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**CARDINAL HEENAN**  
CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL  
*Putting Our Faith in Education*

22 July 2016

Dear Parents

### Celebrating Reading Day



Cardinal Heenan staff and students enjoyed our first *Celebrating Reading Day* on Monday 18 July. In a wonderfully successful day there were events throughout the school to promote literacy and a love of reading. Popular young adult authors Alan Gibbons and Bali Rai ran creative writing sessions and local poet Craig Bradley worked with pupils on performance poetry. Pupils tried their hand at experiments from *The Hunger Games* and at playing quidditch, a competitive sport in the wizarding world of the Harry Potter universe. The day was a reward for pupils' efforts with our new *Reading for Pleasure* scheme and for their enthusiastic participation in *Drop Everything and Read* sessions. Many pupils have read a wide range of recommended texts. They have been involved in reading groups and award ceremonies with students from other schools. Today we look forward to a summer of *Reading for Pleasure*! Special thanks to Miss Burns and Mr Teggart for planning and coordinating an imaginative day of learning.



Stephen Lawrence  
EDUCATION STANDARD

### Sports Day, Friday 15 July



The entire school decamped to the John Charles Centre for Sport on Friday, 15 July, for our annual Sports Day. Large numbers of pupils took part in the full range of athletic events. Many thanks to the PE department for organising the event and to all who participated in a most successful sporting occasion.

### Scientific Challenge

Congratulations to Year 10 pupil Alex Cserna who will be undertaking paid work experience with Nestlé UK in York this summer. She won the coveted place following a workshop in science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM) last term. 15 Year 10 pupils took part in the challenge. They were required to design an energy efficient production line. Activities included preparing a presentation and interactive questions. Alex received invitation to an Assessment Day where she had the chance to pitch her ideas to selectors, competing with students from schools throughout Britain!

### Work Experience

For the last two weeks Year 10 pupils have travelled throughout Leeds (and beyond) to attend work experience placements. They have worked in offices, factories, hospitals, workshops and outdoors, gaining valuable insights into careers in law, journalism, manufacturing, engineering, sport, and much more. Thanks to all parents who helped our pupils to find 180 placements and to Mr Gaffey, Careers Guidance Coordinator, who worked very hard to organise this valuable learning experience. Please contact him if you are able to offer a placement in 2017.

### **Awaiting the Results**

GCSE results will be available in school from 10.00am on Thursday 25 August. Where parents have requested that results are sent by post, these will be posted (by first class mail) on publication day, Thursday 25 August. (GCSE results will NOT be issued to telephone callers under any circumstances.) All Year 11 students and their parents are invited to a Presentation Evening in School at 7.00pm on Thursday 3 November when GCSE certificates will be presented. We look forward to seeing our former students and their parents in November for what is always one of the happiest evenings in the school calendar.

### **Danger Online**

As you may be aware, a recently released *Pokémon Go* game is becoming popular with young people. Police have asked me to advise parents of concerns for the safety of individuals pursuing characters within the game. During the summer break, young players may have more time and freedom to roam in pursuit of their quest. In doing so they may put themselves and others at risk.

The *Pokémon Go* app allows people to set up a 'beacon' which can then encourage other users to reach a specific venue. Police are concerned that it could be the latest way for online criminals to target victims. It is alleged that there have already been such incidents in America. Parents should supervise children when using the app.

Our advice to players is:

- Be cautious to alerting strangers about where you will be in the future.
- Be careful where you leave 'beacons'.
- Always pay attention to your surroundings.
- Do not play in areas where traffic runs through or in dangerous locations near water, cliff tops, craggy outcrops and mountainous regions.
- Where possible, play with friends and stay in a group. Have at least one of your friends as a 'lookout'.
- Play at home. You can use lures to attract Pokémon to you.
- Keep your device safe and out of sight. Your phone will vibrate when a Pokémon is near.

The makers of the game have said:

"We encourage all people to be aware of their surroundings and to play with friends or family, especially when you are exploring unfamiliar places. Please remember to be safe and alert at all times".

### **Farewell and Welcome**

At the end of term we say goodbye to a number of staff. Mr Matterson is leaving after 13 years' service at Cardinal Heenan. In that time he has been Coordinator of Personal, Health, Social Citizenship Education (PHSCE) and teacher of Business Studies and ICT. He has been instrumental in achieving excellent public examination results in Business and ICT. In his PHSCE role he has helped our pupils to develop the knowledge and skills they need to manage the challenges and responsibilities they will face as they reach adulthood. Mrs Howat, who has been our Examinations Officer and Cover Manager since 2011, has served the school with unwavering loyalty and commitment. She has been responsible for overseeing all aspects of examinations management within the school, liaising with pupils, parents, staff, examination invigilators and examination board officials. She has brought outstanding efficiency and high levels of organisation to these important tasks. She has also managed cover for special school events and staff absences. Always exceptionally well prepared, her professional skills have been of the highest order.

Other leavers have been with us for shorter periods. Miss Dias has been a gifted teacher of science here since 2013. As tutor to Year 10 pupil Mark Butterfield, she has been instrumental this year in helping pupils to deal with the very difficult months following Mark's death. Her eulogy for Mark at the Requiem Mass was a most eloquent, moving tribute which expressed the condolences of our school community with great tenderness, eloquence and dignity. This term she has been indefatigable in fundraising for Candlelighters in memory of Mark.

Miss Wilson, Assistant Curriculum Leader for Science, and Mr Hadley, Teacher of English, have been with us since September 2015. Both have served the school well. We are grateful for their efforts on behalf of our pupils. Teaching assistants Mr Dobson and Miss Higgins have helped pupils in many ways and are beginning courses of teacher training next term.

All our staff leavers go with the thanks and good wishes of the Cardinal Heenan community.

Governors have been very busy in recent months appointing new staff. Next term we will welcome newcomers: Mrs McGinley, Curriculum Leader for Business Studies; Mrs Wild, Progress Learning Centre Manager; Mr Easter, Teacher of English; Miss Barnes, Teacher of Religious Education; Mr Edney, Teacher of Physical Education; Mrs Hammond, Teacher of Music and English; Teaching Assistants Mrs Cruz, Miss Moore, Miss Di Presa, Miss Roskowska and Mrs Nazir. Mr O'Flanagan, will join us as a Teacher of Science from January 2017.

Existing staff have been appointed to new roles: Four teachers become members of the school's Senior Leadership Team: Miss McMinn as Director of English; Miss Donnelly as Director of Mathematics; Mr Bownass as Director of Science; and Mrs Powell-Wiffen as Director of Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) and English as an Additional Language (EAL). Miss Hudson has been appointed as Assistant Curriculum Leader for Science. Mr Palmer becomes Achievement Leader for Year 7. Miss Bishop, Miss Clarke, Mr Coldwell and Mrs Welbourne become Coordinators of Teaching and Learning; Dr Bradley is our new Coordinator of Personal, Health, Social and Citizenship Education (PHSCE). Miss Burns will be a Teacher of English and Library Support Assistant. Mrs Crossland and Mrs Brumskill become Cover Assistants. Mrs Clinch becomes Year Manager during Mrs Keinhorst's maternity leave. Mrs Plygawko takes up a new role as Data and Assessment Manager. Mrs Firth becomes the school's Examinations Officer; Mr Broadley becomes IT Network Manager; Mrs Walker has been appointed as Senior Science Technician. All take up their new posts in September.

Other staff are resigning their current roles: after many years of distinguished service in a core area of the school curriculum, Mrs Doyle steps down as Curriculum Leader for English. After a decade of service to pupils Miss Adamson hands over her important pastoral role as Year Leader.

### **End of Term**

Today we mark the end of another successful year on with a Mass of Thanksgiving for the whole school. The new school year begins at 8:55am on Tuesday 6 September for all pupils.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank parents for all that you do in supporting the school and to wish all pupils and their families a safe and happy summer holiday.

Yours sincerely



E A Cox  
*Headteacher*