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5 May 2015

**Dear Parents** 



#### The Other Election

In these weeks before the General Election pupils at Cardinal Heenan have opportunities to learn about the British electoral system, political parties and Parliament. Pupils have taken the lead in organising our own school election and their candidates Margarita Budreviciute (Year 10, Labour), Alessia Da Costa (Year 9, Conservative), Adam Smith (Year 8, Liberal Democrat) and Ethan Hussey (Year 7, Amity) gave memorable and impressive election addresses. The candidates for the 'Heenan constituency' have been grilled by the voting public (our pupils). The questions have been very demanding, particularly on issues facing young people. Canvassing and hustings have taken place during the lunch hour, in tutor time and in Personal, Health, Citizenship and Social Education (PHCSE) lessons. Our pupils will go to the polls on Thursday 7 May during a PHCSE session. All pupils are encouraged to use their vote.

Fabian Hamilton, the sitting MP for the constituency in which our school is situated (Leeds North East), will be visiting school next Tuesday, 5 May. Two former Cardinal Heenan pupils are standing in the real election next Thursday: Richard Burgon is the Labour candidate in East Leeds. Veronica King is also standing for Labour in Elmet and Rothwell.

## **Champion Conor**

Former Cardinal Heenan pupil Conor Loftus is a Senior Elite Boxing Champion for the second year running. Welterweight Conor, the defending champion, outscored Ryan Mulcahy in the 69kg welterweight contest at the England Boxing Elite Championship Finals, held in Liverpool last Friday, 24 April. England Boxing has just announced that, as the 2014 and 2015 champion, England Representative and GB Youth silver medallist, Conor has been placed on a roll of honour that includes Olympians, world champions and sporting legends. Congratulations to our champion.

## From Heenan to Harvard

Two former Cardinal Heenan pupils will continue their learning at Harvard University in the United States next year. The Ivy League research establishment in Cambridge, Massachusetts, is one of the most prestigious universities in the world. Michael Plygawko Sullivan, currently a PhD student at the University of Cambridge, has been awarded a visiting fellowship at Harvard for 2015-16. As Rodney G. Dennis Fellow in the Study of Manuscripts, he will examine the notebooks and draft poems of Alfred Tennyson located in Harvard's Houghton Library. Gareth Davies will attend the Harvard Kennedy School of Government to complete a Masters of Public Administration. Eight U.S. presidents and several foreign heads of state have been graduates of Harvard. To date, some 150 Nobel laureates have been affiliated as students, faculty, or staff.

### **Bank Holiday**

A reminder to parents that the school will be closed for the Bank Holiday on Monday 4 May. School re-opens on Tuesday 5 May at 8.55am for all pupils.

Yours sincerely











