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CARDINAL HEENAN
CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL
Putting Our Faith in Education

2 December 2016

Dear Parents

Advent in School

A voluntary lunchtime Mass is celebrated in the Chapel each Thursday. It has been pleasing to see healthy numbers attending during this season of Advent. Next Friday, as part of our Advent liturgies in school, we welcome visiting priests who will join our Priest Chaplain, Fr Sean Crawley, to administer the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Pupils are being helped to prepare during their religious education lessons next week. Please encourage your child to receive the sacrament next Friday. Although we have been bombarded for many weeks by the premature announcements of Christmas, the emphasis at Cardinal Heenan continues to be on the season of Advent. Inevitably, as in any school, we must be realistic and accept that aspects of Christmas are anticipated before the term finishes on 20 December. Our Carol Service in the School Hall on Monday 19 December at 7.00pm is such an example. We hope parents will join us on that evening. Our Advent programme, including the weekly lunchtime Mass, continue to give us all opportunities to prepare properly for the Feast of the Nativity on 25 December and to understand its true significance. Our pupils are also being encouraged to take part in services and Masses in their parishes to mark the seasons of Advent and Christmas over the coming weeks.

High Debating Scores

Cardinal Heenan hosted the English Speaking Union's Mace debating competition on Wednesday 30 November. Many congratulations to our Year 11 pupils Darragh Kennedy and Joseph Laverty on achieving one of the highest scores of the day. Following Wednesday's debates, the teams progressing to the next round will be Cardinal Heenan and the Grammar School at Leeds. This is a magnificent achievement: our pupils debate against teams of sixth formers and most schools entering the competition are from the independent sector. Alex Cserna and Scarlet Rowe, also Year 11, stepped in at the last minute as a "swing team" to replace a side who withdrew earlier in the day. With only two hours of preparation, the girls performed magnificently against Hill House School, Doncaster. Our thanks and congratulations go to Mrs Rutherford and Dr Bradley who coached our teams for the debates.

Year 9 Physics Master Class

Year 9 pupils attended a Master Class presented by Conor Davies, Lead Educator for the National Space Academy, yesterday. The highly interactive session introduced pupils to aspects and applications of physics which are not usually covered in the school curriculum. Mr Davies shared insight and enthusiasm about space research, giving pupils the opportunity to explore the subject for themselves, individually and in small groups. Master classes are designed to encourage, inspire and engage young people in the art and practice of physics. The event took place at The Grammar School at Leeds.

Donations for the Senior Citizens' Party

Year 10 pupils are busy preparing for our Senior Citizens' Party, to be held on Thursday 15 December at 1.30pm. This an event that we hold every year in school. We invite elderly members of our local community to enjoy some festive food and fun in our School Hall. A food hamper is provided to those attending. Thank you to parents and pupils who have already donated raffle prizes and goods for the hampers. More items are needed, especially raffle



prizes. If you know an elderly person in your community or parish who would enjoy such an occasion, please contact Miss Waite, Year Manager (887 3240).

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'E A Cox'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a small flourish at the end.

E A Cox
Headteacher