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6 November 2015

Dear Parents

Presentation Evening

It was a great pleasure to welcome so many former pupils and their families to our Presentation Evening on Tuesday when we celebrated the achievements the Year 11 cohort who left us in the summer. Our guest speaker was former pupil Veronica King (pictured) of the Alzheimer's Society. Since leaving us in 1999, Veronica has been a national officer and vice-president (welfare) of the National Union of Students and a parliamentary candidate.



The evening saw the first presentation of the *Richard Fletcher Award* for outstanding creativity and innovation. Richard Fletcher, a former pupil at Cardinal Heenan, died in August at the age of 26, following a long illness which he faced with great courage and good humour. Richard suffered from cystic fibrosis, a condition which he managed from day to day with a highly creditable, steely determination to do well in the face of many difficulties. He was a happy, intelligent boy who enjoyed his school days with a loyal group of supportive friends. It is fitting that the Cardinal



Heenan community will pay tribute to Richard's achievements each year at the Presentation Evening in memory of his particular gifts: he demonstrated outstanding creativity and innovation in various aspects of his school work, especially in ICT. (Mr and Mrs Fletcher are pictured with their son Joseph, Year 11, and Leia Monger, the first recipient of the new award.)

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.

The names of Richard Fletcher and Graham Gilbert will of course appear in the school's book of remembrance, alongside those of all our deceased pupils and staff. These names will be read aloud at our services of remembrance next Wednesday and every 11th November and remembered in the prayers of the entire school on this special day each year.

A list of awards presented is given below:

The *Cardinal Heenan Cup* for Academic Excellence Poppy Rowe

Awards for Special Academic Excellence: Holly Bennet, Daniel McWilliams, Olivia Bishton, William Mercer, Daniel



Boam, Leia Monger, Lucy Cserna, Karryn Mupakati, Emily Dee, Zoya Nadeem, Ella Dooley, Steffi Njoya, Grace Edwards, Hannah Playford, Frankie Geyerhosz, Christopher Rooney, Megan Giron, Poppy Rowe, Daniel Greenwood, Jert Serrano, Rosie Harris, Dea Shann, Catherine Haws, Lucas Shannon, Georgina Heffron, Lauren Smith, Charlotte Holliday, Joseph Stephenson, James Johnson, Grace Taylor, Alby Joseph, Callum Tempest, Steven Lewis, George Townend, Abby Gaile Masangya, Murray Wood, Lucy McDermott

Subject Prize Winners: Religious Studies: Maria McKenna; English: Richard Blinston; English Literature: Georgina Heffron; Mathematics: Daniel Boam; Triple Science(GCSE): Emily Dee; Double Science(GCSE): Steffi Njoya; Science (BTEC): Brittany Chadwick; Italian: Daniel McWilliams; French: Joseph Stephenson; Spanish: Karryn Mupakati; Art: Megan Clark; Geography: Neethumol Jacob; History: Poppy Rowe; ICT (National Certificate): Dea Shann; Music (GCSE): Callum Tempest; PE (GCSE) Rosie Harris; Sport Mickey Manwere; Food Technology: Grace Taylor; Resistant Materials Technology: Hannah Playford; Health and Social Care: Shelby Eaton; Business Studies: Charlotte Holliday.

Richard Fletcher Award for outstanding creativity & innovation: Leia Monger; *Patrick Campbell Trophy* for an outstanding commitment to school football: Jonathan Nyantou; *Anne Woliter Trophy* for the student who has made the greatest contribution to the sporting life of the school: Amy Thompson; *John Crossen Shield* for contribution made to the life of the school: Callum Tempest; *Daniel Yorath Award* for the continual commitment to school life: Aimee Grieve; *Duncan Nicoll Cup* for outstanding personal achievement: Anthony Smith; *Graham Gilbert Cup* for academic progress: Neethumol Jacob; *Cardinal Heenan Shield* for outstanding effort: Christopher Rooney; *Language College Shield* for outstanding achievement in Languages: Grace Taylor; *Anne Barker Shield* for outstanding contribution to the ethos of the school: Tadi Kativhu; *Music Shield* Hannah Garnett, Emily Dee and Joseph Stephenson

The Tablet

Just before half term our school was featured in a special report of *The Tablet*. The prestigious international Catholic weekly, founded 175 years ago, reported on the school's high academic standards, wide range of curriculum subjects and favourable inspection reports by Ofsted and by The Diocese of Leeds. The achievements of former pupil Joseph Ruane in winning the *Catholic Young Writer Award 2015* and of Conor Hopkinson, Jonathan Nyantou, Zara Paniagua-Gutierrez, and Megan Driscoll, our medal winners at the international 2015 Catholic Schools Sports Federation Games in Malta were highlighted.

Rugby Finalists



Congratulations to our Year 9 rugby team on finishing as runners up in the Leeds and Hunslet Schools' Plate competition on Wednesday night at Stanningley Rugby Club. After comfortable victories against Abbey Grange and Woodkirk High Schools, the team were defeated by Morley Academy in the final. There were excellent performances throughout the team but of particular note were the contributions of Archie Craggs and Isaac Coleman. Our finalists were complimented by organisers, the Leeds Rhinos Foundation.

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

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.

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.

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. Community Safety Coordinator Beverley Yearwood of Leeds Children's Services will speak on *Understanding Child Sexual Exploitation*, giving advice for parents and carers including signposting for help. The meeting will also discuss the school's proposals for implementing the government's *Assessment without Levels* initiative and the working of the newly introduced school uniform. A proposal to introduce sports leggings for girls will be discussed in response to suggestions from pupils and parents. Please come to the meeting if you have a view on any of these matters. Alternatively send an email to info@cardinalheenan.com.

Preparing for Confirmation

Pupils who live in the parish of Our Lady of Kirkstall (the churches of St Mary's Horsforth, Holy Name Cookridge or Assumption Kirkstall) and who are in Years 9, 10 or 11 are invited to take part in a programme of preparation for the sacrament of Confirmation. The course will begin on Sunday 29 November at 4.00pm in St Mary's Primary School Hall with a meeting for candidates and parents. Application forms are available at the back of each church or may be downloaded from <http://www.ourladyofkirkstall.org.uk/>. For further information contact Jim Utting on 07533 326111.

Yours sincerely



E A Cox, Headteacher