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10 June 2016

Dear Parents

### Bus Services on Monday 13 June

We have been advised by the *First Leeds* bus company that its drivers intend to take strike action on Monday 13 June, with further strikes possible in subsequent weeks. Whilst there are no dedicated Cardinal Heenan school service contracts tendered to *First Leeds*, there would be possible impact on children who normally use their services to travel to school. Service 51 will not operate if the strike goes ahead on Monday. As is often the case during strike action of this type, there may also be an effect on the punctuality and reliability of services at other times of the week. There could also be wider network issues if general services operated by *First Leeds* do not run. Parents are advised to consult the website [www.wymetro.com](http://www.wymetro.com) and Twitter and Facebook feeds for updates in order to make alternative travel arrangements, particularly in the case of Year 9 pupils who have internal school examinations on Monday 13 June.

### A Testing Time

GCSE examinations for Year 11 students continue. Internal examinations for Year 9 pupils are also in progress until Friday 17 June. All our examination candidates are being encouraged to follow a programme of revision, using the resources provided by teachers. The Year 11 Leavers' Mass will be celebrated on Tuesday 21 June at 10.00am. Parents are invited to join their children for their last Mass in school. The Year 11 Prom follows on Wednesday 22 June.

### Dates for Your Diaries

Please note key dates from the school's calendar for 2016-17 below:

Holiday	School Closes	School Opens
Summer	Friday 22 July 2016 at 1.30pm	Tuesday 6 September 2016
Autumn mid-term	Friday 21 October 2016 at 3.15pm	Monday 31 October 2016
Christmas	Tuesday 20 December 2016 at 1.30pm	Wednesday 4 January 2017
Spring mid-term	Friday 10 February 2017 at 3.15pm	Tuesday 21 February 2017
Easter	Friday 31 March 2017 at 1.30pm	Tuesday 18 April 2017
May Bank Holiday	Friday 28 April 2017 at 3.15pm	Tuesday 2 May 2017
Summer mid-term	Friday 26 May 2017 at 3.15pm	Monday 5 June 2017
Summer	Friday 21 July 2017 at 1.30pm	

Staff training days will be held on Monday 5 September 2016, Monday 28 November 2016 and Monday 20 February 2017. The school will close early for pupils (1.30pm) on Tuesday 4 October, Wednesday 1 March and Thursday 15 June to facilitate staff training. The Opening Evening meeting for parents will be held at 7.30pm on Monday 3 October 2017. Open Day for prospective pupils, their parents and families will take place on Saturday 8 October 2017 from 11.00am to 1.30pm.

### No Mobile Phones in School

The school's new guidelines for mobile phones have been introduced to pupils this week. The use of mobiles is **forbidden on any part of the school premises**, including the school playgrounds and playing fields.

The new school rules are:

- All mobile phone use is forbidden **on all parts of the school premises**, including the school playgrounds and playing fields.
- If a student does bring a mobile phone in to school, it must be kept out of sight and remain switched off throughout the school day.



- If a phone is seen, a staff member will take the phone and it will not then be available for collection until the end of the school day.
- A second offence would result in the pupil losing the phone for a longer period of time.
- The school accepts no responsibility for replacing lost, stolen or damaged mobile phones, whether this takes place on the school premises or while travelling to and from school.
- In the case of repeated warnings or in response to a serious breach of the rules, we will withdraw our permission for the student to bring a mobile phone to school. Parents will be informed of this by letter and asked to support the school in its enforcement of the ban.

It is hoped that this will be considered an opportunity for pupils to make better use of time between classes with friends, to make best use of the school playing fields (if time and weather allows) and to develop a resilience to the demand that a phone can put upon the user. It is well documented that timewasting, bullying and overuse of social media can have a hugely detrimental effect on progress at school and on pupils' sense of wellbeing. Despite the work of staff with a number individuals, there is still an element of poor language and inappropriate messaging that occurs within the school.

It is suggested that pupils leave their phones at home for the day. If a phone is brought to school, it must be switched off and out of sight at all times. Students who need to contact a parent in an emergency should gain permission from their Form Tutor or Year Leader and ask to use one of the office phones. We will be very grateful for your support in this. It was clear at the recent Parents' Forum that the revised policy has the overwhelming support of parents. I would of course be happy to discuss any concerns that may arise from the new regime.

### School Uniform

It is a requirement that all pupils, other than those in current Year 10, wear the new school uniform by September 2016. Our uniform suppliers are *APC Clothing* and *Jo Brand Plus*. Further details may be found on the school's website. The school's expectations and uniform requirements may be found on pages 23 to 25 of your child's planner and in the Dress for Success booklet on the school's website. <http://www.cardinalheenan.com/index.php/about-the-school/uniform>

### Concert for Mark Butterfield, Tuesday 28 June at 6.45pm



Parents, pupils, family and friends are invited to enjoy high quality entertainment in an informal atmosphere at a concert in memory of our pupil Mark Butterfield, to be held in school on Tuesday 28 June at 6.45pm. Mark died in Leeds General Infirmary, on Tuesday 1 March, at the age of 15. He had been suffering from cancer. Funds raised from the event will be donated to *Candlelighters* in memory of Mark. *Candlelighters* helps support children with cancer and their families. The charity, founded in 1976 by families and medical staff at Leeds General Infirmary, funds research and study of children's cancer. It provides family holidays, grants and essential additional services within the hospital, bringing support and hope to ordinary families who are facing extraordinary circumstances. Come and be entertained by our talented pupil performers. A collection will be taken for *Candlelighters*. There will be no admission charge for this event. Everyone is welcome.



**Father Michael Krychiwskyj**

Please keep Fr Michael Krychiwskyj, who is very unwell, in your thoughts and prayers. Fr Michael is Parish Priest at St Jeanne Jugan, Leeds, and a good friend of our school community.

**Reflections in Refugee Week**

The school is delighted to host an event in partnership with the Leeds branch of The Council of Christians and Jews next month. Dr Casey A. Strine will give a lecture entitled *Reflections in Refugee Week, How Involuntary Migration Shapes the Book of Genesis* in our school hall on Thursday 23 June at 7.00pm. The lecture will be of special interest to pupils in Years 8 and 9 who will be undertaking an in-depth study of Judaism and The Old Testament as part of the learning in preparation for the new GCSE in Religious studies. Dr Strine is a Vice-Chancellor's Fellow and Lecturer in Hebrew Bible at the University of Sheffield. The event is free of charge. All parents and pupils are invited.

Yours sincerely



E A Cox  
Headteacher