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CARDINAL HEENAN
CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL
Putting Our Faith in Education

22 September 2017

Dear Parents

New Chair of Governors

Mr Steven Carey has been elected as the school's new Chair of Governors and Mr Michael Gardner as Vice Chair. Mr Carey writes: *Governors work together with leaders at all levels in the school to ensure the best possible outcomes for pupils. We are uncompromising in our ambition for school improvement. We hold leaders to account for setting high standards and working strategically for all groups of pupils so that they make rapid and sustained progress, whatever their backgrounds or starting points. We are proud of our school and work systematically to ensure that all our pupils benefit from high quality Catholic education. I look forward to working with Mr Carey and all governors in promoting the progress and welfare of our pupils.* Details of governing body members may be found on the school website at <http://www.cardinalheenan.com/index.php/about-the-school/governors>

School Gateway

The new school year is a good time to remind parents of School Gateway, a service designed to make communication with parents easier, faster and more effective. This means that we can share information with parents more quickly via email, text, online and the School Gateway smartphone app. The good news is that you can now see how many achievement points your son or daughter is awarded as they happen! School Gateway enables you to view your child's timetable of lessons and attendance data (including unexplained absences). It is also a way of sending messages to school and updating your contact details.

If you have a smartphone please download the app. Search for the School Gateway app from your app store (Android and iPhone) or on your phone go to www.schoolgateway.com/apple (Apple) or www.schoolgateway.com/android (Android). Once downloaded, open the app and tap on 'New User'. You will receive a text message with a PIN number. Use this PIN to login to the School Gateway app. Parents can now send app messages to the school free of charge. The school will also save money when we send text messages to parents. Alternatively please visit the website: www.schoolgateway.com and click on 'New User'. You'll receive a text message with a PIN number. Use this PIN to login to School Gateway. Please add the email address and telephone number below to your contacts or trusted senders list. This will prevent messages from school going into your SPAM folder. Email: SC3834751a@schoolcomms.com
SMS (Texts): 01133 200 642

If you are having trouble activating your School Gateway account, it may be because school does not have your current email and mobile phone number on record. Please telephone the school reception office on 887 3240 and we will check that the details on our system are correct. We hope that you will find School Gateway a useful way to keep up to date with developments in school.

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.

School Buses

Have you applied for your child's two school buses passes yet? All pupils using the school buses must carry and produce a yellow boarding pass every day and travel on the school bus indicated on this pass. Failure to produce a boarding pass will prevent access to the school bus. In addition, all pupils must also show the driver a current Under 16 Photocard which entitles pupils to pay half fare. Bus operators have informed the school that any pupil without this pass will be charged £2.40, the full fare, instead of the £1.20 half fare. Parents can get an Under 16 Photocard at Leeds Central Bus Station. Proof of the child's age and address is needed. Alternatively, complete the application on line at <https://ticketsandpasses.wymetro.com/tickets-and-passes/under-26-and-students/under-16-photocard/>. A valid UK passport and a digital passport-quality photo are needed to make online applications. The only exceptions to the above relate to pupils entitled to a Zero Fare pass. Click here for timetable information: <http://www.generationm.co.uk/your-school/schoolfinder/C/CardinalHeenanCatholicHighSchool/#school>
The West Yorkshire Combined Authority has written to parents with details of the services which apply for each pupil. For further information about education transport telephone 348 1122 or see <http://www.generationm.co.uk/>
Please make sure that you have made arrangements for your child's travel to and from school. Mrs Powell-Wiffen, Assistant Headteacher, is the point of contact for issues relating to special school bus services.

Year 7 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 Days of Recollection

Year 7 pupils are looking forward to their Day of Recollection at Otley Cricket Club next week. 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. 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.

Yours sincerely



P Whelan
Headteacher