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CARDINAL HEENAN
CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL
Putting Our Faith in Education

17 November 2017

Dear Parents

Ada, Ada, Ada

A group of girls from Years 9 and 10 visited Leeds Central Library this week for a performance of *Ada Ada Ada*, a one woman show about the world's first computer programmer. Ada Lovelace, a mathematician and daughter of the poet Lord Byron, wrote the world's first complex algorithm in 1843 and then was written out of history. The play told Lovelace's story using an LED dress operated by a wearable tech satin glove. Using a timescale from 1812 to 2043, the production examined Ada Lovelace's life, her legacy and the history of computer science. The interactive theatre production aimed to inspire the next generation of technical innovators and help people, especially girls and women, to consider careers based on science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM).



Digital Day

Pupils in Year 9 enjoyed *BIMA Digital Day* on Tuesday 14 November. This is an initiative created by the British Interactive Media Association (BIMA) to introduce pupils to the possibility of embarking on a career in digital industries. Digital professionals from the Bolser agency in Leeds visited us to give presentations on life in the industry. Pupils then worked on digital design, coding, mobile apps, social media and web development projects. Much of the day was spent working on a series of digital challenges for clients Liverpool Victoria Insurance, this year's sponsors of the event. Pupils presented their ideas to their peers and Bolser professionals at

the end of the day. Those ideas judged to be the best will be entered in a national competition.

Book Fair

This term's book fair will open at lunchtime on Friday 24 November and run until Thursday 30 November, as part of our continuing drive to encourage pupils to read for pleasure. Over 200 titles will be available including fantasy, thrillers, non-fiction, comedy and lots more. Prices start from £2.99. There will be opportunities for parents of Year 7 pupils to buy new books at the Tutor Evening on Tuesday 28 November. Every pupil who purchases a book will be entered into a prize draw for free books and asked to nominate books they would like to see in the library. Details have been explained in English reading lessons. Please support the initiative and encourage your child to read a book for pleasure.

Bus Passes

All pupils using school buses must show a *Young Person's Photocard* (half fare pass) to the driver on boarding the bus. This blue card entitles the traveller to pay half the normal fare. Service operators have informed the school that pupils without this pass will be charged full fare of £2.40 instead of the £1.20 half fare. Pupils may pay in cash or with a pre-paid *School Plus* ticket. All those travelling on a special school bus service are also required to produce a yellow boarding pass and to travel only on the school bus indicated on this pass.



Failure to show the correct blue and yellow passes to drivers and inspectors may result in a refusal of access to travel on school buses. Please remind your children of the rules in order to avoid distress. It is likely that inspectors will board buses in the coming weeks to check compliance with the rules.

Shoe Box Appeal

This year's Christmas shoe box appeal gets underway in school next week. Pupils are being invited to support a vulnerable child, teenager or adult in Leeds this Christmas by donating either individual items or even a whole shoebox. Suggestions for inclusion are toiletry sets, hats, gloves, scarf and toys. The boxes will be given to vulnerable children, teenagers or adults in Leeds who lack some of the most basic necessities. Contents requested are toys and items to satisfy basic needs. Items of school equipment such as pens, pencils, exercise books, paper, sharpeners, erasers and solar calculators are welcome. Hygiene items such as toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap, facecloths, hairbrushes and combs are needed. The boxes may also contain clothing such as scarves, gloves, socks and underwear. Distribution will be undertaken by the St Vincent de Paul Society. Please bring items to school before Friday 15 December

Training Day

Please remember that Monday 27 November is a staff training day when there will be no school for pupils. School begins again the following day at 8.55am.

Yours sincerely



P Whelan
Headteacher