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CARDINAL HEENAN
CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL
Putting Our Faith in Education

13 October 2017

Dear Parents

Top Rating for Cardinal Heenan

The government's new interim school performance tables were published yesterday. Cardinal Heenan is placed in the top 18% of schools nationally by the key *Progress 8* measure. This splendid outcome is a consequence of the strong partnership of pupils, parents and staff. It results from a great deal of hard work by all involved.

<https://www.compare-school-performance.service.gov.uk/school/108095>

For a simple guide to this new performance measure see *Progress 8 (explained in 3 minutes)* on the front page of our school website.

School Open Day: Thanks for Your Support

I felt privileged to be part of the Cardinal Heenan Open Day last Saturday. I have worked in many schools over a long career, yet I have never been part of such a vibrant, joyous, active school occasion. Over 1,000 visitors came through our doors and were welcomed by 250 pupil guides and helpers. It was a thrilling occasion which will stay long in my memory.

Feedback was very pleasing, with parents commenting positively on our articulate, enthusiastic pupils, helpful staff and the strong community spirit here. Many parents also came to the tours of the school last Wednesday. Thank you for your support.

Year 11 Information Evening

Thank you to all the parents of Year 11 pupils who attended the information meeting yesterday evening. The session gave parents important information about mock examinations, revision preparation and coursework deadlines. Advice was offered about how to support pupils at home, as well as the provision in place in school. Parental support is vital in this challenging final year and by working together we can ensure that your son or daughter is in the best possible position to achieve success.

Year 11 Skills Building Day

All our Year 11 pupils will take part in a day of skills building activities next Monday, 16 October. This will include a focus on study skills and revision strategies in preparation for mock examinations, assistance in making post-16 education applications, writing personal statements and interview preparation. Pupils will also participate in *Restart a Heart Day* and receive training in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR). *Restart a Heart Day* is a Europe-wide initiative developed by the European Resuscitation Council. It was launched in 2013 to teach members of the public how to help restart the heart of someone who has suffered a cardiac arrest. Every year, around 350,000 Europeans suffer an out-of-hospital cardiac arrest. This may occur anywhere: in the street, at work, or while exercising or doing other strenuous activity. Unfortunately the vast majority of cardiac arrests happen at home, where family members are the only witnesses and the only ones with the chance to save their loved ones. It adds to the tragedy of the situation that we would lose a loved one just because we did not know what to do in the event of a sudden cardiac arrest. Bystander CPR by lay people increases survival by two to three times. However, today it is delivered in only one in five cases. That is why fewer than one in 10 of these patients survive. Increasing this rate may save 100,000 lives in Europe per year.



Stephen Lawrence
EDUCATION STANDARD

Apply Now for Next September



Parents of children now in Year 6 at primary school who wish to apply for a place for their child at Cardinal Heenan next September should apply online now at

<http://www.leeds.gov.uk/residents/Pages/Admissions-Secondary-School.aspx>

A completed Supplementary Information Form (SIF) is also required. SIFs should be returned here to Cardinal Heenan or to your child's primary school, no later than 31 October 2017. Applications received after this date will be classified as late. Apply now.

Full details of the applications process are available on our school website:

<http://www.cardinalheenan.com/index.php/admissions/2018-admissions>

Information Evening for Year 9 Parents and Pupils: 7.00pm on Wednesday 18 October

Parents of pupils in Year 9 are invited to a meeting next Wednesday which will advise on how parents may provide support for pupils following courses which lead to the new GCSEs and other examinations. Curriculum Leaders for English and Mathematics will speak briefly about the demands of new GCSE specifications in these key subjects. Parents will receive a *Guide to Courses at KS4*. This will give details of the main topics to be covered in each specification, tips for parents and useful websites for research and revision. Please note that Year 9 pupils are also invited to come to this meeting. If parents are unable to attend, the written information distributed at the meeting will be sent home to you in the days following the Information Evening.

Half Term

The school closes for half term at 3.15pm next Friday, 20 October, and re-opens to pupils at 8.55am on Monday 30 October.

Yours sincerely

P Whelan
Headteacher