecting 2nd year, Mr Axford. He was inspecting them on three subjects: Curriculum (and for all yous dummies who don't know what this means, it is the timetable), Guidance, and Social Education, which is clubs, etc.. He should have finished last week.

Today three more inspectors will be coming, 2 male and 1 female. They will be inspecting 4th, 5th and 6th year on the same three subjects. 1st and 3rd year are not to have an inspection.

Mr McCutcheon said that he would not like to be a school inspector because it would take him too far away from the pupils.

(by 2 IIIrd years who do not wish to be named)

INSIDE: Two competitions. Six prizes.

Kevin Kuvantis
Tacodine O'Brien

Brain - teaser

THE UNSEEN ENEMY

"Viruses! Microbes! Germs! Get your lovely hot infections here!" was the cry from the A.V.A. room at the end of last month.

The Science Club had struck again, this time with "The Unseen Enemy". This was about the infections and diseases procured in the shanty-towns and villages of the third world. Diseases produced by microbes such as Leprosy, Elephantitis and sleepy-sickness. The symptoms and causes were shown in depth (yeuch!) much to the annoyance of the more sensitive watchers. Fortunately the film was finished off by telling us how modern medicine, chemicals and health planning are combating these scourges.

THE ENEMY IN THE WATER - BILHARZIA

Some people went in to the second Science Club film hoping for another film with disgusting pictures (sadiats!!). But they were unlucky; even so it was still very interesting. Most people had never heard of Bilharzia but after seeing the film they know all about it.

It is caused by a worm which breeds in water snails in warm countries. The worm is passed through the water to humans; the water can be for drinking, washing or anything else. The effects are a slowing down of the pace of life and a seemingly lazy people. Around 240 million people are affected. It eventually kills. The worms get into the intestines and cause extreme swelling. Until recently the disease was incurable but now due to modern science it can be prevented (pause for cheers). Drugs can be taken to kill the worms inside the body and also the snails in which the worms breed can be killed. Modern science can give this story a happy ending but many others are still unhappy.

(reviews by M.K. & K.G.)

BIOLOGY: Mrs Anderson has become Principal Teacher of Biology since Ms Collum left recently.

*Mrs Anderson
K.G.*

We have to plant a pleasant grove
Wherein the nightingale may rove.
This pretty grove we must compose
Of 19 trees in 9 straight rows,
And in each row 5 trees must place
Or it will count to our disgrace.
So now my friend, I'm not in jest
Pray lend your aid and do your best.

Can you work out how to plant the 19 trees, so that there are 9 straight rows with 5 trees in each row?

We can't leave space in SMART for you to draw it on, but put your solution on a piece of paper, along with your name and class, and hand it in to room 26 not later than Thursday at 4.00 p.m.. Three prizes of 30p each.

LAST ISSUE'S SOLUTION

When Sir Galahad heard that the owner of the slowest horse would win, he told the owners to change horses, and each rider was then so keen to show that his horse was the slowest that he made his competitor's horse race immediately to the winning post.

LAST ISSUE'S WINNERS

PROBLEM: There were only two answers. The answer from Tracey McLaughlin (2nd year) was wrong. The answer from Tom McLaughlin (1st year) (no relation) was right, so he won the £1 prize donated by the uncle of a pupil.

LUCKY NUMBER: The £1 prize for the top number (079) was won by Alexa McCaffrey (3rd year). Although three other numbers were put up, no one claimed any of the consolation prizes.

INTERVIEW WITH MISS CUNNINGHAM

Miss Cunningham's first teaching job was at St. Andrew's Academy (Saltcoats) where she taught for 3 months before coming to St Michael's. She likes the school and the pupils (?). Her favourite sports are Hockey and Volleyball. She is in the Magnum Volleyball Club and also the Ardeer Rec. Hockey Club.

The football teams she supports are Scotland and Celtic. She says if she wasn't a P.E. teacher she would like to be "a lady of leisure". Her favourite T.V. programme is the "Rockford Files". She prefers Soul Music and likes Nazareth, Thin Lizzy and Yes. Her birthsign is Libra.

Her favourite foods are spaghetti bolognese and lasagne. Her Hobbies are Spending Money! and disco dancing. And yes she does think that Caroline Bennett looks like her (but not as good-looking!).

Miss Cunningham's favourite colours are red, black and white. Her favourite perfume is "Chanel No. 5". The place she would most like to go in the world is Corfu and she is hoping to go there for her holidays in the summer!

(by C.L.P.)

*Caroline Bennett
Lizzy Bennett
Ruth Robertson*

U-14 BADMINTON

St Michael's v. Garnock

St Michael's came in very hopeful but a strong Garnock team ended St Michael's hopes by thrashing us in every match. Paul Kytzia played a good game against the under 14 Scottish champion Steven McConnechie. The St Michael's team played well considering that Garnock are the Ayrshire champions. Mr Ritchie was pleased with our performance. The St Michael's team was Jim Boyle, Tom Malone, Stephen Burnside, Paul Kytzia & Tony McNeill.

(by Jim Boyle)

ASTERIX: Who borrowed 'Asterix and the Golden Sickle' before the summer? Please report (with or without Asterix) to Mr Dickson. He needs the sickle back.

Prize Crossword

CLUES: ACROSS:

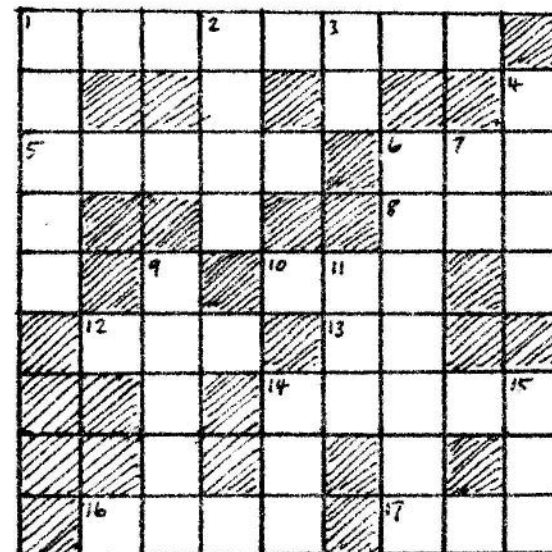
- 1 Practice
- 5 Wide
- 6 Number
- 8 Slang for 'our'
- 10 Asphalt
- 12 Unwell
- 13 Not out
- 14 For a train
- 16 A wild animal
- 17 Possess

DOWN:

- 1 Bird
- 2 Cheese
- 3 A make of car
- 4 Garden tool
- 6 Whirlwind
- 7 Stop!
- 9 Woodwind instrument
- 11 Element
- 14 A prominent hill
- 15 Know, or a boy's name

Answers must be handed in to room 26 by 3.00 p.m. on Wednesday. Three prizes of 30p each to be won.

tear along dotted lines



Name: _____
Class: _____

THE WEATHER

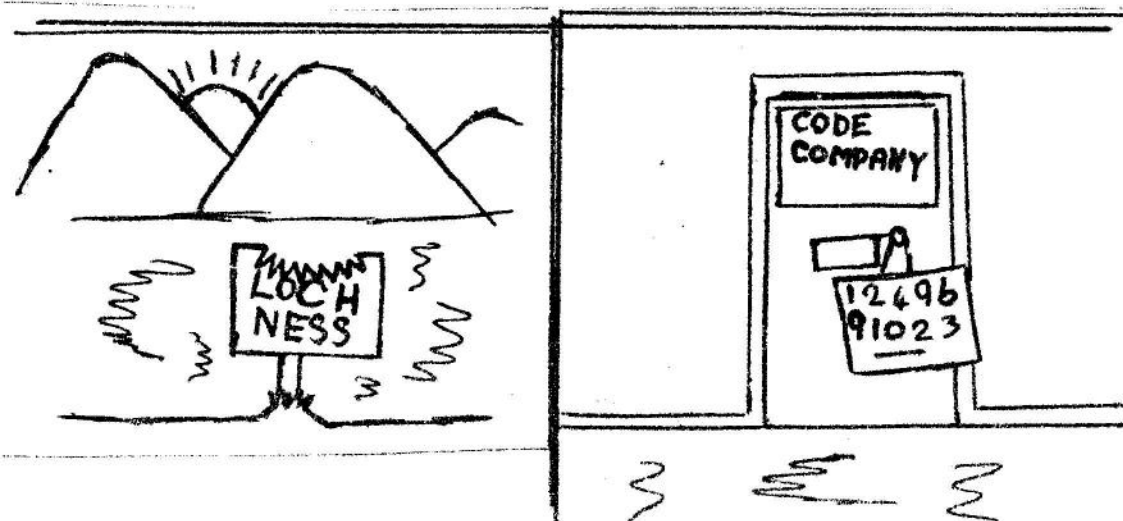
The weather is done daily. There are a lot of instruments we use. Some are: the rain gauge which measures the amount of rain fallen in 24 hours; another instrument is a stevenson screen which contains four thermometers, a wet bulb, dry bulb and a max. and min. thermometer. There is also a barometer which tells you the pressure and the forecast for the day. The anemometer tells the speed of the wind.

Last week's chart (done at intervals):

	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.
temp.	12°C	8°	9°	7°	6°
min. temp	7.2	4.4	7.2	5	4.4
max temp.	7.8	6.1	6.1	5.6	5
pressure	990	990	1000	1000	1020
humidity	49%	51%	73%	72%	73%
rainfall	-	0.50	1 inch	-	-

(by the 2nd year weathermen, G.R., I.V., S.M. & P.M.)

EARLY CLOSING on MON. (today), WED. and FRI. of this week. This is so that the teachers can discuss two reports which were published recently about what is taught in 3rd and 4th years, and what sort of exams there should be at the end of 4th year. Early closing at 3.00 p.m.



SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS

Mr Westcott thinks that it is worth while getting your photographs taken because the teachers would like to know what you look like when you enter the school and when you leave. And this is why it is only first and fourth years who have their photographs taken. The others don't have them taken because I don't think that your mother, father or guardian would like to pay about £1 or £2 each year for your photographs.

Mr Westcott was saying that all the first and fourth years' photographs looked extremely good (OF COURSE). The price is excellent because in a photographer's shop you would probably pay £2 to £3 for about 2 or 3 photographs.

Mr Westcott (but I don't think only Mr Westcott) would like to see the whole School Uniform when getting photographs taken; it is because it looks so SMART especially with your tie on.

Last but not least is getting your photographs taken separately or with your brother(s) or sister(s). Mr Westcott was saying that it is easier for the school, and all the little photographs get taken so that you can swop with your friends. All my friends and I think that it is worth while getting your photographs taken, (by Jean Fraser 105)

ACTION RESEARCH FOR THE CRIPPLED CHILD

Having recently flooded the market with raffle tickets for this, we are slightly unpopular with Mr McCutcheon who has 20,000 tickets to get rid of for our long-sought-after mini-bus. So if anybody happens to have money and tickets to hand in, there would be great relief all round if you could bring the money to the prefects' room (near the staffroom). Then Mr McCutcheon can pile some of his on you and eventually we might get a mini-bus.

THANK YOU from S Wright

School ties 70p available from school office.

This week's crossword is by 'Wee Sinky'.

SCHOOL DIARIES

An order for school diaries has now been sent off. They should arrive in the school at the beginning of December. They will be available from your register teacher as soon as possible after delivery. Payment should be made to your register teacher when he or she distributes the diaries to your class.

Any profit will go into the Chess Club funds. I am most grateful for the excellent response from pupils especially those in the 1st and 2nd years, and to all register teachers for their help. See you all again next year!

(from Mr Smith, Art Dept.)

MOTOR SHOW

A group of pupils from almost all years went to the Motor Show last week on a trip organised by Mr Herraghty (he obtained two members of staff under the "Rent-a-Teacher" bargain scheme). Thanks to the school mini-bus (signed up to be shown at the 1978 Ancient Motor Rally), the group reached Glasgow, took a bracing ramble (via a tenement close and a broken down Green Goddess) to the Kelvin Hall, and examined the cars on show. The Vauxhall experimental car - 15" (?) wide rear tyres - had no place for a front number plate; one pupil said he felt strongly attracted by a Western red bus (whatever turns you on!), and others were heard to say "I'll have two of them" in front of XJS's and such-like. Some cars were shown in cut-away sections ("What use is half a door?") and others could be sat in - free! Then the black-blazer-band reassembled, fingers smelling of Kentucky Fried Chicken, mouths stained with juice, and arms full of brochures (free); decorated with funny hats and stick-on badges, and talking of Lagondas, lorries with bunks, and £3000 BMW bikes.

(by Minos)

NEXT MONDAY (28th Nov.) IS A SINGLE-DAY HOLIDAY

FOR St Michael's and some other Kilwinning and Irvine pupils. Don't forget. One day off.

INTERVIEW WITH HAKAN YILDIZ

Hakan Yildiz came here on the 24th October from Istanbul. He is here till he starts University in Dundee. Hakan is staying with Claire McCormick his penfriend in Irvine.

Hakan likes the school and the people in it. Before he came here he attended Kultur College. He thinks us females are "bonny lassies".

Hakan doesn't like school dinners. He likes football (was the captain of the football team), swimming, volleyball, learning to skate. Today he tried badminton and table tennis.

At his last school the teachers came to the class and the pupils did not move. Hakan thinks the prefects are like policemen. He was the vice-captain in his last school. He likes all kinds of music.

(by Angie Duffy and Carol Pieroni)

RUMOUR: that many other IVth year girls were wanting to do this interview for SMART.

Looking through Cary Gilmour's Eyes OR A Select Opinion of Something.

Mary Digney personally didn't enjoy it too much, but June Hughes, who wasn't there, thought it was great. John Farrell described it as "cruel", but Sister Dominic Savio refused to move with our own boy wonder, John O'Hagan. The vice captain (not Annabelle) thought it was crowded and his shadow Bernard Thomas Quinn found it bumpy. Veronica Eadie was heard to describe it as "brill", but poor old Dave found it trying and was "carolling" all night! Father Bradley participated whole-heartedly and Father Walsh and his merry (!) gang turned up in their white van. To the female friend of Michael - you missed a lot. To Michael - shame! What's wrong with Marie-Louise.

(by MD and AT)

PS This strange happening will occur again on Wednesday 30th November in the school assembly hall. See for yourself. (MD)

TIP OF THE FORM

On Tuesday 8th Nov, the four of us (Colin Drummond and myself from 1st year, and Anne McMillan & Paul McGeown from 2nd) arrived at Irvine Royal Academy to take part in an inter-school quiz accompanied by Mr Maxwell. We couldn't find the right door so we deemed that a bad omen. Eventually we reached the assembly hall and on the stage there were two tables with a lectern in between. The home team gave us a cheer when we went on stage but gave their own team an even louder cheer.

In the first round we each had to answer but at the end of it we were six points behind. We caught up in the second round and by the seventh round we were drawing 37-37. Everything depended on our two second year contestants. The Irvine Royal team answered their questions correctly but unfortunately we were unable to do the same and lost the contest 43-41. The winning team deserved to win; we shook hands at the end, and hope to meet them sometime in the future.

(by Frances Traynor)

CHESS: The seniors won 6-0 against Irvine Royal (team - T Barrett, R Smith, P Harrison, B Teaz, R Cochrane and W Douglas) but the juniors lost 1-5 (winner: D Gilmour) (from T Barrett)

MOST MAGAZINES: The prize of £1 for selling most 1977 school magazines was won by Paul Kytzia, 2nd year.

A LONG RUMOUR: that at the 1st year disco, Mr M. asked the name of Angeline McDonald and very suspicious you might think but not me. Also D.J. was very close to a certain teacher. And another teacher is known to have said: "If I was younger, Stephen Hylands (whom she said looked like Kenny Dalglish) would be her boyfriend". (from Wee Tam and Sinky, I)

Question: Why did the oxide? (ox hide)
Answer: Because the acid. (ass hid)

!!!

AYRSHIRE CUP:

St Michael's 8 Arran High 0

The second year footballers overwhelmed Arran to the extent that a cricket score was always possible and their quarter-final place was never in jeopardy. Tony McIntyre's goal started a sequence of goals which ended with a McDonald hat-trick.
Scorers: McDonald 3, Kerr 2, McGeough 2, McIntyre.

(from the Sports Editor)

THE GREAT DEBATE!

Thursday 10th November saw, among other things, the local first round heat of the Scottish Daily Express Debating Competition in Kilmarnock Academy.

Our two speakers, proposing the motion that "Pop is the Enemy of Culture" were Edward McArdle and Mairi Dalton, both VI. Other schools proposing the motion were Kilmarnock Academy, Irvine Royal Ac. and Cathkin High School. Opposing the motion were Marr College, Holy Cross H. S. (hot favourites with Mr Gill!), Airdrie Ac. and John Ogilvie H. S..

Unfortunately our team did not go forward to the second round (shame!) but neither did Holy Cross High! The three successful teams were Kilmarnock, Marr & J. Ogilvie.

Some of the best quips were:

that "Beethoven's last movement" was when he fell off his piano stool;
that "Handel" is a device for opening doors;
that "Bach" is a term of endearment used by Welshmen;
and of course Eddie's gem that if punk rockers wear plastic bags this is because they think they are trash (groan!)

Even though we didn't go through to the next round, we, and our supporters, enjoyed the evening, and we learned Mr Cassidy's 'phone number*, if nothing else.

(by M.D.)

*Top Secret!

SKATEBOARDING SISTER?

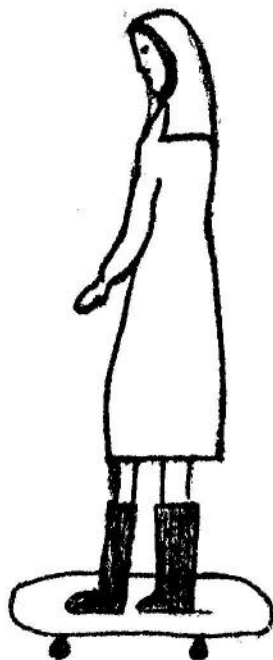
Sister Bernadette has been at St Mike's for 10 years. She has taught in Dublin and Blackwood. She says the other schools were all girls schools.

Sister Bernadette's hobbies are cycling, music and outdoor activities. If she couldn't teach French her second choice would have been Italian or Gaelic. She doesn't read a lot but watches a lot of detective stories on TV. She lives in the convent in Irvine and has lived in Dublin and Bradford convents. She takes part in swimming and hill climbing.

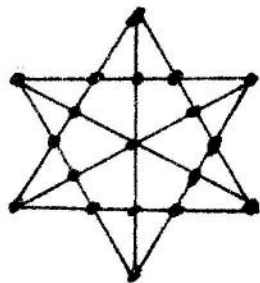
Sister Bernadette likes folk and classical music. Her ambition is to learn more languages. She collects fancy bottles and doesn't approve of smoking - she says it's dangerous and expensive.

Sister Bernadette says the people she admires most are the political leaders, etc. in Uganda. She also says that she would like to travel to school by skateboard.

(story and sketch by Helen Kelly & Carol Finnigan 305)



BRAIN-TEASER ANSWER: This drawing shows how the 19 trees can be planted in 9 rows of 5 trees each so that the nightingale can rove in a pleasant grove. There were only two correct entries (and one wrong one) so Brian Teaz (303) and Kieran Griffin (402) win 30p each.



CROSSWORD WINNERS: The three winners drawn were Jim Cullinane (207), Thomas McLaughlin (106) and Steven Mayberry (405). They win 30p each. There were 26 entries.

SMART apologises to several contributors for holding their articles and puzzles till the next issue, in January.

RUMOURS & TALES

No. 56 21st Dec. 1977
3p

STOP PRESS

SECOND YEAR BASKETBALL:
St. Michael's 30 Ardrossan 20
(Dec. 16th): St. M.'s players were on top form and John Hutcheon excelled on the long ball.

ESTIMATE timetable for seniors is expected out by the end of the week.



THURSDAY: Christmas Draw will take place at a special assembly on Thursday afternoon, when winners and top sellers will be announced.

FRIDAY: Normal timetable. Close at 2.30pm.

PENS & PENCILS in stock again. New colours. Room 26.

PINK FLOYD: Would anybody like to buy 6 Pink Floyd L.P.'s or arrange a swap? See Lainey Barrett (303) or contact SMART.

MINI-BUS LATEST. Bus ordered. Same model as old. S-registration. Will take a few weeks to arrive.

YESTERDAY the school collected props no longer needed by Prestwich Operatic Society at a special low price. Props include flats, music stands, punk rocker sandals, trunk (with body?). Thanks to the Society. And to G. Quinn for supplying Mr. Westcott with a knife. Applause to D.H. who stuck a flat in water-pipes.

Have you ever wondered what happened at Goodham when the seniors retreat? see p. 9

Will Beith footballer take up boxing instruction?
See "Sports Report" p. 4

P. McGeen

Every copy of this week's SMART has a chance to win a box of chocolates for Christmas. Your number is on page 5. The winning numbers will be put up on the circular notice board tomorrow (Thurs.) afternoon. There will also be two consolation prizes.

"Due to circumstances beyond our control" said Mr Dickson to this reporter (while besieged by first years running outside for PE) "there will be no Xmas issue of SMART!"

Now that won't do and so after literally pushing Mr D. over the proverbial cliff, soaking up to Miss C. at dinner, etc., we now have this copy of SMART thanks to Commerce Dept., D. H., and A.P. & A.J.

The school was shocked by the sudden death of Jacki Carroll, 5th year.

She had suffered from asthma all her life and recently had several bronchial attacks. Jacki attended school the day before she died which was Wed., 7th December.

The packed church heard Fr Feeney, Jacki's Parish Priest, say that Jacki was "fun loving" - this is how most of us knew her.

The funeral mass was held on the 9th of December, her 16th birthday. She was buried in St Patrick's cemetery, New Stevenston, Motherwell, where she was originally from.

May she rest in peace.

(contributed by F.R.)

The same week also saw the death of Joseph McCallum, whose illness had prevented him from attending school regularly since coming to St Michael's 15 months ago.

MARVEL-MAN MAXWELL

Mr Maxwell has been at St Michael's for 3½ years and he likes St Michael's very much. He has taught at James Hamilton, Kilmarnock and Girvan Academy. He says St Michael's is a noisier school but the girls turn out much smarter than his other schools.

He is married with one girl aged 14. His hobbies are cricket and hill walking. Mr Maxwell says his second choice to Sec. Studies and Economics would be English. He lives in Girvan and is about to move to Beith. His favourite TV programmes are 'The Sweeney', and 'The Superstars' and 'Poldark'. Mr Maxwell doesn't approve of smoking at all. After the minibus, he would like the school to collect for a soup of coffee machine for the folk who take packed lunches. He travels by car in the mornings and says it is very convenient except in bad weather.

(Interview by Helen and Carol)

Helen and Carol

The GUIDANCE team in action:
as seen by Billy Ward



Sports Report

(compiled by the Sports Ed.)

This week's spotlight falls first on those occasional footballers - the seniors.

Grange 3 St Michael's 7

On a wet windy morning St Michael's U-19 team destroyed a Grange team with a fine display of attacking football. Against the run of play Grange opened the scoring after a misunderstanding between 'keeper Carslaw and Russell. Eddie McCaffrey put us back on level terms. Grange scored and then Ray Kennedy or sorry Kevin O'Neill put in two beauties to make it 3-2. Just before half time Steven Foy scored a fourth.

After their earlier setbacks Grange scored straight after the re-start. St Mike's regained their composure and three fine goals from Hakan, Rab Bennett and Eddie Gilhooley made a final score of 7-3. Due to the hopelessness of Grange's position the game came to a halt 10 minutes early.

The team was greatly weakened by the injury sustained by first choice 'keeper Alka McMillan but Willie Carslaw was rarely troubled and had one spectacular save. Skipper Traynor and other central defender T B Gilhooley started shakily but ended up both with good games. Best performances were from Hakan and O'Neill. Top international striker Pat Harrison was greatly missed but he will be fit for the semi-final.

(by W.C. & A.K. & J.W.)

Meanwhile in similarly atrocious conditions the U-14 team were going down to St Andrews 2-1. On a pitch looking like a horse-ploughed field St Mike's were unlucky to lose in an exhausting, evenly matched game. Paul Ruddy, in his first game out of goals for a year, scored our goal early in the second half.

St Michael's 42 James Hamilton 127

This senior basketball game was one to be forgotten by St Mike's. Playing boys two years older than themselves, the seniors were in repeated difficulties - attacks crumbling, the defence helpless to persistent battering.

(more on next page)

St Michael's 1 Grange 4

match abandoned with ten minutes to go.

No, this game was not a victim of adverse weather conditions but rather of inconsistent refereeing resulting in a 'disagreement' between the referee and Mr McIlroy. Throughout this rough game the Grange centre forward continually impeded 'keeper Hutcheon. When these same infringements occurred in the other goalmouth the referee blew his whistle. Mr McIlroy's heated protestations resulted in the abandonment of the game. We now await with interest the result of our appeal. Stef Gilhooley was the U-14 team's scorer.

S.E.D.

CHESS RESULTS:

St Michael's sen. 3 Stewarton sen. 3

" jun. 0 " jun. 6

In the senior match the winners were T Barrett, R Cochrane and S O'Connell who gained a surprising win.

St Michael's sen. 1 Ravenspark sen. 5

" jun. " jun. 6

The only winner against the N. Ayrshire champions was W Douglas. The juniors again lost 6-0. At least they're consistent.

St Michael's sen. 3 Greenwood 'C' 1

St Michael's easily won this match to go into the next round. The winners were R Smith, T Barrett and R Cochrane. The only loser was P Harrison who lost after only 5 minutes.

(information from Robert Smith)

Your Lucky Number :- 304

SCIENCE CLUB NEWS - some recent events

Visit from Culzean Ranger: Mr Clark gave a talk on the natural history of Culzean Country Park. The talk was accompanied by good slides portraying sparrow-hawks to badgers' dung.

Filmshow: Good film telling how rivers can be polluted (in detail! Yeuch!) and how they can be cleaned up.

Visit to I.C.I.: Thursday 8th at 20 to 2, 18 people including Messrs McClure and Harbett set off for Organics Division, ICI. After being stripped of cameras, binoculars, fire-arms and D.I.Y. commando sabotage kits we set off to discover how Flexel was made. (Flexel is a coated cloth which conducts electricity and heats and is used in houses as heating.) We were given a guided tour of its production from the thick black goo of the silicone rubber to the finished product. The atmosphere in the factory was a glue sniffers' paradise due to highly inflammable toluene. A trip past the Nitric Acid Plant took us to the next stage where J. O'H. had a go at sewing copper strips onto the Flexel. Upstairs we saw plastic being fried by high voltage current (Another Idea in action from ICI.) On the way back to base for a film and tea and biccies we passed by Oleum (Super Concentrated Sulphuric Acid) tanks and Nitro-glycerine plants. However dangerous it may sound, all the plants are carefully controlled and can automatically shut down in emergencies.

(reported by M.K.)

LETTER TO THE EDITOR:

As a fairly new pupil in St Michael's I have been shocked by the unhumorous patter by the teachers in the school. When they make jokes half the time we hardly know what they are talking about. When they do make jokes and I do understand them I find that I have either heard them all before or they just seem rubbish. The teachers are indeed in very poor humour, like "Asking one of you a question is like asking a blind man to take you across Piccadilly main road" and "Lassies need two clues to everything; boys only need one".

(by "Me")

QUITE AN EXPERIENCE

The snowy morning of Mon. 21st Nov. saw the arrival at school of about fifty senior pupils heavily laden with a full cargo of luggage, all ready to set out on retreat to Coodham. Accompanied by the familiar figures of Mr Gill, Miss Boyle and our two dauntless chaplains, Frs Flynn and Walsh, we boarded the coach for our two-day sojourn to Coodham.

Coodham House (i.e. Fatima House) is situated not far from Tarbolton and is run by a few priests of the Cross and Passion order. The house itself is a huge building of several wings, a chapel, refectory and a couple of function rooms. Its surroundings are very picturesque, especially in winter, and consist of woodlands, gardens and a huge lake homing a family of swans.

After arriving, half-frozen, we were quickly revived with a steaming hot cup of tea and a 'biccys'. No sooner were we thawed out than the programme for our visit started. After an introductory discussion in what was commonly known as the 'Blue Room', rooms were allocated to groups of two or three. Unpacking completed, little though it was, the party re-assembled. Fr Fearghal, Fr Jim and Fr Pat introduced themselves and then each of us in turn presented ourselves, giving a few simple facts. For the remainder of the afternoon we took part in several discussions with different themes such as confession and trust. Confessions were available before Mass that evening which took place once again in the main sitting-room. The majority of us thoroughly enjoyed this as the relaxed atmosphere and informality of the service interested us and made us aware that we were part of it. After dinner our programme continued with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. This was carried out in complete silence and most of us were greatly impressed by its sheer beauty and sincerity. There was a further opportunity during Exposition to attend confession for those who wished. By the time Exposition had finished most of us felt deeply moved.

(continued on next page →)

(Goodham continued . . .)

During recreation which lasted for about 2½ hours everyone relaxed in their own ways until 11.30 when we all joined Fr Fearghal in night prayers. Thus the party retired to bed (at least some of us did!)

Roused at the crack of dawn (8.00 a.m.) by the bell, the majority of us managed to stumble down the stairs to breakfast, sleepy-eyed and yawning. On returning to our Discussion Room we took part in various other talks and exercises including a frighteningly emotional and imaginary transportation back to Jerusalem at the time of the Crucifixion, which seemed to bring to reality in everyone's mind the truth about the events which happened there.

In the afternoon there was further group discussion followed by another enjoyable Mass. After tea we were delighted to learn that there would be a social evening, consisting of a concert and disco, until we found out that the artistes of the concert were to be none other than ourselves! Overnight stardom being our aim we thus formed groups and rehearsals continued fast and furiously until the appointed time of 9.00 p.m. when the "Albert Hall" of Goodham rang with the cheers and applause of the appreciative (?) audience. Alias "Dave Allen" of 501 went down very well as did the chart-topping rendering of "Have you got a chitty?" by the "Guys 'n' Dolls" of St Michael's. (New Faces never had a look in.)

When the final cheers of the concert died away the disco commenced and soon Goodham was rocking to the music of the record-player. This lasted until 11.30 when once again night prayers ensued, after which we all, reluctantly, went up to bed (except someone remaining nameless who spent most of the night on top of the radiator).

On Wednesday morning, completely and utterly shattered, we crawled half-head down to breakfast after which we concluded our stay with Mass. During this our emotions got the better of a few of us and we were sorry to see the bus arriving to take us back to school.

(continued on next page →)

(Goodham continued . . .)

Most of us felt we had benefitted from the retreat in the sense that it gave us a deeper insight into religion and quite a few of us felt that we knew and understood each other better. The majority of us felt that we would like very much to return soon. It was quite an experience!

(by A.D. with a little help from her friends)

MISS MARTIN

Miss Martin has been at St Michael's for 1½ years now, and in that time she has found the pupils on the whole to be very warm-hearted. Miss Martin thinks that clubs, expeditions and more activities would improve the school. She lives in Saltcoats but would like to live in France. Her favourite colour is red, favourite programme is 'Poldark'; she is a fan of the Eagles. Her favourite food is Italian but she likes good Scottish traditional food. Her hobbies are reading, yoga, and going to the theatre. She has taught in some Glasgow schools. If she wasn't a French teacher she would like to be like Angela Rippon though she admits she hasn't got the legs for it. The person she admires most is the richest person in the world, not so much for the person, more like the money. Her great ambition is to run a department store. She would also like to be a quiz master (Magnus Martinson - she thought that sounded good). She was born in November so that makes her a Scorpion. She is serious, passionate and jealous. She thinks SMART is so good it should be out once a week, and very good value for money.

(by Brenda, Pauline and Julie)

HAVE A GROAN:

Q How many pies can a boy eat on an empty stomach?

A: One, because his stomach wouldn't be empty any more.

1st Year Christmas Dance

Tues. 20th Dec. saw the first year Christmas dance. Mr Colgan arranged a (wait for it) Space Hopper Race. The first year registration teachers were leading the teams. Part of the dancing^g was classical and part disco music.

Full report in next issue.

News and drawing by reporter Martin McKee 103



SINGING STARS VISIT

In the school, on 20th November, were Robin Hall and Jimmie McGregor. During the 7th period they performed in front of 104 and 103. That's the whole truth because we had to sing to them as well. They sang quite a few old Scottish and Irish folk songs. Later that night they were to appear at the folk club in the Eglinton Hotel. Along with them was another singer (Fraser) and two men from the Irvine local newspapers and Mr Robertson of Magnum.

Footnote: Mrs MacDonald played the piano at times.
(by P. McG.)

SWEETS IN THE JAR:

The 'Guess the number of sweets in the jar' competition was won by Mr Whiteside. (It was a fix!) The correct number of sweets was 83 and Mr Whiteside guessed this correctly. £3.30 was the amount raised and used to buy articles for the Christmas Hampers which Vith year are distributing to people in our parishes.

(by 'Ace')

2nd YEAR CHRISTMAS PARTY

This was on 14th Dec. from 6.30 to 9.30. From 6.30 to 7.30 it was just ballroom dancing, then we had to do a dance and Mrs Brown would shout out something each time the music stopped. The couple who won got a selection box each. After that we had an interval with Mars bars, ccisps, snowballs, orange and a small bottle of lemonade. Then we had a disco, the lights went out and everybody was up trying to dance. We had two or three more prizes, then a disco from 9.00- 9.30. On the whole it was quite good. (L.P. spent a lot of time with T.M.)

(by Mark Collins)

NEWSPAPER VISIT

Our class (102) were doing a newspaper project. Our English teacher Miss Graham asked the Ardrossan and Saltcoats Herald if we could visit. We went there on Fri. 9th Dec. at 10 and were back for 11. The paper was founded in 1853 by Arthur Guthrie. We were shown round all five departments. First the Editorial, then the typing; the next department is where they prepare the pages for printing - they take each page and design the layout; the next is where they get photo-ed after the use of two machines. Then the paper is ready for the last stage, the printing. If you want to take a whole page for an advertisement it would cost you about £250. We all enjoyed our visit very much (including the free drinks) and wish to thank all the people involved. (Well at least we got the morning off school)

(by Joanne Henderson)

POSTER PRIZES

Three pupils have won consolation prizes of £1 each in a poster competition organised by Strathclyde Crime Prevention on the theme of theft of and from cars. The artistic pupils are Theresa Clifford, Caroline Savage and Frank Penders.

MR RENNIE

Mr Rennie, the Art teacher, has left St. Michael's.