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CARDINAL HEENAN
CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL
Putting Our Faith in Education

15 May 2015

Dear Parents

Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award Practice Walk



Year 9 pupils demonstrated their navigation and camp craft skills last weekend in a practice run for the forthcoming Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award expedition. A group of 20 pupils walked 15 miles from Harewood to Burley in Wharfedale, staying overnight in self-assembled tents at Bramhope Scout Camp. They encountered new experiences and discovered talents (and muscles) they never knew they had. They ate only the food that they carried: pasta featured high on many signature menus. The expedition practice was a great success, despite a cold Saturday evening spent in tents. Pupils were required to carry all the equipment and supplies they needed for the two day activity. Congratulations to Aimee Tarpey, Alexandra Dickinson, Bethany Tatler, Charlize Muziki-Madilo, Darragh Kennedy, Dioni Murphy, Dominic Coverley, Ella Craggs, Finn Rea, Jack Mercer, Katie Rose Crowe, Louis Connell, Magdelene Robinson, Matthew Kerrigan, Nathan Brady, Scarlett Rowe, Sean Carey and Sinead King. Thanks to Mrs McBrinn and Mrs Banks for leading the weekend and preparing the pupils in advance and to Mr Smithells, Mr Nelson, Mrs Lea and Mr Wild for their support on the expedition across the two days. The assessed expedition for the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award is scheduled from Saturday, 20 to Sunday, 21 June. We wish our pupils every success for this activity.



Stephen Lawrence
EDUCATION STANDARD

Debating Success

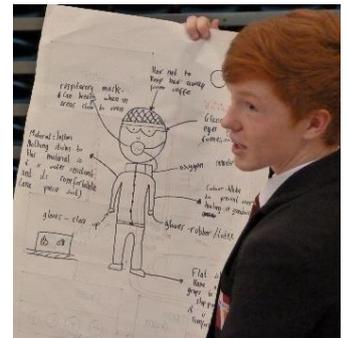
Pupils at Cardinal Heenan, Abbey Grange, Allerton High, Lawnswood and Ralph Thoresby schools were competitors in debates at the *Headingley Festival of Ideas*. The debates were set up in a format devised by the *Institute of Ideas* for sixth-form competitions.

Congratulations to Sally Greaney who was voted 'Best Speaker' by the judges after tackling the brief of proposing: *Nobody has the right not to be offended*. Our Year 10 team of Patrick Ferguson, Margarita Budreviciute, Sally Greaney and Elly Hogan represented the school with great credit to reach the final. In the deciding round Elly Hogan and Margarita Budreviciute proposed the motion: *The UK should embrace fracking*. They performed very ably but were narrowly defeated by winners Allerton High School. Leeds Salon, a public forum for debate around contemporary political, cultural and scientific issues, hosted the event at Headingley Enterprise and Arts Centre (HEART). 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.



Scientific Challenge

This week forty Year 10 pupils took part in a science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM) workshop. They were challenged to design an energy efficient production line. Activities included preparing a presentation and interactive questions. Congratulations to our winning team of Carina Font, Mikey Flannery, Makaza Tembo, Elly Hogan and Aoife Conlon. Their prize is an invitation to an Assessment Day where they will have the chance to pitch their ideas to selectors, competing with students from other schools for places of paid work experience with Nestlé UK. Another team of Nathan Allinson, Margarita Budreviciute, Conor Hopkinson, Kitty Grenham and Lauren Walters accredited themselves very well.



Advance Notice: Early School Closure for Pupils on Thursday 11 June 2015

The school will close to pupils at 1.20pm on Thursday 11 June 2015. Priorities for School Development planning in 2014-15 require subject teachers and support staff to review curriculum plans and revise schemes of work, in view of significant changes to GCSE in all subjects which are being introduced. The initiative is part of the school's strategy to ensure high standards of subject delivery across all year groups. An early lunch will precede tutor time before dismissal. School buses will collect pupils from school at 1.30pm. School meals will be served earlier than usual. Please contact school if this early close causes childcare problems. Pupils who are unable to get home may remain in school until 3.15pm. Staff supervision will be provided but normal lessons will be suspended. The time gained by staff will be used conscientiously to plan and map provision in light of curriculum change.

Consultation on New Secondary School

Leeds City Council are asking for your views about building a new secondary school on land to the south of Seacroft Hospital. The school would open in September 2018. Please see the link below for further details and the opportunity to comment. <https://leedssecondaryschoolplaceplanning.wordpress.com>

The online forum will run until Friday 29 May 2015. Were the proposed scheme to progress to the next stage, a further consultation would take place, focussed on more detailed plans for the features of the new provision.

Half Term

The half term holiday begins at 3.15pm on Friday 22 May for all pupils. School re-opens at 8.55am on Monday 1 June. Please ensure that pupils return to school after the break punctually, wearing correct school uniform and bringing with them a refillable plastic bottle for water. It is essential that pupils remain rehydrated and drink water regularly throughout the day in the warmer weather of the summer months.

And finally...

A sincere thank you to all parents for your continuing support of your children in learning, as we work together to secure the very highest standards of education.

Yours sincerely



E A Cox, Headteacher