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CARDINAL HEENAN
CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL
Putting Our Faith in Education

15 September 2017

Dear Parents

Homework and Planners

All pupils have been issued with a new Planner for the school year 2017-18. As I am sure you are aware, the school operates a two week timetable. We will complete the first cycle next Monday. It would be helpful if you could begin checking the planner to ensure that your child's homework is being completed.

I also remind parents of the need to read important information and sign the following pages:

Page 12 Home-School Agreement
Page 14 Emergency Closure and Non-Uniform Days
Page 15-16 After School Activities
Page 24 Permission for the Use of Pupil Photographs
Parents, please ensure that you have signed the above pages.

The Pupil Planner has been provided to pupils free of charge. As you will be aware, there is a strain on our school budget this financial year. In order to offset costs, the school is asking parents to make a voluntary contribution of £4 per pupil (a maximum of £8 per family) towards the cost of issuing Planners for the year. Contributions should be made by *ParentPay* no later than Friday 22 September 2017. The school does not accept cheques or cash in payment.

Early School Closure for Pupils on Wednesday 27 September

The school will close to pupils at 1.20pm on Wednesday 27 September. School buses will collect pupils from school at 1.30pm after an early lunch. Parents, please contact school without delay if this early closure causes you childcare problems. Pupils who are unable to get home may remain in school, supervised by staff, until 3.15pm. Normal lessons will be suspended. The time gained will be used by staff in training for raising achievement as part of the school's strategies for attaining consistently high levels of pupil progress.

Open Day, Saturday 7 October, 11.00am – 1.30pm

Everyone is invited to see the school at work at our Open Day. Find out about what the school has to offer your child: high academic achievement; excellent teaching; superb learning facilities; many clubs, sports and activities; pastoral care. See our gifted pupils in action. Meet our highly qualified teams of specialist teachers. Join in many quizzes, games, challenges and fun activities. The Headteacher's address to parents will be given in the School Hall at 12.00 noon and again at 12.45pm. Find out about an education for your child at Cardinal Heenan. Open Day is for everyone: children, parents, friends and family. All welcome!

See the School in Action, Wednesday 11 October, 9.30am and 11.30am

Parents of pupils currently in primary schools are invited to see our pupils and staff in action on a typical working day. Two guided tours will take place at 9.30am and 11.30am. Please book your place by ringing Mrs Martland on 887 3240.

Mass of Welcome, Wednesday 27 September

Parents of Year 7 pupils are asked to note that the Mass of Welcome for Year 7 pupils will take place at 7.00pm in the school Hall on Wednesday 27 September. This is a family event and you are very welcome to bring members of your family with you. Year 7 pupils should attend the evening in full school uniform. I look forward to seeing pupils and their parents.



Year 7 Cognitive Ability Tests (CATS)

We will be testing all Year 7 pupils by means of nationally recognised tests known as Cognitive Ability Tests (CATs) in the fortnight beginning Monday 18 September. Four tests assess a pupil's ability to reason with and manipulate different types of material through a series of verbal, non-verbal, quantitative and spatial ability tasks. These tests add to the existing data we have about your child and help the school to provide a learning experience to suit their needs.

Year 7 Days of Recollection

Parents of Year 7 pupils have been sent a letter about a Day of Recollection at Otley Cricket Club. The purpose of this Day of Recollection is to give our pupils an opportunity to grow in their understanding and appreciation of faith and spirituality. They will be encouraged to share their experiences and gifts with others and to build relationships. Our pupils usually find this day a meaningful experience and they often manage to pray and feel close to God in a special way. We expect pupils to participate and contribute fully to the programme. The days will be scheduled as follows

Tutor Groups	Date
7SHR, 7TEY	Tuesday 26 September
7DER, 7SDN	Wednesday 27 September
7CBI, 7JCO	Thursday 28 September
7CGS	Friday 29 September

Each Year 7 pupil will take part for one day only. The visit will take place during the school day. Pupils will depart by coach after morning registration at 9.10am and return to the school before 3.15pm, in time to catch school buses home. A voluntary contribution of £20 is requested to cover the costs of this educational visit. Please make your payment by using *ParentPay*. For more information about *ParentPay* please see the front page of the school website.

Date for the Diary: Year 11 Prom

Year 11 students and parents please note that the Year 11 Prom has been booked for the evening of Thursday 21 June 2018 at the Mercure Leeds Parkway Hotel.

Yours sincerely



P Whelan
Headteacher