



CARDINAL HEENAN
CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

VERITAS

NEWSLETTER

A message from the Headteacher

As we approach the end of another busy term at school, I would like to recognise the efforts of all staff and students in ensuring that Cardinal Heenan is a happy school, with strong links to our local community.

It is with a heavy heart that I have to start with some bad news. On the evening of Friday 28 March, thieves managed to get over our perimeter fence and steal one of our school minibuses. This is going to cause huge difficulties for us as it means that we will not be able to provide students with transport to some of the incredible opportunities that we offer, so will have to cancel or pause some of them for a while. I am currently in the process of liaising with the insurance company, but it is likely that we will have to carry out significant fundraising in order to replace the minibus. Please watch out for forthcoming fundraising events and support us however you are able to.

Now on to more positive news...

Lent provides us with an opportunity to deepen our relationship with Jesus through prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Many of our students have made Lenten promises to themselves and have taken up the many opportunities for prayer and reflection offered by our Chaplaincy team throughout this period. In addition, the school has become a hive of activity throughout this half term, with students designing and leading so many creative ways to raise money for CAFOD and the Good Shepherd Appeal.

It was wonderful to see so many of our primary school pupils and families enjoying all four performances of 'Oliver!' and to receive so much positive feedback about the talents and hard work of the students and staff members who made it possible. As well as performing on stage, students got involved as lighting and sound technicians, prop/costume designers and front of house. Thank you to all who attended and gave so generously to our raffle and bake sales – your support enables us to continue to develop performing arts in school.

This half term also saw a group of dedicated staff give up a weekend to support our Year 7 pupils on their retreat, where they enjoyed time with their peers, developing existing friendships and making new ones. They also had time to reflect and pray, and we were delighted that Fr Yemane was able to join them for part of the weekend and to celebrate Mass with the group.

We also celebrated Culture Week in school. This celebration was started by our head students last year and has been continued by senior students this year. Students took part in a range of activities celebrating the wonderful diversity of our school community – all planned and delivered by the students themselves. The team are still collecting contributions for a community recipe book; you can find details on how to submit a recipe later on in this newsletter.

Our Year 10 students have started the process of applying for the positions of head students, prefects and senior prefects and they have excellent role models in the form of our current senior leadership team who have shown real commitment to their roles and have focused on the importance of inspiring excellence in younger students. Year 11 continue to impress us with their hard work as they prepare for their examinations.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all staff for their commitment to our school community. It was great to see Ms Pendred back in school after her maternity leave and I know that our supportive staff and pupils have welcomed her back. Finally, I would like to thank our families for the support you give to the school throughout the year and the sacrifices you make on a daily basis for your children.

I would like to wish our entire school community a happy and holy Easter and look forward to seeing you again after the break.

Mr Kelly, Headteacher

LIVING OUR MISSION THROUGH....

CHAPLAINCY

FAITH IN ACTION

Throughout this half term, the Faith in Action group have challenged all students to get involved with our Lenten fundraising. Each week, a different year group took over the school with events and activities aimed at raising as much money as possible for CAFOD and the Good Shepherd appeal. Alongside this, the Faith in Action group sold tickets for a bumper raffle to win an Easter hamper.



Year 11 kicked off the half term with a week filled with sports tournaments, teddy bears and even an interactive arcade-style game which had been designed by Milo in 11JWW.



Year 10 took on the baton and spent time baking and creating sweet cones as well as planning and running a 'crossbar challenge' on the football goals. They also challenged people to fill empty Smarties tubes with 20p pieces to be added to their fundraising tally. Mr Kelly even got involved with selling some of 10EPT's cakes.



Year 9's week coincided with Culture Week and they went to great effort to link their activities to the theme of the week with 9JWE creating a quick fire quiz based on traditional foods from around the world.



Year 8 raised the most money last year and were determined to repeat the feat. Their week featured a penalty shoot out with staff and students trying to get the ball past goalkeepers Will, Zander and Head of Year Mr Edney; a range of guessing games and a tuck shop.



Year 7 finished the term on a high with tuck shops, crossbar challenges and a football team badge competition devised by Ronan in 7ALA.

Well done to all staff and students who participated in fundraising throughout the half term. It was fantastic to see our school community coming together to help others. In total, we raised over £1800 which will be split between CAFOD and the Good Shepherd Appeal.

LIVING OUR MISSION THROUGH....

PRAYING TOGETHER

ASH WEDNESDAY

On Ash Wednesday, students and staff gathered in year groups throughout the day to spend time in prayer and reflecting on scripture.



Our Faith in Action team led the readings and we were joined by Fr Yemane for some of our services.



We examined our conscience; this is where we were invited to reflect on times we had not always been the best version of ourselves and were challenged to put into action the 3 duties of Lent: praying, fasting and almsgiving. Students and staff were then invited to receive the ashes on their forehead as a sign of their faith.

PRAYER INTENTIONS

Whenever Mass is celebrated in school we pray for the intentions of all members of our school community. If you would like us to pray for a particular intention (a person, a cause or something else) please fill the details out by clicking this link or using the QR code opposite:
<https://forms.office.com/e/T9rcvTJfg4>



COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

This half term, collective worship has been planned by Year 8 tutor groups who encouraged us to treat all people with dignity and respect, following Catholic Social Teaching by loving our neighbour; the Faith in Action group, who linked their prayers to our Culture Week celebrations and inspired us to share and celebrate our differences and the bonds which unite us as a diverse faith community.

LENTEN MASS

We came together as a school community to celebrate Mass together in the Sports Hall. Fr Yemane celebrated Mass with us as we reflected on a busy half term of fundraising, performances and celebration led by our senior students.



LIVING OUR MISSION THROUGH....

PRAYING TOGETHER

head students inspiring excellence

Our current head students led the Year 10 assembly in March, hoping to inspire them to apply for student leadership roles in school. Their reflections developed the theme of servant leadership introduced by Head of Year, Mrs Millington, last half term.



They spoke about the responsibilities of leadership and their duties as leaders in our faith community. Students had the opportunity to reflect on their skills and experiences and consider the ways they can use these to become the people God calls them to be. They spoke of their role as head students inspiring younger students to achieve excellence as "an opportunity that few get and none regret".

FRANCISCAN SISTERS OF THE RENEWAL

Sisters John Paul and Therese from the Franciscan Sisters of the Renewal visited students in Year 9 on Wednesday 26 March. They shared their story and experience of how God called them through their vocation. The sisters spoke with great passion and conviction about the work they do and then answered questions from students openly.

They came into school as Year 9 had been reflecting on vocation in their RE lessons and were overjoyed to hear we had been learning about their religious order. They shared information about the three Evangelical Counsels of poverty, chastity and obedience. They talked about how they lead very simple lives, relying on the generosity of others, and that the central focus in their lives is Jesus.



One student, Eryn, said their talk was "immersive as we were able to see them in person and talk to them rather than just see them on the screen or a work sheet. It was really nice to hear about the story of their vocation." Danny, another Year 9 student, commented that "it was really interesting, especially to hear how they live their life". Mr Tunnecliff said "we are very grateful to the sisters and their religious community for giving up time to speak to our students. We hope this provides a thought-provoking opportunity for our Cardinal Heenan family to reflect on who God is calling them to be".

LIVING OUR MISSION THROUGH....

CAREERS GUIDANCE

CAREERS WEEK

We celebrated Careers Week with activities in all subject areas, focussed on the career pathways from each subject. Assemblies this week were centred around using our unique skills and gifts to become the person God calls us to be. A group of Year 10 and 11 Construction students visited a site with Equans Limited looking at techniques for building eco-friendly homes for the future. Year 11 students attended a talk about university applications and we hosted round 2 of the ESU's Performing Shakespeare competition, giving our aspiring actors the opportunity to perform in front of a larger audience.



WORCESTER COLLEGE, OXFORD

Our Year 11 Preparing for Excellence group visited Worcester College, Oxford, in February. They enjoyed tours of the college grounds with student ambassadors, including former member of staff Miss Powell-Wiffen who is currently studying at Worcester. They then had a presentation from the college's Senior Admissions and Outreach Officer who spoke to them about the huge array of subjects and societies available at Oxford. The key message of the day was enthusiasm and love of learning, with students encouraged to ask questions and think deeply about the subjects they are truly passionate about, alongside celebrating their own unique talents and interests. In the afternoon, we had a tour around Oxford City Centre, seeing iconic buildings which have featured in TV series and films as well as learning more about the unique collegiate structure of the University of Oxford.



LIVING OUR MISSION THROUGH....

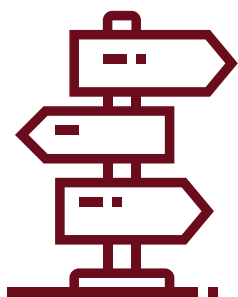
PREPARING FOR OUR FUTURE LANGUAGES AT LEEDS UNIVERSITY

Student ambassadors from Leeds University's Modern Languages department came into school in February to talk to Year 9 students about further study. They talked about university life as well as focusing on the opportunities, skills and life experiences that modern foreign languages can bring. Ambassadors also shared details about their own journeys with modern foreign languages, giving an insight into their motivation to pursue further study as well as the doors that languages have opened up for them. After the presentation, pupils had the chance to reflect on potential careers using languages and were able to ask any questions about languages at university or any other aspect of the student experience.



LEEDS CENTRAL LIBRARY

Year 7 students had a great day at Leeds Central Library filming BookTok trailers for the Leeds Book Awards shortlists. Students explored areas of the library not usually open to the public, including the Yorkshire room which includes a range of books written by people from our region, as well as maps and scrapbooks. They then filmed short trailers for the shortlisted titles and used editing software to create a montage of these clips, as well as using specialised sound booths in the library to record voiceovers.



GSAL FUTURES CONFERENCE

A group of Year 10 students attended the Grammar School at Leeds' Futures Conference. This year's theme was 'Image, Impressions and Impact' and students gained valuable insight into a range of careers in new sectors and pathways. Highlights of the day was the fast paced stock market trading games where our students worked with Year 12s from GSAL. Thank you to the Grammar School for inviting us!



CULTURE WEEK

We celebrated our second annual culture week in March. This event is entirely planned and coordinated by our senior students. They prepared assemblies, workshops and tutor time activities and reflections celebrating the great diversity of our school community.



Students led assemblies throughout the week, sharing the things that they are most proud about their culture.

Melody sang a beautiful Farsi song, and Neha said the Our Father in her native language of Malayalam. We had students from Cameroon, Cyprus, Eritrea, Ghana, India, Iran, Ireland, the Philippines, Poland, Nigeria and Zimbabwe all speaking and we learnt so much about their heritage.



We also displayed a world map in the street throughout the week and invited students and staff to add pins showing where they or their families were born or live. It was incredible to see the enormous range of countries which our school community have links with.



Students took part in quizzes and reflections during tutor time and a group of students led an Afrobeat dance workshop in the hall on Friday lunchtime.



9JWE chose to link their Lenten fundraising to our culture week celebrations, creating a quiz about traditional food from different countries across the world.



The week culminated in a non-uniform day on the Friday, when students were encouraged to wear traditional dress or clothes/colours representing their own unique heritage.

Thank you to all students and staff involved with organising this special event in our school calendar. This was an excellent way to “build on the best traditions we have inherited” by developing an event pioneered by last year’s head students and ensuring it becomes a regular event for our school community to look forward to.

YEAR 7 RETREAT

Year 7 had a wonderful time on their retreat and residential. The weekend combined reflection and prayer with opportunities for team building and taking on new challenges.

The weekend kicked off with a silent disco, where students had fun with their peers and relaxed after a busy week at school.



On Saturday morning, they came together for a Mass led by Fr Yemane, where they gave thanks for the new opportunities they have enjoyed at Cardinal Heenan and reflected on the new friendships they have made and their hopes for the rest of their time at school.



Throughout the weekend, they enjoyed a range of team building and adventurous activities which gave them the opportunity to develop as the people God calls them to be. They lived the virtues, demonstrating their courage, solidarity, faith, hope and love.



Many thanks to the staff who generously gave up their time to offer this wonderful opportunity for our students.



LIVING OUR MISSION THROUGH....

COMMUNITY ACTION

COMMON GOOD INFLUENCERS

PENNY FIELDS SCHOOL

Our Common Good Influencers have increased the frequency of their visits to Penny Fields and now spend every Tuesday and Wednesday lunchtime there. They play board games and take part in Sing and Sign activities with students there. We have loved building a partnership with our neighbours and over 50 Cardinal Heenan students have participated in one of these visits this half term.



LITTER PICKING WITH ST URBAN'S

We have also been working with the School Council from St Urban's to organise a litter pick to improve the environment in our local area. Well done to Niamh, Liya-Beth, Adesewa and Amelia who have coordinated this project throughout - presenting a Powerpoint to St Urban's students and Cardinal Heenan staff explaining the importance of a clean environment and encouraging them to get involved with their weekly litter picks.



CRISP PACKET COLLECTION

We are continuing to collect crisp packets and have amassed over 1000 packets which the Common Good Influencers will iron together to create blankets which will be shared with local homeless charities.



HORSFORTH TOWN OF SANCTUARY APPEAL

We are collecting men's clothing to support Horsforth's Town of Sanctuary group who are working with refugees and asylum seekers, ensuring that they feel welcome and find a supportive community in Leeds. They are particularly in need of jumpers, tracksuit bottoms and trainers. See posters around school or email newsletter@cardinalheenan.com for more information.

UPCOMING PROJECTS

Following the success of our Christmas event, we are hosting an Easter tea party with Leeds Irish Health and Homes. We are establishing a gardening group to manage a small allotment in the school grounds. We are also creating hampers to be distributed by Brandon House Care Home and Leeds Irish Health and Homes. After Easter, we will also be collecting for the Children's Book Project. Last year we sent 575 books to be distributed to children in need and the Common Good Influencers and we hope to repeat the success this year. See Miss Goode to get involved with any of these fantastic projects.

LIVING OUR MISSION THROUGH....

FINDING OUR VOICE

DISCOVER ARTICULATION CHALLENGE

Our debating and public speaking team were invited to talk about a piece of art of their choice as part of the University of Leeds' Arts Outreach competition 'Discover Articulation'. Designed as a precursor to the National Gallery's Articulation Prize for Sixth Form students, the competition requires students to submit a 3 minute video about a piece of art of their choice. Rosie in Year 10 chose to speak about the painting of

Our Lady of Częstochowa, a painting which has had strong links to the church in Poland for over 600 years and whose history is shrouded in legend. Rosie talked about the iconography and symbolism displayed in the image, as well as explaining its history and the pride it represents for the Polish community.



ESU PUBLIC SPEAKING COMPETITION



We were proud to host the NE regional final of the ESU Churchill Public Speaking Competition on Wednesday. The standard of competition was very high and all students performed well. We enjoyed speeches on a range of topics from pets in schools to the importance of resilience and flexibility in our modern world. Good luck to Dame Allan's School who will represent our region in the grand final. Well done to the team (Isobel, Lydia and Ryan) and also to Nicholas from Year 10 who acted as MC for the evening.

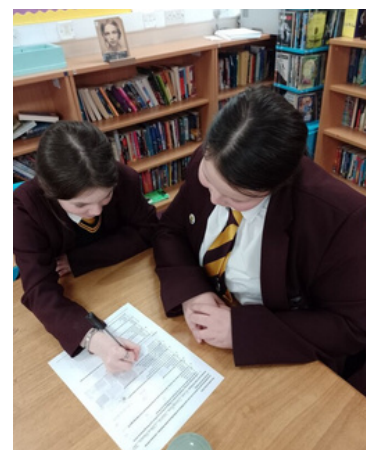
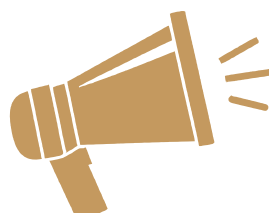


WORLD BOOK DAY

We celebrated World Book Day in school on Thursday 6 March with quizzes, games and the opportunity to sit down with a good book in the library or staffroom.

As well as taking on our World Book Day quiz, staff displayed posters sharing their favourite books from childhood, as well as the books they have read and enjoyed more recently. Students also attempted the quiz and spent time in the library at lunchtime talking about new books, including the shortlists for the Leeds Book Awards.

Congratulations to quiz winners from Year 7 - Nuala, Cara, Niaimi, Orlaith and Joe - and well done to everyone who participated.



LIVING OUR MISSION THROUGH....

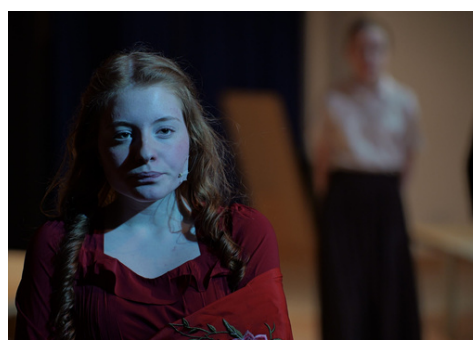
DEVELOPING CREATIVITY

OLIVER!



Well done to our team of talented actors, musicians and sound and light technicians who treated our school community to a wonderful production of Lionel Bart's Oliver!

Following months of rehearsals led by directors Miss McMinn and Mrs Phelan, the show was a roaring success with audiences going away humming the songs every evening. One parent commented that the show "exceeded all expectations" while another highlighted the fact that the students were "so enthusiastic and confident and clearly enjoying themselves."



Thank you to all members of our school community who contributed through providing costumes, props and scenery, donating raffle prizes, supporting with rehearsals and so much more. All proceeds from the raffle will go towards performing arts in school, ensuring that we can 'build on the best traditions we have inherited' and continue to inspire excellence through performing arts, ensuring that all students can share their unique gifts and become the people God calls them to be.



As well as the cast on stage, we also had teams of students responsible for sound and lighting, as well as front of house and refreshments. Of course, most of the plaudits must go to our incredible cast who would "do anything" to entertain their audience, they are hopeful that they will "be back soon" with another production in the very near future - "it's a fine life" indeed for performing arts at Cardinal Heenan!



LIVING OUR MISSION THROUGH....

INSPIRING EXCELLENCE

PI DAY 2025

For this year's pi day, Mrs Butteriss hosted a 'Digits of Pi' competition, where students took on the challenge of reciting as many digits of pi as possible from memory, with some truly impressive results.

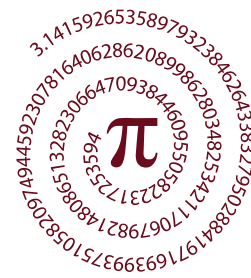
After an intense contest, we are proud to announce our top 4 winners:

1st place - Chloe M (Year 9) who recited pi to an incredible 170 decimal places!

2nd place – Hanna D (Year 7)

3rd place – Rosie V (Year 10)

4th place – Nuala C (Year 9)



Congratulations to all the students who took part, showcasing their focus, enthusiasm, and of course incredibly impressive memory skills!

LEARNING NEW SKILLS

In Spanish lessons this half term, students were challenged to create their own twist on a tortilla española or Spanish omelette. Pupils could either make them at home and share with their family or bring them in to school for their teachers and classmates to try.



BLOOD BROTHERS THEATRE TRIP

Year 10 Drama students travelled to York to enjoy a production of Blood Brothers. Having studied this play as part of their GCSE course, it was fantastic to see a live performance and consider the choices the director made in staging this production.



MUSICAL SUCCESS

Leon (Year 8) took part in Rothwell Competitive Music Festival in March, where he won first place in the piano recital open category, first place for winners of the instrumental classes and was named Young Musician of the Competition. Well done Leon!



PERFORMING SHAKESPEARE



We hosted the second round of the ESU's Performing Shakespeare competition in February. The standard was very high with performances of monologues and duologues from a wide range of Shakespeare plays. Our two performers, Bramwell and Abrham, did not progress to the regional final, but received excellent feedback from the judges for the physicality of their performances and their use of stillness on stage. Bramwell was commended for his "good, clear, comedic performance" as Puck from A Midsummer Night's Dream, while the judges complimented Abrham for the way he "held the room very well straight from the beginning" of his performance as Romeo from Romeo and Juliet.



LIVING OUR MISSION THROUGH....

LIVING THE VIRTUES

Our virtue in focus for this half term is
LOVE/CHARITY



Definition:

Charity is love, a virtue through which we love God above all else and we love our neighbour as we love ourselves. You accept someone as they are, you care for them, and care what happens to them. You always think about the other person rather than thinking about yourself. When you love, you put into practice the “golden rule”, to treat others with the respect and kindness that you want for yourself. You show love for people you do not know by simple acts of kindness and by wanting the best for them.

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

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
Sofia	Daniel	Niamh	Megan	Callum
Jared	Amelia	Casey	Stessy	Joe
Alexandra	Gabriella	Sorcha	Seth	Nana
Conor	Riley	Princess	David	Milo
Zophia	Isabelle	Chloe	Priyan	Bawo
Mimidoo		Ethan	Praises	Eiffel
			Jacob	Zuzia
			Frank	

Our school community have demonstrated love throughout this half term by getting involved in a variety of ways with fundraising and community action. Each year group took over the school for a week, planning a range of fundraising activities from bake sales to games and tournaments. Together, we raised over £2,000 for CAFOD and the Good Shepherd appeal. We also celebrated our second annual Culture Week with each form sharing the culture and heritage which makes each of us unique but also brings us together as a faith community. Senior students planned a range of activities including dance classes, recipe books, quizzes and displays. Sharing in each other's cultures allows us to demonstrate love for our neighbour and uphold the dignity of each individual within our school community.

**“YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART
AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND. THIS IS
THE GREAT AND FIRST COMMANDMENT. AND A SECOND IS: YOU
SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOUR AS YOURSELF.”**



(MATTHEW 22:37-39)

LIVING OUR MISSION THROUGH....

PARTICIPATION IN SPORT

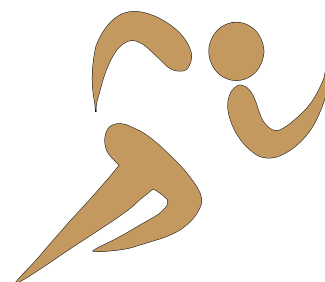
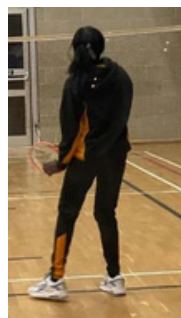
EXTRA-CURRICULAR PARTICIPATION

Extra-curricular sport continues to be well attended, with over 300 students participating in lunchtime and after-school sports clubs ranging from cross country to dance and basketball. Students demonstrate the virtues of solidarity and courage in having a go at different sports and the wide range of activities on offer giving all students the chance to celebrate their own unique talents as well as working as part of a team. This term, we have also hosted Leeds Skipping School and pupils from primary schools across Leeds for the final of the Skipping Competition.



BADMINTON

Our KS4 girls participated in finals night for the Leeds badminton leagues. All represented our school with pride. Well done to all students who have played badminton for school this year.



BOYS FOOTBALL

Year 9 boys will compete in the semi final of the Leeds Cup after Easter - good luck! Year 10 boys reached the final of the Leeds Cup and the semi final of the County Cup.

GIRLS FOOTBALL

Year 7 girls are into the Leeds Schools Cup final following impressive victories over two strong sides in the quarter and semi finals. Year 9 won the semi final of the Leeds Cup this week and will compete in the final after Easter. Good luck!



DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD

We have over 75 students in Year 9 working towards their Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award in school. As well as participating in extra-curricular sports, many of them are building their physical fitness through walking and running in the local area or through gym classes and sports clubs outside of school. Many of them are supporting younger children in sports clubs in school and outside, developing coaching and leadership skills.



YEAR 7 FOOTBALL MERIT TABLE EVENT

As part of their Duke of Edinburgh volunteering, a group of Year 9 students hosted a merit table event for Year 7 students from 6 local schools. The girls advertised the event, recruited teams, booked pitches and organised the tournament with support from Mr Gaffey and Mr Moore. Our Year 7 students took the most points on the night with impressive performances from all.



INDIVIDUAL SPORTING SUCCESS

- Leon (Year 9) plays for Sheffield United's Academy. He travelled with the Under 14 team to Madrid during February half term, playing in matches against Atlético Madrid and Rayo Vallecano.
- Jacob, Manus and Pierce (Year 9) have all represented Leeds School FA Under 14s this year. The team has had a very successful season - they reached the semi-finals of the national cup, the Yorkshire Cup and currently sit second in the league.
- Markluv (Year 8) has represented Leeds Schools FA under 13s who have reached the National Cup semi-final and will also compete in the Yorkshire Cup Final. The team (pictured below) are also going on tour to one of Europe's biggest tournaments, the Mare Nostrum Cup, at Easter which they hope will bring further success. Markluv is also the team Captain!
- Sophia, Georgia and Olivia (Year 7) have all represented Leeds Schools FA under 12s.
- Luke (Year 10) made his full debut for Doncaster Rovers U18's this weekend, in a win against Mansfield Town away, scoring in the process.
- Former student, Issy Stewart, featured for Sheffield United's Under 21 side as they chalked up an impressive 7-0 victory away from home against local rivals Sheffield Wednesday.
- Former student, Rhys Chadwick, is playing and scoring regularly for Leeds United's Under 21 team. He has also trained with the first team over recent weeks.
- Andrea (Year 9) participated in a World Karate and Kickboxing Commission tournament in Doncaster, where she won bronze and gold medals. She has also represented England in an international competition.



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.



LIVING OUR MISSION THROUGH....

CONVERSATIONS WITH OUR COMMUNITY

AN INTERVIEW WITH MRS PHELAN

Our interview this half term is with one of the directors of our production of 'Oliver!' - drama teacher Mrs Phelan. Year 10 student, Leela, caught up with her for a chat.

What do you enjoy most about your role in school?

The pupils - seeing them enjoy their learning. I really enjoy the extra-curricular drama that I do and seeing the students get involved.

Why did you decide to become a teacher?

I had worked with children and young people on and off for a long time and I really enjoyed it. I just decided it was something that I wanted to do more of in my career.

Do you have any goals as a teacher?

To continue to build the drama and performing arts at school and make it more of a subject to be celebrated.

How did you manage to organise the Oliver! production?

With great difficulty! It was a real challenge at times, especially because of the musical challenges that came with it, especially with the Head of Music being away on maternity leave - at times it seemed like it wouldn't happen but, thankfully, it did all come together in the end and we were all really pleased with how it went.

What do you do in your spare time outside of school?

I do all sorts of things outside of school - I've done lots of drama outside of school, been in drama productions; worked with drama companies; I've worked with children in different countries, for example Italy and America, teaching drama. I also really enjoy writing and painting in my spare time and working on my fitness if I can fit it in!

Thank you for giving up your time to speak to us.



LIVING OUR MISSION THROUGH....

STAFF AND STUDENT WELLBEING BOOK RECOMMENDATION - ANNA (YEAR 7)

Anna recommends Noughts and Crosses by Malorie Blackman. This dystopian love story set in London features two teenagers who fall in love despite facing prejudice from the society around them. Anna enjoyed the book so much that she now plans to read the whole series. She said she particularly enjoyed the range of perspectives shared through the story.



STAFF WELLBEING COMMITTEE

The staff wellbeing committee meets regularly to plan events and activities aimed at promoting staff wellbeing. Our staff book group recently chose their next book and will meet to discuss it after the Easter break. We took a break from our usual cake Friday in the staffroom to celebrate CAFOD Family Fast Day, with donations being added to the students' Lenten fundraising efforts.



ATTENDANCE AND ACHIEVEMENT

We were delighted to be named as the highest performing school in Leeds in terms of academic attainment last year. We are also consistently ranked within the top 10% of schools nationally for attendance, making us the 11th highest school in Yorkshire on this measure. Thank you to all parents and carers for their support with keeping attendance in school so high. There is a clear link between attendance and attainment and developing positive habits around attendance and punctuality is important in preparing students for careers and future study. For more information on the link between attendance and attainment, please see <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-impact-of-school-absence-on-lifetime-earnings> and <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/gcse-attainment-and-lifetime-earnings>.

CULTURE WEEK RECIPE BOOK

Building on the success of Culture Week, we are hoping to compile a recipe book filled with traditional recipes from our school community. If you would like to submit a recipe, please complete this Microsoft Form with details or scan the QR code for more information - <https://forms.office.com/e/a3HqsZxN1C>



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.

UPCOMING DATES:

Tuesday 22 April - First day of term for all pupils. Year 7 Consultation Evening

Wednesday 23 April - Year 8 Reports Issued

Friday 2 May - Year 9 Battlefields Visit departs

Monday 5 May - Bank Holiday

Wednesday 7 May - Year 8 Consultation Evening. Year 9 Reports Issued

Thursday 8 May - Year 8 Vaccinations HPV

Friday 9 May - Year 11 external examinations begin

Thursday 15 May - Year 10 Preparing for Next Steps Evening

Friday 23 May - Iceland Trip departs



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