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CARDINAL HEENAN
CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL
Putting Our Faith in Education

27 January 2017

Dear Parents

Boys into Health



14 Year 8 boys spent a day at the City Campus of Leeds Beckett University this week for an event which aimed to encourage them to consider programmes of study and careers in areas of health traditionally dominated by females. These occupations include nursing, physiotherapy, speech and language therapy, occupational therapy, dietetics, nutrition and allied health professions. Our pupils experienced lectures, presentations and workshops delivered by university lecturers and professionals from health sectors. The boys were introduced to the study of biomedical science, psychology, sociology and sports science.

Moving On

Our Year 11 pupils were praised by Notre Dame Catholic Sixth form College, Leeds, this week. Staff from the college were in school to interview the 145 Year 11 pupils who have applied for places to study A-levels there.



County Champions

Year 7 girls footballers followed up their five-a-side Leeds cup success by overcoming tough opponents to win the West Yorkshire five-a-side competition in Halifax earlier this week. The girls will represent West Yorkshire in Manchester next week.



Futures

Staff of Morrison's Supermarkets visited school on Monday this week to deliver an interactive careers session to Year 8 and 9 students. Pupils found out about the wide range of roles in retailing, including graduate opportunities and the Department for Education's new Future Apprenticeships.



Reading for Pleasure

The whole school will take part in another *Drop Everything and Read (DEAR)* time on Tuesday 31 January when all pupils and staff will spend 30 minutes in silent reading during the afternoon. This activity is part of a national initiative to promote reading within schools. Inspiring a love of reading in our pupils has always been an important aim of the school. Success in new programmes of study depends upon the ability to read, evaluate and analyse texts effectively. By encouraging your child to read, you will be enabling him or her to access a range of complex texts and supporting progress across the curriculum. Pupils in Years 7, 8 and 9 have been given a *Reading Passport* by their English teachers. This document lists four *core texts* that your child will be expected to have read by the end of the school year in July 2017. Each core text will present something new and interesting and will capture the imagination. Reading the four core texts is a minimum expectation: we hope to see pupils reading many more. The texts are differentiated and suitable for each child's reading ability. We believe that the level of challenge within these texts will enhance and develop reading, literacy, writing, imagination and critical thinking skills. All core texts may be borrowed from our school library. We suggest that local public libraries are used too. Parents may, of course, wish to buy copies of the recommended texts. They are widely available.

Performing Shakespeare

After winning several rounds of speaking competitions, Year 8 pupils Liam McCartney, Wiktoria Szczygielska and Sheunopa Chimanikire are through to the regional final of the English Speaking Union Performing Shakespeare Competition. This will be held at Teesside High School on 8 March.

Year 8 Directed Choices

Directed Choices forms and booklets setting out the school's curriculum at Key Stage 4, including details of each core and option subject, were issued to Year 8 pupils last Tuesday. Completed forms should be returned by Tuesday 21 February.

Year 8 Parents' Evening, Wednesday 1 February from 4.00pm to 7.00pm

Our Parents' Evening next Wednesday is an opportunity for Year 8 parents to meet with their children's subject teachers. Senior staff and the teachers who will be delivering KS4 courses will be available to discuss curriculum choices with parents and pupils.

Dates for the Diary

Wednesday 1 February Year 8 Parents' Evening 4.00-7.00 pm
Thursday 2 February Issue of Progress Reports for Pupils in Years 7, 9 & 11
Tuesday 7 February Year 11 Poetry Live, Leeds Town Hall
Friday 10 February School Closes for Half Term
Saturday 11 February Ski Trip (until Saturday 18)

Yours sincerely



E A Cox
Headteacher