

Tongue Lane, Leeds LS6 4QE

Telephone: (0113) 887 3240
E-mail: info@cardinalheenan.com
Website: www.cardinalheenan.com
Headteacher: Mr P Whelan MA



CARDINAL HEENAN
CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

19 January 2018

Dear Parents

Recruitment of a New Headteacher

Mr Carey, Chair of Governors, writes: I promised to keep parents and guardians up to date with the recruitment of a new Headteacher to replace Mr Whelan who leaves us at the end of the current school year. We set a closing date of Friday 12 January for applications. However, we received only a limited number of applications and we feel we need more in order to ensure that we get the best candidate for the job. We have decided, therefore, to re-advertise the post of Headteacher. This is not unusual when trying to recruit a new Headteacher and we remain confident that we will have the right candidate in place ready and raring to go for the start of the new school year in September. I will provide a further update on this recruitment at the start of the summer term.

I would also like to inform you that Mr Gibbons, Deputy Headteacher, has decided to retire at the end of this school year. Mr Gibbons has given 40 years' service to the school – an incredible achievement – and has been instrumental in developing the unique and supportive environment at Cardinal Heenan. Mr Gibbons will be sorely missed. I will let you know later in the year how we intend to mark and recognise his retirement.

We now need to recruit for a new Deputy Head and have today advertised this post. We will, of course, let you know the outcome of this process.

Performing Shakespeare

After winning several rounds of speaking competitions, no fewer than 11 of our pupils have won through to the regional final of the English Speaking Union's *Performing Shakespeare* Competition.

Next month audiences will see two performances of a scene from *Romeo and Juliet* by Cardinal Heenan pupils. Year 7 duo of Lola Kennedy and Amelie Wolstenholme will play the roles of Juliet and her nurse, to be followed by Year 9 pupils Alice Hobson and Amelie Thompson. Lily Collier and Chloe Beaumont will play Helena and Hermia from *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Caitlin Pigott and Isabel Itoe, Year 9, will tackle the murder scene from *Macbeth*. Patrick Crowe and Vicky Szczygielska, Year 9, will perform the balcony scene from *Romeo and Juliet*. Liam Mc Cartney, Year 9, will present Hamlet's soliloquy 'To be or not to be...' Congratulations to our thespians and to their coach Miss Gallagher. The regional final will be held at Teesside High School on 27 February. *I am to wait, though waiting so be hell.*

Year 11 Mock GCSE Results Day

Year 11 pupils had a taste of August yesterday morning when they took part in a mock GCSE Results Day. They were handed sealed envelopes containing the subject grades attained in recent mock examinations, to replicate GCSE Results Day. Judging by the atmosphere, there were some fraught nerves before grades were issued by tutors but many pupils appeared pleased with their progress at this stage. Most pupils were very much engaged in progressing their own achievement. Mrs Welbourne, Assistant Headteacher, emphasised that there is still time for pupils to consolidate and improve grades received yesterday. Numerous pupils achieved a strong showing at this stage. As you might expect, not all pupils achieved gratifying grades: much





work remains to be done. Subject teachers are meeting with pupils to review results and make action plans for improvement. Well done to those who were pleased with results. For pupils where outcomes were lower than the challenging targets set, hard work is needed to match the resolve seen yesterday.

Dates for the Diary

Wednesday 31 January:	Year 8 Parents' Evening, from 4.00pm to 7.00pm
Thursday 1 February:	Issue of Progress Reports for Pupils in Years 7, 9 and 11
Thursday 8 February:	Ski Trip to Sestriere, Italy (until Thursday 15 February)
Friday 9 February:	School Closes for Half Term
Sunday 18 February:	Year 11 Retreat to Ampleforth until Tuesday 20 February
Monday 19 February:	Staff Training Day: School Closed to Pupils
Tuesday 20 February:	School Re-opens after Half Term
Tuesday 20 February:	Year 11 PiXL Examinations in English & Maths (until Thursday 22 February)

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P Whelan'.

P Whelan
Headteacher