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CARDINAL HEENAN
CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL
Putting Our Faith in Education

23 October 2015

Dear Parents

Cole the Goal: National Honours for Cardinal Heenan Pupil



Congratulations to Cardinal Heenan pupil Cole Roberts, Year 7, who is in Africa this week representing England in an international football tournament. Cole is a member of the Leeds City Boys side who have won county and nationwide competitions to represent England at the finals of The Danone Nations Cup. Team England will face Portugal, Egypt and Mexico in the first pool games next week; 32 nations have reached the finals.

Friendly games are already in progress before the finals proper get underway. Yesterday Cole scored the only goal in an England victory over China. The England squad is based in Marrakech.

Year 7 pupil Cole Roberts scored the first goal for England at the The Danone Nations Cup finals in Morocco this week. He was pictured on the front row, third from the left, as the team set off.



New GCSE Courses

It was wonderful to welcome so many Year 9 pupils and parents to our Information Evening on Wednesday. Details of the new GCSE courses which Year 9 are now studying were given. Several parents asked for copies of the presentations given by Mrs Doyle, Curriculum Leader for English, and by Miss Donnelly, Curriculum Leader for Mathematics. These are available for download here or from the curriculum page of the school website.



Stephen Lawrence
EDUCATION STANDARD

Free Books for Year 7

All Year 7 pupils received the gift of a book this week. The pupils chose their books during English lessons in September. Orders were delivered to school this week. Many thanks to our Year 10 junior librarians who helped to distribute the books. We hope that Year 7 pupils will enjoy reading their new books over half term and we look forward to reading their reviews and recommendations for their peers. The Book Buzz scheme, coordinated by our Librarian, Miss Burns, is part of the ongoing Reading for Pleasure initiative in school.

Book Buzz: two of our junior librarians are pictured with Year 7 readers.



Parish Representatives

Our Chaplaincy Coordinator, Mrs Hayden, is busy recruiting pupils as parish representatives. A pupil representative for each feeder parish works as a point of contact with the parish priest. This facilitates exchanges of key information (about confirmation, Lourdes, fundraising, carol services, invitations, school events advertised in parish newsletters etc.). Please ask your child to consider volunteering for this important role. Interested pupils should see Mrs Hayden.

Early School Close for Pupils at 1.20pm on Wednesday 18 November 2015

The school will close to pupils at 1.20pm on Wednesday 18 November. School buses will collect pupils from school at 1.30pm after an early lunch. Parents, please contact school if this early closure causes you childcare problems. Pupils who are unable to get home may remain in school until 3.15pm. Normal lessons will be suspended.

The time gained will be used by staff in preparing for the new assessment procedures at Key Stage 3 which result from changes to the National Curriculum. Ensuring consistent, standardised assessment for all pupils is an essential part of achieving consistently high levels of pupil progress. Subject teachers and support teams analyse pupil outcomes each term in order to co-ordinate classroom support and challenge strategies.

Please contact your child's Year Manager no later than Friday 13 November if you wish your son or daughter to be supervised in school until 3.15pm on Wednesday 18 November. Please note that pupils travelling from school at 3.15pm will be required to make their own travel arrangements.

Pupil Premium Plus

It has come to our attention that there may be additional funding available to schools to support young people who are adopted or living with families under a Special Guardianship Order. Please contact Dr P. Caldwell, Assistant Headteacher, to discuss (in complete confidence) whether your child may be eligible for this funding.

Lost Property

Items of lost property found in school are displayed in the school foyer every Friday during term in the hope that owners will reclaim them. The pile of unclaimed items is growing exponentially. Several items have been waiting for their owners since the first week of term. Items currently awaiting collection include blazers, jackets, coats, pullovers, shirts, shorts, rucksacks, holdalls, boot bags, football boots, shoes, trainers, watches, purses and much more. Lost property wastes a great deal of parents' money, pupils' time which should be spent learning and teachers' time which could be better spent in teaching. Whenever an item is labelled with a name it is returned directly to the owner. Unfortunately, few items are labelled. Pupils, please take greater care of your belongings. Claim found items from reception. Too many Year 7 pupils are very forgetful of expensive items of clothing and equipment. Unclaimed items are donated to charity at the end of each term.



Learning at Cardinal Heenan: A Parents' Guide

A learning guide for parents was sent home with every pupil this week. The guide outlines the target setting and reporting process in school. It also sets out the school's policy on homework and key assessment dates for each year group. Guidance on revision is detailed, including reference to additional resources and revision guides. Please take the time to discuss the relevant assessment schedule with your child. Information is given about parents' evening and annual reports. An overview of how pupils should respond to teachers' feedback using the Green Pen of Progress is also provided. It is our aim to make pupils more responsible for their own learning and thereby to raise pupil progress. The booklet may be downloaded from the school website; paper copies are available from Reception in school.

Leadership

Special thanks to Year 11 pupils Carina Font, Charlotte Fox, Amy Forbes and Hannah Blinston for leading assemblies on the Syrian refugee crisis this week. The girls wrote and presented a very moving assembly.

Presentation Evening for the Class of 2015 on Tuesday 3 November



Former Year 11 pupils and their parents, members of staff and governors will be attending our annual Presentation Evening on Tuesday 3 November at 7.30pm in the School Hall. This year's guest speaker is Veronica King of the Alzheimer's Society. Since her time as a pupil here at Cardinal Heenan, Veronica has been Vice President of the National Union of Students and a parliamentary candidate.

Year 11 Parents' Evening on Thursday 12 November from 4.00pm to 7.00pm

May I remind parents of Year 11 pupils that a parents' consultation evening takes place on Thursday 12 November from 4.00pm to 7.00pm. This is an important opportunity to review progress prior to the mock examinations and to discuss revision plans with your child's teachers.

Parent Forum Meeting 7.00pm on Wednesday 18 November in the School Hall

A Parent Forum takes place each term and provides opportunity for parents to raise questions, provide feedback and meet members of school leadership team. The next forum will be held at 7.00pm on Wednesday 18 November. All parents are invited to attend. Details of the other Parent Forum meetings scheduled for this school year are given in the School Calendar.

Any finally...

The school closes for the autumn half term break this afternoon and re-opens to pupils at 8.55am on Monday 2 November. Enjoy the holiday!

Yours sincerely

E A Cox, Headteacher