

Tongue Lane, Leeds LS6 4QE

Telephone: (0113) 887 3240  
Facsimile: (0113) 294 0320  
E-mail: info@cardinalheenan.com  
Website: www.cardinalheenan.com  
Headteacher: Miss E A Cox MA MBA



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Dear Parents

### **Year 8 Directed Choices**

The process of selecting courses of study at Key Stage 4 begins in earnest for Year 8 pupils next week. Letters to parents, recommending one of the three pathways to public examinations, were given to Year 8 pupils today. A series of meetings in the coming weeks provide opportunities for advice, guidance and discussion.

#### **Options Fair**

An options fair for pupils will take place during the school day on Monday 18 January. Year 8 will have the opportunity to meet older pupils already studying the various KS4 courses and to ask questions of the learners themselves.

#### **Thursday 21 January: Year 8 Options Information Meetings 5.00pm and 7.00pm**

Information meetings for Year 8 parents and pupils about options, presented by Mr Gibbons, Deputy Headteacher, will be held in the School Hall on **Thursday 21 January**. The first meeting, at 5.00pm, will be for parents of pupils recommended for Pathway 1 (GCSE Combined Science and a vocational course). A second meeting for parents of pupils recommended for Pathway 2 (GCSE Combined Science) and Pathway 3 (GCSE Triple Science) will take place at 7.00pm. (Please note the different start times.) These occasions will provide an opportunity to find out more about the courses on offer and to discuss which of these may be best suited to your child. Information will also be given about significant changes to GCSE and other examinations which will affect Year 8 Pupils. Senior staff will be available to discuss curriculum choice with you on the evening.

#### **Options Booklet**

A booklet setting out details of each core and option subject and a Directed Choices form will be issued to Year 8 pupils on Tuesday 26 January.

#### **Wednesday 3 February: Year 8 Parents' Evening, from 4.00pm to 7.00pm**

This is an opportunity for Year 8 parents to meet with their children's subject teachers. Senior staff and the teachers who will be delivering KS4 courses will be available to discuss curriculum choice with parents and pupils on that occasion.

### **Champions**

The Cardinal Heenan Year 7 girls' football team have won the Leeds Girls' Under 12 Five a Side Champions trophy. Congratulations to Amelia Partridge, Joanne Harrington, Sofia Fenton-Glen, Chanice Allen, Ellie Lock and Emily Driscoll on a fine achievement.

### **Rewarding Pupils with High Behaviour for Learning Grades**

Reward events will be held each day during morning break next week to recognise pupils who have achieved high *Behaviour for Learning* grades across a range of subjects. Pupils demonstrating high levels of motivation in their learning and preparedness to apply themselves in their work will be invited to enjoy refreshments in the school Conference Room. The events will be attended by myself, other senior members of staff, Achievement Leaders, Year Managers and tutors. Parents will be notified if their son or daughter has been invited to a reward event. Schedule: Monday 18 January Year 11; Tuesday 19 January Year 8; Wednesday 20 January Year 10; Thursday 21 January Year 9; Friday 22 January Year 7. Congratulations to all the pupils involved on their excellent grades.



### Vote Rowe for UK Youth Parliament!

Year 10 pupil Scarlet Rowe is standing as a candidate in the 2016 elections to the *UK Youth Parliament* in Leeds. Every two years, four Members of Youth Parliament (MYPs) are elected to represent their city at a local, regional and national level. The parliament provides opportunities for young people aged 11-18 years old to use their voice in creative ways to bring about social change. Polling in Leeds opens today and closes on Friday 12 February. The four new MYPs will represent the young people of Leeds from 2016 to 2018. Voters must be aged from 11 up to 19 and either attend school in Leeds or live in a Leeds postcode area.

Scarlet's campaign address follows:

*One thing I am really passionate about is making sure that the opinions of all young people are heard. I also feel that a real issue in Leeds is the cost of bus travel across the city for young adults. My campaign, if I was elected, would be to push towards free bus travel for all 11-18 year olds in Leeds. It would benefit so many lives.*

*Please look at my manifesto for more information:*

<http://www.breezeleeds.org/Documents/active%20citizenship/Scarlet%20Rowe.pdf>

*I believe that we all deserve to be heard. Please vote for me from the 15 January to the 12 February. It will only take a minute. You can vote for three out of 10 finalists based on their manifestos. If you vote for me to represent your views and campaign for this cause, I will work really hard to do my best for all the young people of Leeds. Thank you!*

To vote visit <http://www.breezeleeds.org/HaveYourSay/Pages/UK-Youth-Parliament-Leeds.aspx> or search @ukyp voting Leeds.

### Debate Matters

Congratulations to Oliver Wilson, Darragh Kennedy, Dominic Coverley and Scarlet Rowe, the Cardinal Heenan team in the recent Debate Matters competition for Leeds high schools. Olivia and Scarlet opposed the motion that *Childhood vaccinations should be compulsory*. Darragh and Dominic proposed that *Britain should build HS2*. Our debaters received high praise for fine performances from the competition judges.

Yours sincerely



E A Cox, Headteacher

