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7 July 2017

Dear Parents

### **New Headteacher**

*Mrs O'Shea, Chair of Governors, writes:* The Governing Body is very pleased to inform parents, staff and pupils that they have agreed to the appointment of Mr Peter Whelan as Headteacher, to lead the school for the year beginning in September 2017. Mr Whelan comes to us on strong recommendation and has a history of proven leadership in high schools. He has asked for the following message from him to be included in today's letter:

*"I am delighted to have been appointed as the Headteacher of Cardinal Heenan Catholic High School for the academic year 2017-2018. I have had the privilege of leading a number of schools as Headteacher, including Interim Headteacher and Consultant Headteacher in schools and academies across Yorkshire and North East Humberside. Most recently I have been working as a Consultant Headteacher for North Yorkshire County Council, including Interim Headteacher at the Wensleydale School and Sixth Form.*

*I look forward to working with such a talented community of students, staff and governors in partnership with the Diocese of Leeds. I intend to build upon the excellent practice that currently exists in the school by maintaining high expectations and high challenge within the context of the values which are at the heart of the mission of this Catholic school."*

Mr Whelan has already been into the school to meet with the Senior Leadership Team and is visiting again today and next Friday. He hopes to meet as many staff and pupils as he can before he begins in his new post in September. He is also looking forward to meeting parents as soon as possible at the start of the new term. The Governing Body welcome Mr Whelan to the school and are looking forward to working with him to build on the school's successes.

### **New Parent Governor**

Mr Craig Clement was welcomed as a new Parent Governor of the school following the recent nominations process. He takes up the role next term. Mr Clement writes

*'I have always respected Cardinal Heenan and it has certainly delivered a very good education to my children. I feel very happy to be able to support the school in the role of parent governor from September 2017. I have two children - one just leaving the school this year and one in Year 8. I am chartered accountant, having been a finance director within plc and private equity environments in both the construction and technology sectors over the last 10 years. I have a wide array of experience relating to good governance practice and business management. My career now consists of a variety of part-time roles, creating flexibility for me to commit time to support the school. I have not been a parent governor before. I look forward to learning and understanding more about the school and helping it deal with the inevitable challenges that lie ahead.'*

### **Paid Work Experience**

Following a science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) event for Year 10 pupils in school earlier this term, 14 of our pupils were chosen to visit Nestle, York, to undergo a selection process for one week of paid work experience with the company during the summer. This opportunity is offered to schools nationally, with some placements in the North and others in London. Only 17 places were offered nationally. Cardinal Heenan pupils managed to secure four of them. Congratulations to Anna Namugenyi, Ruby Joseph, Kripa Varghese and Angelica Barcenilla. The event in school was delivered by *Mykindacrowd* and Nestlé.



### New Cricket Teams

Congratulations to the Year 9 cricket team on a magnificent performance earlier this week, a narrow defeat inflicted by a strong Roundhay High School side. Cardinal Heenan captain Adam Winteringham (front centre) starred with the bat and was forced to retire after scoring an unbeaten half century from 40 balls.

For the first time in two decades, the school has fielded strong cricket teams in Years 7, 8 and 9 this season. There is a healthy competition for places. Several of our talented players have played at the highest level outside school, including Chris Kumar, Year 9, and Joanne Harrington, Year 8, who have been selected to represent Yorkshire County Cricket sides this summer.

To develop cricket further here at Cardinal Heenan, we are looking at ways to fund an artificial cricket wicket which will allow us to train and compete at the highest level. Special thanks to Mr Edney on pioneering this welcome development.



### Meeting the Politicians

*Politics Matters* is a well-established, annual event to promote engagement in the political life of Britain today. It gives pupils from schools across Leeds an opportunity to interact with councillors and political commentators. Eleven of our Year 10 pupils took part this year and were fortunate to meet David Rhodes of BBC Look North and Cllr Judith Blake, Leader of Leeds City Council. The event was presented by Cardinal Heenan and Roundhay schools in partnership with the Politics and Applied Global Ethics Team of Leeds Beckett University.

Seven Year 11 pupils will attend a summer school on politics and international relations at Leeds Beckett University on 13 and 14 July. The two-day programme, organised by leading academics, will examine a range of contemporary global issues. It is intended to boost pupils' knowledge, understanding and critical thinking in preparation for A-levels in Government and Politics, History and Sociology. Advice will be provided on the university application process.

### Celebrating Reading Day

On Monday 17 July, all pupils in Years 7, 8 and 9 will take part in our second annual Celebrating Reading Day. Pupils will participate in a range of activities in different school subjects, all linked to a particular novel or work of non-fiction. Activities include survival training for a trip to Mars in Science (linked to *The Martian* by Andy Weir), robot design in ICT (linked to *I, Robot* by Isaac Asimov) and the ever popular Bruce Bogtrotter's chocolate cake in Food Technology (linked to Roald Dahl's *Matilda*). Visiting author, James Nash (a former teacher here at Cardinal Heenan), Alan Gibbons and performance poet Andy Craven-Griffiths will work with pupils. All pupils will take part in three activities or workshops. Please ensure that your child brings a reading book to school and full PE kit on this day. (Please note: no e-readers or tablets)

### Year 10 Departure for Lourdes

40 pupils set off armed with passports and pillows on the 700-mile coach journey to Lourdes yesterday. They are accompanied by Mrs O'Neal, Mr Wild, Miss Waite, Mrs Fieldhouse, Governor Mrs Woliter and Fr Sean Crowley, School Chaplain. I have just heard that all have arrived safely in Lourdes. The theme for the 2017 Diocesan Pilgrimage, led by Bishop Marcus, is *The Almighty has done great things for me*. All our pilgrims were in high spirits before embarking on a hectic nine-day schedule. Our pupils are asked to be courageous and share their faith with others. They will be working closely with sick and able-bodied pilgrims from our Diocese. We have asked them to keep all members of our school community in their prayers. The group will return on Friday 14 July. Follow their progress on Twitter @CHCHSLeeds.

### Sports Day

On Thursday 13 July all pupils and staff will be taken by school buses to the John Charles Centre for Sport (South Leeds Stadium) for the school's annual Sports Day. Teams will be made up of one tutor group from each of Years 7, 8 and 9 and will compete for medals in various sporting events. Pupils not participating in sports will be there to 'cheer on' their team. Staff will supervise the pupils and activities. It is recommended that pupils bring a drink and a snack for the morning and a packed lunch for the return to school at approximately 2.00pm. No food may be purchased at the stadium. The dining room at school will be open on pupils' return but will serve only fruit, biscuits, cakes and drinks.

Parents, please ensure that your child wears sensible and appropriate clothing, taking into account the weather forecast for the day. Pupils participating sports must bring PE kit appropriate for the event, with a T-shirt or top in team colours.

Pupils are asked to bring in a minimum voluntary contribution of £2.00 in cash. The proceeds will be used to support sporting events in school. Donations may be made by placing cash in an envelope (with your child's name and tutor group written on the front). Please return envelopes to the school payment box.

Please complete the consent form that has been sent home and return it to school no later than Monday next, 10 July, giving permission for your child to attend the Sports Day and to wear non-uniform clothing on that day. Please note that in the interests of security and safety, no guests (neither adult visitors nor parents) will be admitted to this event. Stadium marshals and first aiders have been employed to enhance the security and safety of our pupils.

### Donated Books

Thank you to former students Joseph and Emily Dee, who have donated two large boxes of popular young adult books to the school library. They are already flying off the shelves! If any other families would like to donate their unwanted books to the school library, please bring them into school or contact Librarian Miss Burns: [lbs@cardinalheenan.com](mailto:lbs@cardinalheenan.com)

Tessa Duffy and Ciara Mallowney are pictured enjoying the donated books.



### Grant Thornton visit for Year 8 Winning Team

Year 8 pupils who won the recent *Dragon's Den* activities in school were treated to a visit and lunch at the offices of accountants Grant Thornton in Leeds. Pupils were able to meet staff, ask questions, tour the offices and discuss skills they had acquired from the *Dragon's Den* experience. Many thanks to Richelle Schuster, Associate Director, 365 Business Growth Services, Grant Thornton, for her hospitality and help with the activity. Further activities are planned for the next academic year, involving our Mathematics department working in partnership with Grant Thornton.

### Puzzle Pandemonium

Year 7 pupils spent a morning at *Puzzle Pandemonium*, taking part in a variety of puzzles, games and construction challenges. This popular annual event, designed to challenge numeracy and thinking skills, demonstrates that maths is fun. The event was hosted by Roundhay School.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'E A Cox'.

E A Cox  
Headteacher