

Aiming Higher, Going Further

The Cardinal Pole Catholic School English Department's Achievement Newsletter

VOLUME 2, NUMBER 1

DECEMBER 2015

National Poetry Day

On the 8th October, Cardinal Pole celebrated National Poetry Day. This year's theme was 'light'. Alongside a poetry competition, Christian Foley, our poet in residence, performed pop-up poetry in lessons across the school.

A big congratulations to our poetry winners this year:

Year 13

Tian Sewell Morgan 'The First Time I Saw Light'

Year 12

Sao Pain 'Guiding Light'

Year 11

Johnny Maughan 'God's Gaiety' Assiba Kouakan 'Light vs Darkness'

Year 10 (Prize for Art and English Poetry) Luke Thomas 'The Decaying Mannequin'

Year 8

Zaneswe Zulu 'Ahh Light' Kourtney Allen 'Without Light'

Year 7

Dorcas Murashite Sabwe 'Unique Light – last bales of sunlight 'Alan Xue 'A Fiery Spirit'
Sultan Adeshina 'Light is My Best Friend'

The Brilliant Club

For the past term, year 7 and 8 English students have been working with a PhD tutor from SOAS, Daniel Luther. This is part of an extra-curricular programme offered by The Brilliant Club, a charity that exists to widen access to top universities for outstanding pupils from non-selective state schools. Currently, the students are writing their final essay on Literary Theory. Good luck to all those involved:

| Dorcas | ımpraim | Alicia | Junior |
|---------|----------|----------|-----------------|
| Daniel | Shiels | Antoine | Marshall |
| Adenike | Adejo | Alec | Lau |
| Moses | Badibadi | Farrell | Addo |
| Charlie | Crocker | Brigette | Ausena |
| Yasmin | Hoang | Edward | Ntalindwa Badge |
| | | | |

"Forget Horrible
Histories, hire a popup-poet! An
enthusiastic class had
all of their energy
harnessed as they
revelled in the
opportunity to show
off all their knowledge
about a topic they
have been studying."Ms Connolly (History)

"It brought a really nice atmosphere to the classroom and the kids were very pleased (and surprised) to hear poetry about Maths" – Ms Coria (Maths)

"Many students are now excited at the prospect of combining science with poetry in their own spoken word work and we look forward to the results." – Dr Moss (Science)

Debate Mate

On Thursday the 5th of November 16 students attended the Launch of the Debate Mate Programme at the Emmanuel Centre in Westminster. The students were able to explore some of the area around Westminster itself, the seat of debate and government in the UK and also learn more about the process of debating. Students were able to watch a debate performed on stage and vote for the winning side, the day included speeches from Emily Maitlis the presenter of BBC *Newsnight* and Heydon Prowse, actor and comedian, from BBC Three's *The Revolution will be Televised*. The students thoroughly enjoyed themselves and are now ready for the



beginning of the Debating season; they were also a credit to the school with members of the public commenting on their excellent behaviour while travelling through London. The Debate Club is after school on Thursday's until 4:30pm with snacks provided. All students in Years 7-10 are welcome.



Tian Oxford Interview

Congratulations to Tian Sewell-Morgan for securing an interview at Oxford to read Oriental Literature. We wish her good luck! We hope she has as much success as Princess Ashilokun who has now started her studies at Magdalen College, Oxford University to read English.

Primary School Writing Workshop

Thursday afternoons have seen Cardinal Pole host local primary schools for a writing workshop to challenge some of the most able students in the borough. The year 6 students have been writing everything from short stories to call to arms poetry. It is a great opportunity for local children to meet each other and develop friendships through their writing. A big thank you to all involved at the following primary schools:

St Dominic's Catholic Primary St Paul's with St Michael's CE Primary School London Fields Primary School Orchard Primary School Morningside Primary School

We also look forward to St Elizabeth Catholic Primary School joining us after Christmas.



Reading Mentors

Our dedicated sixth form students have once again taken part in our reading mentors programme. These students work with year 7s weekly to improve their reading skills. Last year the scheme was enjoyed by all and fantastic progress was made and it looks like the same will happen this year!

A big thank you to the following mentors for their hard work:

Motunrayo Arojojoye Annaliza Javier De Mesa

Joshua Best Gar Kin Lau Tofumi Kayode Mojama Fallah

Tia Weekes Ana Dos Santos Moreira

Lessia Mbala Beulah Amponsa **Amber Martin** Idris Al-ameen Melissa Karadag Akeisha Fraser Hayley Obioma Charles Donkoh Patricia Viera Parreirao **Amy Pham** Mark Osei -Boamah Marilyn Piedra **Emerson Da Silva Colin Chambers** Hope Osifo Vivian Uzomba

Book Club

The year 7 and 8 book club has been a great success with 20 members still regularly attending! We are reading The Ghost of Thomas Kempe and the students are engaged with the text and are practising their reading, listening and comprehension skills with guided reading. Our afternoon sessions are usually quieter and with smaller groups we continue reading and also play games such as 'Peter's word game' to enhance our vocabulary and to think about synonyms.

The group is split into Y7 and Y8:

Y7: Peter Orna Venegas, Daniel Shields and Ludwik Wach from *7 Line*. Victoria Balowska, Shania Kahuni, Georgia Lawrence, Mariachantal Mbadinuju, Tereza Merhawi, Rachel Nwankwo and Angelika Sacewicz from *7 SWL*. Sultan Adewumi-Adeshina from *7 Ward*.

Y8: Ruth Adu, Adrienne Dorsette, Kieron Jeffers, Henriana Kombo and Maisie Sharpe from 8 *Cam*. Anthony Okeke from 8 *Line*. Marcus Maddatu, Luahna Okera and Kehinde Olaojo from 8 *SWL*.

Thank you to the form teachers for their support!

<u>Recommended Reads</u> for the Holidays

To change the way you think: 'The Book Thief' by Markus Zusak

To help you understand you: 'The Catcher in the Rye' by JD Salinger

To make you cry: 'War Horse' by Michael Morpurgo

To make you laugh: 'Catch 22' by Joseph Heller

To scare you: 'The Shining' by Stephen King

To teach you about love: 'How I Live Now' by Meg Rosoff

To thrill you: 'Gone' by Michael Grant

Accelerated Reader

An important part of our lessons is to promote a love of reading. One way that this is achieved is through Accelerated Reader. Accelerated Reader is a powerful tool for monitoring and managing independent reading practice while promoting reading for pleasure. After students have finished reading a book, they log on to the website and take a quiz on that book. Prizes are awarded for those students that are reading the most and improving the fastest. It is an expectation that students are quizzing every two weeks. This year all year 7 and 8 students are taking part.

A big congratulations to our latest winners:

Quizzer of the week

1 Karelle Mayele – 51 Quizzes passed 2nd Danita Boakye-Boateng – 33 Quizzes passed 3rd - Cinera Gasper De Silva – 25 Quizzes passed

Readers of the week

1 Karelle Mayele – 358.7 points scored

2nd Danita Boakye-Boateng – 194.7 points scored

3 Cinera Gasper De Silva – 171.7 points scored

Top classes of the week

8cr/Eng1 – 1772.4 words 7cr/Eng1 – 883.3 words CTW – 732.3 words