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25 April 2025

Dear Parents/Carers

As we return to school after the Easter break, we respectfully and sorrowfully acknowledge the passing of Pope Francis, much-loved head of our Catholic Church. Pope Francis dedicated his life to making the love of Christ known to all. As we grieve, we also rejoice in the hope of Easter and give thanks for the witness of his life, his courage, and his call to us to deepen our faith and share it with others, especially in this Jubilee Year. In school, we have been writing our own prayers for Pope Francis in RE lessons as well as praying for him in assemblies and form time.

This week marks the beginning of an incredibly busy term; although there is not a term when I don't say this! We are supporting our Year 11 students as they prepare for their upcoming exams, while our Year 10 students are stepping up to take on the mantle of student leadership by applying for Prefect roles and submitting their Head Student manifestos. Years 8 and 9 have recently completed their options choices and will soon be exploring new areas of study and our Year 7 students are leading the way with their inspiring contributions to the Common Good Community projects currently underway.

Lent, in particular, saw our students rise to the challenge with remarkable energy and enthusiasm. Their creative fundraising ideas never fail to impress, and their efforts resulted in an outstanding donation of £2,084.00 to CAFOD and the Good Shepherd Fund. Our Common Good Leaders continue to make a meaningful impact in the local community, and we're excited about their upcoming initiatives, such as the Easter Afternoon Tea in conjunction with Leeds Irish Health and Homes, as well as their ongoing sports coaching and reading support guidance projects with St Urban's.

A heartfelt thank you to all the parents, carers, and friends of Cardinal Heenan who supported our production of *Oliver!* I couldn't be prouder of the students who took to the stage or contributed behind the scenes, as well as the dedicated staff who worked tirelessly to bring this triumphant show to life. There will be many more to come, please watch this space...

Summer sports season is now upon us so we will be ruling out the lines on the running track, getting the rounders bats out and hearing the sweet sound of leather on willow around school in the coming weeks!

Please do have a look at our Veritas Newsletters to keep abreast all the wonderful activities that our students are involved in <https://www.cardinalheenan.com/calendar-news/newsletters/>

God bless.

Yours faithfully

Mr D Kelly  
Headteacher

