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CARDINAL HEENAN
CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL
Putting Our Faith in Education

4 September 2015

Dear Parents

New School Year

Congratulations to our pupils on the excellent start made to the new school year. Standards of uniform are very high. Many thanks to parents for ensuring that your children are turned out so well. They look smart, professional and businesslike in the school uniform. It is especially pleasing to see that very many pupils in Years 8, 9 and 10 have adopted the new uniform which is now compulsory for Year 7.

Excellent Results

There were many smiling faces here in school on Thursday 20 August, GCSE Results Day.



The English Baccalaureate (EBacc) recognises students' achievements across a core of selected academic subjects. Those who attain grades A* - C in English, Mathematics, two Science subjects, a language and a humanity (either Geography or History) are deemed to have achieved the EBacc. This year 40% of our students achieved the English Baccalaureate, a percentage which is significantly higher than the mostly recently published national average (for 2014) of 23%.

Key performance indicators are given below:-

- 80% of all pupils gained A* - C in Mathematics
- 68% of all pupils gained A* - C in English
- 41% of all pupils gained five or more A* / A grades
- 82% of pupils made expected progress in Mathematics
- 74% of pupils made expected progress in English
- 40% of pupils made more than expected progress in Mathematics
- 37% of pupils made more than expected progress in English

46% of our History students achieved the top grades A* or A. The corresponding percentages for other subjects were: 39% in French, 33% in English Literature, 29% in Geography, 27% in Religious Studies, 24% in Spanish and 23% in Food. 48 pupils students gained these top grades (A* or A) in Mathematics, 24 in Physics, 22 in Chemistry, 17 in Biology, 13 in Business, 11 in Music and 11 in Statistics.

Congratulations to Year 11 pupils on achieving these excellent GCSE results, especially to the pupils who gained the top grades (A* and A) in all their subjects: Poppy Rowe; Joseph Stephenson; Christopher Rooney; Hannah Playford;



Stephen Lawrence
EDUCATION STANDARD

Daniel McWilliams; Megan Giron; Emily Dee; Callum Tempest; Lucy McDermott; Frankie Geyerhosz; Lauren Smith and Grace Edwards.

Further details of the 2015 results will be published in our forthcoming examination results newsletter.

Warm Welcome

Many have commented that our school staff are looking younger these days. This week we welcomed 15 new staff members: Miss Wilson, Assistant Curriculum Leader for Science; Mr McLaughlin, Teacher of Mathematics and Numeracy Coordinator; Mr Hadley, Teacher of English; Science Teachers Mr Thornley and Mr Coldwell; Mr Milner, Teacher of Geography; Miss Bishop, Teacher of Languages; Mr Palmer, Teacher of Technology; Miss Briggs, Teacher of ICT & Computing; Mrs Hammond, Music Instructor; Cover Assistants Miss Liversidge, Mr Banks and Mrs Willock; Mrs Keinhorst, Year Manager; and Mr Folan, Technician. We are delighted to that so many accomplished, enthusiastic and highly qualified staff have joined our community. We hope that all our pupils and staff will have a happy and successful school year ahead.

Three Cardinal Heenan Pupils Join Top Officers' College



Cardinal Heenan pupils (from left) Harry Cooke, Hannah Playford and Matt Cariazo, all aged 16, have won places at Welbeck.

Three of our pupils have been successful in gaining a place at Welbeck, the Defence Sixth Form College. Welbeck offers only 185 places nationwide each year to young people pursuing a career as engineering or technical officers in the British armed forces.

Matt Cariazo, Harry Cooke and Hannah Playford began boarding at the college (in Loughborough, Leicestershire) on 2 September. On completion of their A levels, the three will receive an annual bursary or £4000 whilst at university from their sponsoring services (RAF and Navy).

They were each interviewed three times and spent two days before selection boards which assessed their leadership and organisational abilities, critical and independent thinking, team building and social skills. They also took fitness, medical and psychometric tests.

All three had to get excellent exam results too, including a Grade A in GCSE Maths. They achieved 34 high grade GCSE passes between them. Hannah Playford passed nine GCSEs at the top A* grade and three at A. We are very proud of Hannah, Harry and Matt. These are the military officers of the future. To have three from the same comprehensive school is rare and worth celebrating.

May They Rest In Peace

It was with great sadness that we heard of the death earlier this week of Mr Graham Gilbert, former Deputy Headteacher at Cardinal Heenan. He was 68. Mr Gilbert started teaching here (at what was then St Thomas Aquinas Grammar School) in September 1973 and gave over 27 years' dedicated and distinguished service to our school. He was a gifted, inspirational teacher of science, much respected by thousands of pupils. His work on curriculum design and efficient timetabling underpinned the school's academic success during his 15 years as Deputy Headteacher. His painstaking stewardship was highly effective in managing the school budget. He played a major role in the design of our present school buildings, liaising closely with architects and project managers. He was a man of great integrity, deeply held Christian faith and outstanding dedication to the progress and welfare of our pupils. Teachers, pupils and parents were privileged to know him.

Former pupil Richard Fletcher passed away in August following a long illness which he faced with great courage and good humour. He was 26. There were many references to Richard's happy times at Cardinal Heenan during his funeral service. A committed, popular boy throughout his time here, Richard was much loved and will be greatly missed.

Mr John Liddle, a former Chair of Governors here, also died last month. We are grateful for his dedicated service as a foundation governor.

Please remember Graham, Richard and John and their families in your prayers. May they rest in peace.

Yours sincerely



E A Cox, Headteacher