



CARDINAL HEENAN
CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

VERITAS

NEWSLETTER

A message from the Headteacher

As we come to the end of this academic year, I have spent time reflecting with pride on the achievements of our school community as a whole. Although schools continue to face significant challenges, we have remained true to our core values and it is clear that every member of our school community has tried to follow our core principals of “trying our best, being kind and following the rules”. At a time when many schools are reporting significant issues with behaviour, attitudes and attendance, we are proud that our students continue to represent the Cardinal Heenan community incredibly well. Our attendance has consistently been in the top 10% of schools nationally and increasing numbers of our students take part in extracurricular activities and represent the school in a variety of ways, building on the excellent learning that has been taking place throughout the year.

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate our new head students and prefects on an excellent start to their tenure, as well as extending my gratitude to the outgoing team of senior students who led our student body with pride. I look forward to working with our student leaders to continue to drive the school forward and ensure that the entire student population is represented and heard.

As always at the end of a term, we give thanks for the blessings we have received, the support that we have been given and the friendships that we have made. We say a collective goodbye to staff who are moving on to new adventures, namely Mr Smith, who has led our Maths department exceptionally well; Mrs Gold, who has committed so much time and energy to supporting the Eco Council and Common Good Leaders; Mr Marchant, who has been an excellent addition to our cover supervisor team; Mr Pidhajeckyj an exceptional teacher of RE; Mr Clarke, Mr Chan; Miss Sweeney-Hastings and Mrs Partington who have been valued members of their departments.

I hope that you enjoy reading about the successes that our school community have enjoyed this year. I would like to thank all of the staff, students and families for your contribution to our school, helping us to “build on the best traditions that we have inherited” and making Cardinal Heenan Catholic High School a place where hard work and effort are rewarded, lifelong friendships are created and every member of the school is committed to becoming the best version of themselves.

Thank you for your ongoing support and prayers and I wish you all a happy and relaxing summer.

Mr Kelly, Headteacher

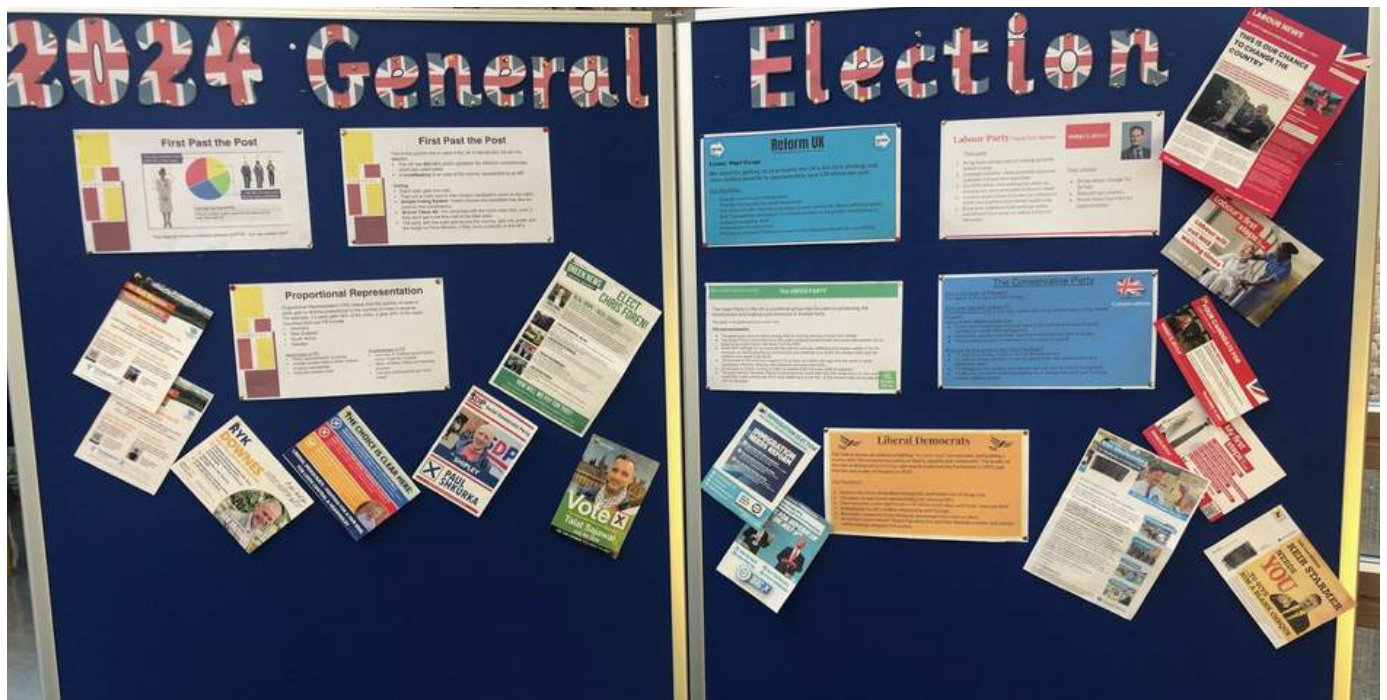
CHCHS MOCK ELECTION

Our senior students started their new roles this half term. One of their first responsibilities in school involved coordinating our CHCHS Mock Election on Thursday 4 July. Students researched the key political messages of each of the major parties and presented this in a manageable format for younger students to explore during PSHCE lessons and tutor time. They also learnt about the UK's First Past the Post electoral system and explained this to other students during tutor time sessions.

They also created a display board in the foyer to share information about the election and the importance of democracy.

On the day of the general election, all students cast their vote in school - with students on the Lourdes trip casting their ballot via a 'postal vote' - and each tutor group formed a constituency to 'elect' their own MP. The Maths department then supported students in analysing the data collected in the mock election. This gave students a practical opportunity to use their statistical analysis skills and apply their mathematical knowledge to a real world situation. This involved comparing results across tutor groups and year groups, as well as considering whether the election would have had a significantly different outcome had proportional representation been employed. This provided students with an important insight into the different voting systems used around the world, as well as the chance to debate the relative merits of these systems.

The results in school largely reflected the national picture, with the vote share being split across all five major parties. As in the General Election, the overall result represented a landslide victory for the Labour party.



DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES

On Thursday 4 July 35 Year 10 students, Mr Tunnecliff, Mr Easter, Miss Burns and Mrs Woliter (former teacher and Governor) joined the Diocese of Leeds in their annual pilgrimage to Lourdes. What lay ahead was a packed programme of events centred around helping and caring for the sick and elderly pilgrims of the Diocese. Alongside the spiritual and community elements of the pilgrimage, we also had lots of fun and enjoyed some of the Euros football tournament.

Throughout the week we gathered as a whole Diocese for Mass and other activities centred around the key areas of significance in Lourdes. The Torchlight Procession is a highlight for many – usually everyone processes around the domain singing and praying, trying to manage keeping their candle lit and their paper lantern from burning! However, we were very unlucky with the weather and the Torchlight Procession was held in the Underground Basilica on the two evenings when we tried to join in. Although not the usual experience of the Torchlight Procession, we were still impressed by the sight of so many people from around the world meeting in one place in devotion to Our Lady praying the Rosary.

The students were a little apprehensive but also excited about meeting their pilgrims. Students were paired with a pilgrim who they accompanied to all the events throughout the week. One student commented, “building trust and forming a bond with our pilgrim allowed us to become more caring people.” Another student said, “Although we might not see them again, they will always have a place in our hearts.”

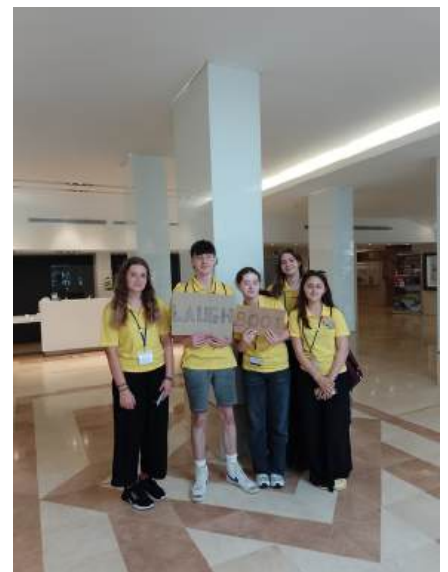
Often people will travel to Lourdes many times in their life. What makes each pilgrimage different and special are the people you meet and spend time with. For our group, it was really nice to see former students who had joined the pilgrimage with Notre Dame. This was a great opportunity to celebrate the “best traditions we have inherited” and feel part of a strong community in faith.



Several schools from the Diocese travelled to Lourdes, and many new friendships were made. We also had the chance to get to know our priest chaplain, Fr Yemane, as he shared the incredible story of his journey to Leeds from Eritrea and talked to us about the role of his faith in this journey. He reminded us of the Greatest Commandment: to love God and our neighbour.

The days were often long with many challenges. One minute you are walking up a steep hill pushing your pilgrim, the next you are carrying containers of holy water back to your hotel for other pilgrims. We also hosted a garden party for the pilgrims, with Mr Tunnecliff and Mr Sweetman from Holy Family Carlton acting as MCs with a selection of their trademark jokes. Students and pilgrims from across the Diocese also showed off their talents through a wide variety of musical and comedy acts.

If you are reading this and you're thinking about going on the Lourdes trip next year or when you get to Year 10, speak to any of the students or staff wearing dove pins on their blazers. They will be happy to talk to you about the experiences they shared on the pilgrimage. The experience of Lourdes is difficult to describe but offers incredible opportunities to all students regardless of their faith. The chance to feel part of a community on a school, diocesan and international level was so powerful, and the trip allowed us all to build our resilience and develop skills in caring for others, teamwork and community engagement.



CAREERS IN FOCUS

YEAR 10 WORK EXPERIENCE

The majority of our Year 10 students have secured work experience placements and have spent the last week of term gaining valuable insights into the modern workplace. Students have undertaken work experience in a wide variety of fields, including the constituency office of local MP and new Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Rt Hon Rachel Reeves, a number of local primary schools, law firms and engineering companies, as well as a wide range of retail, hospitality and construction services. The experienced gained from these placements is invaluable in preparing students for their next steps after Cardinal Heenan and, each year, many of our students go on to secure part time or seasonal employment through the contacts they make on work experience. A small number of students spent the week in school, where they have engaged in a programme of activities focussed on careers guidance and information as well as supporting staff across the school, gaining an insight into the range of careers available in education.

YEAR 9 CAREERS IN MEDICINE

A group of Year 9 students visited St James's Hospital in June to explore a range of careers linked to medicine. The students spoke to staff at the hospital about the different routes into medicine and gained a greater understanding of the different career paths available for healthcare workers.

LEADERSHIP IN SPORT

Members of our school sports teams have been busy throughout this half term, supporting students from our feeder primary school on their Sports Days. Students were involved with officiating in a range of sports and supporting primary school staff to ensure that all pupils had a positive experience.

NOTRE DAME TASTER DAY

Year 10 students visited Notre Dame for a taster day in July. They had a campus tour and met with current Notre Dame students to talk about the differences between school and college. They also had the chance to try out lessons in two subjects to help to guide and inform their choices for their next steps. One student commented, "It was really good to see what the lessons were like at college. The English Language session opened my eyes to the possibility of studying and exploring linguistics and language development."

YEAR 6 TRANSITION DAY

We were delighted to welcome next year's Year 7 pupils into school in July. Pupils enjoyed a full day of lessons around the theme of 'New Beginnings'. Students explored the school virtues and engaged in deep philosophical discussions about friendship and change through their PSHCE lessons, allowing them to reflect on the ways they can be good friends to each other and adapt to meet the challenges of starting high school.



In the evening, pupils and their families attended the enrolment evening where they had the chance to purchase their new school uniform and PE kit as well as meeting key staff who will support their transition. Staff and students from a range of extra-curricular activities were also in attendance, giving students the chance to explore the wide range of clubs and societies on offer at school.

SCIENCE FAIR

This term saw our inaugural Year 7 Science Fair take over the Sports Hall. Students were encouraged to take on a science project of their choice, with prizes in two categories: Science in Art and Investigation Skills. Students explored a range of topics, from the reason balls bounce to the way our digestive system works. They displayed their work through models, art work and displays and staff and students were invited to explore the different exhibits throughout the school day. It was excellent to see the students enthused by science and sharing their findings articulately with staff and their peers. Thank you to the Science department for supporting the students with their different projects. Well done everyone!



Well done to our two category winners:

- Phoebe for her Science in Art project on cloud formation; and
- Bramwell for his Science Investigation into the evidence of the existence of the Loch Ness monster

Runners up:

- Amelia – model digestive system
- Julia - black hole explained
- Hector – elements research
- Niamh - why balls bounce
- Jack - explaining flight
- Amelia - chromatography investigations

MALHAM

Our Year 8 geographers visited Malham, an area of outstanding natural beauty, where they investigated the impact of tourism and saw the impacts of erosion and weathering in the real world. Students behaved incredibly well and had a great time - despite the weather!



COMMUNITY ACTION

LEEDS GLOBAL LEARNING AWARD

We were awarded a Commendation for the Community work we have started this year as part of the Common Good. This includes weekly visits learning sing and sign or assisting pupils at Penny Fields school and weekly visits to Brandon House care home for chats. We have also taken part in two conservation trips to look after local nature areas. We are looking forward to continuing and building community links further next year. Many thanks and congratulations to all the staff and students who contributed to this work this year.



CONSERVATION WORK - ADEL MOOR AND BOG



A group of pupils took part in Lowland Heathland Habitat Management at local area Adel Moor in June. They learnt about the importance of the Heathland and how to help preserve it. Their contribution to its conservation through tree management and then moved to a local bog to remove brambles that were encroaching on the bog grasses. One Pupil said "the conservation trip was an opportunity to connect with nature and see first hand the problems nature is facing".

CHILDREN'S BOOK PROJECT

Thank you to all Parents/Carers, Students and Staff who generously donated pre-loved books to the Children's Book Project in June. We managed to donate 575 books to the project where they will be re-gifted to pupils and institutions who need them most.



DUKE OF EDINBURGH YOUNG LEADERS

Our two Year 11 Young Leaders have supported our Bronze Award participants throughout the year. On Wednesday, they were interviewed by representatives from the Duke of Edinburgh Award about the experience and the skills they have developed. This year, our participants spent 2093 hours volunteering in activities both in and out of school. This work represents £11051 in social value to our local community.

LEEDS UNIFORM EXCHANGE

We are once again collecting pre-loved, good quality uniform that your son/daughter has outgrown to pass on to the Leeds Uniform Exchange in a bid to reduce clothing waste, save carbon from the production of new clothing and save parents money! If you would like to receive some replacement pre-loved uniform, please go to the Leeds Uniform Exchange days at Meanwood Community Centre over the summer.

CHCHS ON TOUR

DUKE OF EDINBURGH EXPEDITION

Over 75 students from Year 9 and 10 completed the expedition section of their Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award in June. They had to be particularly well prepared as they faced sun, wind and rain across the course of the weekend.



Students walked a scenic route in the Yorkshire Dales and camped next to the River Wharfe. Having pitched their tents, each expedition group set about cooking the meals they had planned on their gas stoves. They served a range of culinary delights, including halloumi burgers and a variety of pasta dishes. The following morning, some groups woke up particularly early to prepare cooked breakfasts ranging from sausage and bacon sandwiches to pancakes with Nutella and bananas. All students represented our school community incredibly well and the expedition was a celebration of the hard work they have put in to achieving the Bronze Award.

BARCELONA

On 23 May 40 Year 9 and Year 10 students travelled to Barcelona for our Languages trip. On day one, pupils enjoyed a visit to the hill top monastery of Montserrat followed by a descending cable car ride with stunning views of the scenery. In the afternoon, we soaked up the Catalan culture at the Boquería food market and enjoyed a stroll down the Ramblas.



On day two, we witnessed the marvels of Gaudi's architecture at the Sagrada Familia and Parc Guëll. The pupils spent the last day at Port Aventura where many pupils (and staff) braved the very fast rides! Well done to everyone for trying out their Spanish skills when out and about. It was a wonderful 5 days in Spain. Hasta la próxima...

CONDOVER HALL

At the start of June, over 60 students departed for an action-filled weekend at Condover Hall. A fantastic activity centre in Shropshire which offers football and netball tournaments as well as adventurous activities on-site.

Staff and students enjoyed a jam-packed weekend of sport! When not competing in the tournaments the teams were able to come together to take part in kayaking, climbing, low and high rope courses and abseiling.

Everyone was exhausted when they arrived back to school on the Sunday - especially those staff and students who completed the Duke of Edinburgh expedition and took on the challenges of Condover Hall on consecutive weekends!



BATTLEFIELDS

Year 9 pupils visited Ypres and some of the key battlefields of the First World War. They laid a wreath at the Menin Gate and visited the battlefields at Hill 60, Flanders Field and Tyne Cot. The tour guide who accompanied them commented that "their behaviour was exceptional and a credit to your school".



Students spent time reflecting on the service of all those men and women who gave their lives in war and prayed for peace in the world. They also had some opportunities to relax and spend quality time as a group, enjoying two meals out in Ypres and watching England's victory over Switzerland in the Euros tournament together.



YEAR 11 PROM

Thursday 20 June saw a wonderful celebration of the end of GCSEs and High School for our Year 11s at their end of year Prom – and what a lovely evening was had by all! Firstly, we were blessed with some lovely weather (at last) so students were greeted outside by numerous members of staff, old and new, that had taught them over the years at CHCHS. The students looked absolutely stunning in all their finery and there wasn't an untucked shirt in sight! The venue was decorated beautifully and looked after the students well with a delicious plentiful hot/cold buffet and a great DJ who played all their favourite tunes. Dancing went on until 11.30pm when students' carriages arrived to take them home (or in some cases to the next party!). Thanks to all staff that volunteered their time to help and above all the students, who were impeccably behaved, for making it the success and great celebration that it was – a night for the Year 11s to remember!



PERFORMING ARTS SHOWCASE

Our Drama, Music and Art departments worked together to plan an incredible showcase of the Performing Arts talents in school.

Visitors had the chance to explore an exhibition of artwork from students throughout school, including a range of sketchbooks and a miniature art gallery of original pieces from our Year 10 and 11 Art GCSE classes.

We then went into the hall to enjoy a selection of dramatic and musical performances ranging from Blood Brothers to Radiohead and everything in between.

Well done to the students who put so much hard work into rehearsing and preparing for this wonderful event, and to the staff who have supported them in lessons and extra-curricular activities throughout the year. Performing Arts continue to grow and flourish in school and this is a testament to the hard work of staff and students in rehearsals and performances. The creativity and confidence of all students involved was impressive to see.



LIVING THE VIRTUES

Our virtue in focus for this half term is COURAGE

Definition:



You do something that needs to be done even when it is hard to do or you are scared to do it. Even though you are afraid, you overcome your fear and do the right thing. You know you can count on God's help and so you are never alone. Courage is personal bravery in the face of fear but it doesn't mean taking unnecessary chances just to look brave. Love can give us courage. It gives us strength and helps us to do the right thing without letting our fears stop us.

The winners of the tutor group virtues prizes for this half term are:

7CFY - Sam	8OBN - Suzi	9LBS - Leo/ Chester	10KRL - Ethan
7ERY - Oonagh	8JWE - Liya-Beth	9JHT - Kovan	10KWD - Alice
7CRI - Layla	8HSN - Lucy	9EPT - Xander	10JGE - Jermeen
7AFT - Orlagh	8JME - Josh	9LJS - Cara/Loretta/ Sienna/Hanna	10JWW - Queendaline
7RPN - Chase	8RDS - Maiah	9RBP - Milo	10MBY - Cormac
7SAN - Nathan	8TPD - Aidan	9KRY - Megan	10JHE - Cara
7ACN - Peter	8ACO - Daniel	9ECY - Jenson	10LSA - Nikola

As well as trying their best and trying to step out of their comfort zone in lessons and extra-curricular activities in school, many of our students demonstrated courage in the wide range of trips and educational visits they have been involved with this half term. Students supported their Duke of Edinburgh expedition groups through illness, injury and bad weather, members of our Lourdes pilgrimage braved a 28 hour coach journey in good spirits and cared for their pilgrims with dignity and good humour. Pupils took on the challenge of speaking Spanish in Barcelona, reflected on the courage of the young men and women who served in the First World War on the Battlefield trip and had a go at a range of adventurous activities at Conover Hall. In school, many pupils put themselves forward to perform or speak in the Art and Drama Showcase, Cardi Fest and the Mass of Thanksgiving.

CARDI FEST

As part of our work around the theme of courage, we dedicated the second annual 'Cardi-fest' to the memory of former pupil, Daniella Thackray, who died earlier this year.

Pupils and staff showcased their talents through singing and music to raise money for St Gemma's Hospice and AMMF, two charities which supported Daniella and her family.

It was such a fun afternoon, and we were all blown away by the incredible performances that took courage to do in front of a live audience. We look forward to more acts performing next year.

**BE STRONG, AND LET YOUR HEART TAKE COURAGE,
ALL YOU WHO WAIT FOR THE LORD!**

PSALM 31:24

SPORTS NEWS

SCHOOL GAMES BRONZE MARK

We are delighted to announce that we have achieved the School Games Bronze Mark Award for the 2023/24 academic year.

The School Games Mark is a Government-led award scheme launched in 2012, facilitated by the Youth Sport Trust to reward schools for their commitment to the development of competition across their school and into the community, and we are delighted to have been recognised for our success.

As part of our application, we were asked to fulfil criteria in the areas of participation, competition, workforce and clubs, and we are pleased that the hard work of everyone at our school has been rewarded this year.



INDIVIDUAL SPORTING SUCCESSES

- Rosie (Year 7) qualified for the English National Swimming Championship in the 200m breaststroke despite competing against students in the age group above.
- Amelia (Year 7) represented Great Britain in trampolining at the Nissen Cup Competition in Arosa, Switzerland. She came first in her age range and is now a world champion!
- Patrick (Year 9) has qualified to compete at the Aquatics Great Britain Summer Swimming Championships in the following events: 400m, 800m and 1500m Freestyle, as well as the 100m Butterfly and 200m Individual Medley. He is also the regional champion in the 200 IM and 200m Breaststroke and achieved Bronze medals in the 100m Butterfly and the 800m Freestyle.
- Former student, Rhys Chadwick, signed a two year professional contract at Leeds United.
- Former students Sam, Liam, Cian and Ronan are part of the Notre Dame football team who won the AOC Yorkshire and Humber regional league, going unbeaten in the process. The boys were key contributors to a team which has conceded just 4 goals all season.



We are always delighted to hear about our students' sporting successes outside of school. If you have any sports news stories about current or former pupils, please email them to newsletter@cardinalheenan.com and we will share them with our school community.



FOOTBALL

Our U12 and U14 girls teams have had an excellent season. The U14 team won the Leeds Cup with a 2-0 against Ilkley Grammar School. Goals came from Jane and Atlanta. The U12s won 7-2 to win the Merit Table final.

At Condover Hall, our Year 9 and 10 boys teams did extremely well. We fielded 2 Year 9 teams for the 5-a-side tournament. Team B got to the Semi-Finals where they lost to the eventual winners, while team A got to the Final. The Year 10 boys also did extremely well. One team won and the other one came second overall.

Throughout the season, all age groups have fielded teams in the Leeds Cup, County Cup and National Cup, representing our school proudly in all competitions.



ATHLETICS

Over 50 students have represented the school in the Leeds Athletics League at Becketts Park. Standout performers include Markluy in Year 7 and Joel in Year 10. Well done to everyone who took part!

WIMBLEDON

A great day was had at Wimbledon by our students. We were very lucky to win tickets in a schools ballot and got to watch both the Women's Doubles Semi Final on Court 1 and enjoyed the atmosphere of Henman Hill with strawberries and cream.



JUNIOR WARRIOR

A group of staff and students took on the Junior Warrior course at Bramham Park last month. They encountered a wide variety of muddy obstacles, with a few lost trainers along the way! All students approached the course with courage and determination and it was lovely to see groups of students supporting their friends as they took on a challenging but fun course. Well done everyone!



SPORTS DAY

On Thursday, all students in Year 7-9 took part in our annual school sports day. As in previous years, each team was named after one of our school virtues and pupils were encouraged to spend time in the lead up to sports day thinking about their designated virtue and the ways they could demonstrate this virtue on sports day and throughout their daily lives.



A wide variety of sports was on offer on the day, with all students participating in at least one event. With team sports ranging from football to egg and spoon relay and individual pursuits including chess, table cricket and cross country running, there really was something for everyone.



All students represented our school incredibly well and demonstrated our shared commitment to sport and lifelong fitness. Well done everyone!

SPORTS AWARDS AND QUIZ

June saw the PE department combine the annual Sports Awards and Sports Quiz for the first time. The evening was a fantastic celebration of sport, with teams and individuals celebrated for their commitment to sport in school. Members of various school teams helped with running a tombola, serving snack and organising the quiz. Joe and Rachael, our two new senior prefects with responsibility for sport, presented the prizes to the winners.



COMMUNITY NOTICES

ARTFORMS MUSIC

As well as providing music lessons in school, ArtForms have six music centres across Leeds. These offer great value classes and ensembles for all ages and abilities. Their Youth Music groups (CLYM) offer a wide range of ensemble opportunities for children and young people. Bursaries and financial support for families who receive benefits are available, as well as free sessions for looked after children at the music centres. They have a FREE beginner ensemble on offer for children and young people to join free of charge, and the junior CLYM groups are also free again in September. All the information about how to sign up is on the leaflets which can be found on the school website here <https://www.cardinalheenan.com/calendar-news/our-news/artforms-music-centre-and-youth-music-group-information-2024-25/> or on the ArtForms website - www.artformsleeds.co.uk



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BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS - DR BRADLEY'S YEAR 7 CLASS

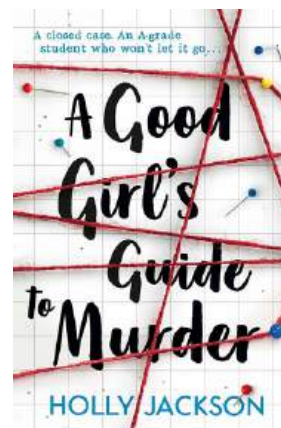
On their Enrolment Evening, Mr Kelly set our new Year 7 students the challenge of reading at least one book during the summer break and being prepared to tell their English teachers and tutor about it in September. For inspiration, we asked Mr Bradley's Year 7 English class for the best books they have read this year.

Joshua - Alex Rider series by Anthony Horowitz

Leon - Percy Jackson series by Rick Riordan

Jessica - Girl, Missing by Sophie McKenzie

Amelia - A Good Girl's Guide to Murder by Holly Jackson



MASS FOR FORMER STAFF

In June, former colleagues were invited into school to celebrate mass with us. They had the opportunity to look around the school and see the many exciting changes which have taken place over recent years, as well as sharing in the best traditions of our school community. Our new head students led current and former staff in prayer. Students from our Lourdes pilgrimage also provided refreshments - thank you to all staff who donated so generously to their fundraising efforts.



MASS OF THANKSGIVING

Today we joined together as a school community for a Mass of Thanksgiving to celebrate all our achievements throughout this academic year.

Pupils led our Mass with readings, prayers and singing and we all participated joining in with the hymns and responses.

At the end of Mass we celebrated our musical talents and watched a montage of photos and memories from the year.



KEEP IN TOUCH

We love hearing good news stories from our former staff and students. If you have any news stories related to current or past members of our school community, please send them to newsletter@cardinalheenan.com. We would like to wish all members of our school community a happy and restful summer break.

UPCOMING DATES:

Thursday 22 August 2024: GCSE Results Day (school open from 9am)

Tuesday 3 September 2024: First day of term for Years 7 & 11 only

Wednesday 4 September 2024: All students return

Wednesday 9 October 2024: School Photos Years 7, 9 and 11

Wednesday 9 October 2024: Year 7 Settling In Evening

Friday 11 October 2024: Staff Training Day

Saturday 12 October 2024: Open Day from 10am - 1pm



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