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Dear Parents

### Holy Week and Easter 2015



Throughout the season of Lent, our pupils have been encouraged to develop their relationship with God and to deepen their faith. It has been pleasing to see them saying prayers in our school chapel and making the effort to get to the voluntary lunchtime Mass on Thursdays. A Holy Week liturgy will be held in school today to help pupils reflect on the Lenten themes of **Pray, Fast, Give** and to prepare for the Paschal Triduum which will be taking place in parishes over the next three days. Our aim will be to help pupils think about their experience of Lent and to prepare for the celebration of Holy Week and Easter services in their parish communities. Reflections on Easter will take place during the week beginning Monday 20 April when we return to school after the holiday.

### Dress for Success

Our new *Dress for Success* campaign places a renewed focus on smart appearance for all pupils. A new school uniform being introduced from September 2015 for the Year 7 intake (pupils currently in Year 6 transferring from primary school). We are proposing that pupils now in Years 8 and 9 will be expected to wear the new uniform from September 2016. Please find a *Dress for Success* booklet attached to this letter. It sets out the school's expectations for both the new and the existing uniform. Please see the pictures at the back of the booklet which make clear what is acceptable in trousers, shoes and skirts. Frequent inspections of uniform will take place next term.

### A Testing Time

The Easter holiday is a very important time for our examination students. GCSE candidates in Year 11 have now been given personalised examination timetables, listing all their individual examination commitments. All have been given much detailed guidance on revision techniques and study skills by their teachers, including a schedule for revision over the holiday. They have been advised to plan their study programme each day and to share the information with parents. Parents, please ask to see the revision booklets and encourage your child to pursue a structured programme of revision by checking on progress each day. Revision sessions will be held in school for Year 11 pupils during the Easter holidays. GCSE examination papers begin on Monday 11 May. Year 10 pupils have been given much advice and guidance on preparing for their internal school examinations: these begin in the first week of next term on Tuesday 21 April. Year 7 and 8 pupils start their examinations on Monday 11 May.

### Book Fair

A book fair will take place in school at the start of next term. It will run from Wednesday 22 April until Monday 27 April. Over 200 titles, suitable for the ages and abilities of our pupils, will be on sale, priced from £2.99 with a variety of discounts. The first fifty purchases will receive a discount of £1 on the sale price. We hope that the event will be successful in encouraging our pupils to read for pleasure. Year 7 parents may wish to note that the book fair will be open during the parents' evening on Thursday 23 April from 4.00pm to 7.00pm. Every title purchased will help to earn free books for the school library.



**Ronnie Comes to School**

Year 8 pupils in Mrs Hoyland's tutor group raised £100 for the school Lenten appeal at lunchtime on Wednesday 1 April with the help of Ronnie the Rhino and The Challenge Cup Trophy. Pupils donated £1 to meet Ronnie and for a personal photograph with a hand on the precious silverware. Many thanks to Ronnie and the Leeds Rhinos Foundation for assisting pupils with their fundraising efforts. Memories are made of this!

**End of Term**

School buses will depart earlier than usual at 1.25pm on Thursday afternoon. The summer term begins on Monday 20 April at 8.55am. The results of the Good Shepherd collections will be sent home next term.



With renewed thanks to parents for all the support you give our school and all the efforts made by the Cardinal Heenan staff to provide your children with a high quality education.

With best wishes for a happy Easter.

Yours sincerely

E A Cox  
Headteacher