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CARDINAL HEENAN
CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL
Putting Our Faith in Education

15 April 2016

Dear Parents



Second Title for Christina

One of the school's most promising athletes, Christina Walker, Year 8, has just become the Leeds Schools Cross Country Champion for the second year running. Having won many races earlier this year, she completed a fine season with a strong showing in the recent final race at the Leeds Grammar School. Christina's commitment to this demanding sport is highly impressive. She trains at Leeds Beckett University with full coaching support for 10 hours every week and appears regularly on the podium for Leeds City Athletics Club. Congratulations to Christina on a string of medal winning performances.



Best Speaker Award for Darragh

Congratulations to Darragh Kennedy on winning the award for *Best Individual Speaker* in the 2016 Debate Matters competition for Leeds high schools. In a series of debating rounds Olivia Wilson and Scarlet Rowe were narrowly beaten in the final; Darragh Kennedy and Dom Coverley won the semi-final. Our debaters received high praise for fine performances from the competition judges. When competitors were asked to introduce themselves to the judges, three of our pupils said they wanted to be politicians. No other school had pupils with such ambition. It is really encouraging that well-informed and engaged pupils want to be MPs. Our country need people like them! Mrs Evans, Mrs Rutherford and Dr Bradley give generously of their time in preparing pupils for these debates and co-ordinating this very popular and successful activity in school. We are grateful for their work.



Stephen Lawrence
EDUCATION STANDARD

A Testing Time

Year 10 pupils are currently taking internal school examinations: these continue until Friday 29 April. Year 7 and 8 pupils start their examinations on Monday 16 May. GCSE examination papers for Year 11 pupils begin on Monday 16 May. GCSE candidates in Year 11 have been given personalised examination timetables, listing all their individual examination commitments. All have been given much detailed guidance on revision techniques and study skills by their teachers. They have been advised to plan their study programme and to share the information with parents. Parents, please ask to see the revision booklets and encourage your child to pursue a structured programme of revision by checking on progress. Internal examinations for pupils in Years 7 and 8 take place from Monday 16 until Wednesday 27 May. Year 9 examinations follow after half-term, from Monday 6 June until Friday 17 June.

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>

Jo Brand Plus has just informed us that they have full stocks of our new uniform, including the new plaid skirts and PE kit for girls.

Domestic Violence and Abuse School Notification Project

The school has been given the opportunity to take part in a new project that will run jointly between schools and West Yorkshire Police. It has been established to support children who are resident in households where there are incidents of domestic violence and abuse. The initiative has been designed to provide confidential notification to schools on any incidents of domestic violence and abuse which occur within a child's household that might have an impact on a child whilst he or she is in school. We know that children can be significantly physically or emotionally hurt, either by being present in the house or directly witnessing an incident of domestic violence. The project will ensure that a member of the school staff is trained to use the information that has been shared, in confidence, so that the school is able to make provision for possible difficulties experienced by children or their families. We are keen to offer the best possible support to our pupils and we believe this is going to be beneficial for all those involved. If you would like further support or information about domestic violence and abuse please go to www.leedsdomesticviolenceandabuse.co.uk

Parent Forum Wednesday 4 May

A Parent Forum takes place each term and provides opportunity for parents to raise questions, provide feedback and meet members of school leadership team. The next forum will be held at 7.00pm on Wednesday 4 May. All parents are invited to attend.

Feedback from Parents

Thank you to parents who attended the recent Year 10 Parents' Evening. Responses to the questionnaire indicate high levels of parental satisfaction. Parental views on the work of the school are always welcome. Please contact us by telephone 887 3240 or email info@cardinalheenan.com.

	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	Total
My child is happy in school.	47%	49%	1%	1%	1%	100%
My child is making good progress at school.	51%	46%	3%	0%	0%	100%

	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	Total
Pupils behave well in school.	38%	51%	5%	0%	6%	100%
Teaching is good.	30%	66%	1%	0%	3%	100%
Staff expect my child to work hard and do his or her best.	52%	45%	2%	0%	1%	100%
The homework given builds well on what my child learns at school.	32%	61%	3%	0%	4%	100%
My child has adequate amounts of homework.	28%	62%	5%	1%	4%	100%
Staff treat all children fairly and with respect.	37%	52%	7%	1%	3%	100%
My child is encouraged to be healthy and to take regular exercise.	24%	59%	8%	1%	8%	100%
My child is safe and is well cared for at school.	43%	53%	1%	1%	2%	100%
Bullying incidents are dealt with effectively in school.	26%	53%	3%	1%	17%	100%
I am kept informed about my child's progress.	29%	63%	4%	1%	3%	100%
I feel comfortable about approaching the school with questions, suggestions or a problem.	39%	54%	6%	1%	0%	100%
I understand the school's procedure for dealing with complaints.	27%	54%	11%	3%	5%	100%
My child knows who to go to if there is a problem.	43%	50%	2%	2%	3%	100%
The school welcomes the views of parents.	24%	64%	3%	2%	6%	100%
There is a good range of activities including trips or visits.	33%	47%	11%	4%	4%	100%
The school is well run.	31%	66%	1%	1%	1%	100%
The school's proposal to replace the headteacher's weekly letter with frequent news items on the school website will keep me better informed	34%	45%	6%	3%	11%	100%

Yours sincerely



E A Cox, Headteacher