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CARDINAL HEENAN
CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL
Putting Our Faith in Education

27 March 2015

Dear Parents

Issue of Progress Reports

As the end of the spring term approaches I write to inform you that progress reports will be sent home on Thursday 2 April. This is one day later than that published in the School Calendar. The rationale for this change is based on maximising teaching until the final day of term. Pupils in Years 7 to 10 will have their normal Positive Discipline session during period 1 next Thursday. This is an opportunity for pupils to review their progress and set new targets for improvement. Part of the time during this session will be used for pupils to read their progress report carefully, copy their grades and levels for all subjects into their school planner and to determine what they need to do to improve learning and progress next term. Year 11 pupils will attend a normal English lesson during period 1. A Lenten service presented by pupils will take place later in the morning. Please ensure that your child attends school on Thursday with planner, books and writing equipment. Term finishes at 1.20pm on Thursday; buses will depart at 1.25pm.

Medical Challenge Day



Year 11 pupils Daniel McWilliams, Alan Joseph, Megan Giron, Alby Joseph, Poppy Rowe, Lucy McDermott, Lucas Shannon, James Johnson, Karryn Mupakati and Dea Shann attended a medical challenge day on Wednesday 25 March. It was run by medical students from universities around the country. Our pupils received information relating to the entry requirements, including academic expectations, the interview process and admission tests. Current medical students described their lives at university and practising doctors explained the demands of their work and answered questions. Our pupils formed teams with other schools

for challenges and practical activities in physiology, anatomy and medical ethics. Cardinal Heenan had two pupils in the winning teams in all three challenges. The event took place at Notre Dame Sixth Form College.

Debating in Durham



Ten Cardinal Heenan pupils debated with their contemporaries from some of the most prestigious, independent and selective schools in the UK at The University of Durham last weekend (Saturday 21 to Sunday 22 March 2015). Emily Dee, Ella Dooley, Poppy Rowe, Lucy Cserna, Hannah Playford, Hannah Garnett, Callum Tempest and Joseph Stephenson (Year 11), Marguerite Bedruviciute and Nathan Allinson (Year 10) took part in the Clifford Chance Debating Competition, the largest residential schools' debating competition in the world. Schools attending this prestigious event included Eton College, Westminster and Dulwich College. The Canadian national team was also represented. Most of the pupils involved were sixth formers. Cardinal Heenan teams and speakers did particularly



Stephen Lawrence
EDUCATION STANDARD

well and are to be commended on their high standard of debating. Of 90 novice speakers, our pupils were ranked across the range 50th to 65th, ahead of speakers from independent and selective schools such as Haberdashers, Manchester Grammar and Bradford Grammar School. Many thanks to Mrs Evans, Achievement Champion, and to Mrs Rutherford and Dr Bradley, English Department, for their expertise and hard work in preparing and supporting the pupils last weekend.

Book Fair

The school will host a lunchtime book fair from Wednesday 22 April until Monday 27 April as part of our continuing drive to encourage pupils to read for pleasure. Over 200 titles will be available including fantasy, thrillers, non-fiction, comedy and lots more. Prices start from £2.99. There will be opportunities for parents of Year 7 pupils to review and buy new books at the Parents' Evening on Thursday 23 April. Every purchase helps the school to acquire free books. We earned over £200 worth of new library books in our previous book fair. Please support the initiative and encourage your child to read a book for pleasure.

Vocations Visit

Mgr. Grogan, the Vocations Director for the diocese, has written to me thanking pupils and staff for hosting an event to promote vocations to the priesthood and religious life on Wednesday 4 March. He compliments pupils on the interest they showed and for their 'engaging questions'. He was accompanied by Sister Lynne for the visit. Special thanks to Mrs O'Neill for coordinating arrangements.

Walk for Water



A group of Year 10 pupils joined forces with six other diocesan schools to complete the CAFOD Walk for Water last Friday, 20 March. This annual event enables young people to reflect on what life is like for those who have to walk for miles each day to collect clean water. The walk began in Leeds City Centre and finished with a liturgy at Kirkstall Abbey.

Fairtrade Fruit Fancies



Our school's Fairtrade group had fun making and selling Fairtrade fruit kebabs to promote the importance of buying Fairtrade products. They raised £75 for our Lenten charities. A chocolate-coated variety was the best seller!

Lourdes Acoustic Concert

Pupils who are joining the diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes this year have been working hard to help raise funds for the trip. Last week they organised a most enjoyable acoustic concert where pupils from all year groups shared their musical talents. The event raised £70.

School Online Payments

As you are aware, parents are asked to use our e-payment facility, *Parent Pay*, to pay for items such as school meals, educational visits and extracurricular music tuition. Procedures for registering accounts and making payments are simple, safe and secure. Parents may set a daily limit to amounts spent on school meals and request a printout of their children's purchases in the dining room. Many parents find that this cashless system is a convenient way of checking that the child has enough money for lunch each day. Payments may be made online from any computer at any time day or night or in cash at local stores where the *Pay Point* logo is displayed. Please note that the school no longer accepts cash or cheque payments. *Parent Pay* is our preferred method of making payments to school. Please see the school website for details.

Yours sincerely

E A Cox
Headteacher