



energising abilities

Cardinal Pole Catholic School

Cardinal Pole Catholic School Parents Newsletter

January 2014

Headteachers Message

website: www.cardinalpole.co.uk

Dear Parents,

I do hope that you enjoyed the Christmas break. It does seem rather a long time ago.

Thank you to those parents who attended either the Music and Drama Gala or the Carol Service at the end of term. They were enjoyable events and a chance to meet together to celebrate the season and the talents of our children. At the Gala, the rendition of Anthony and Cleopatra was well received and it was good to see students performing a wide range of musical pieces. The Church at St. Dominic's was packed to capacity for the Carol Service. The end of the term liturgies were joyous occasions and the children sang enthusiastically. Of special note as the term came to a close was the amount raised during the Advent charity drive. In total, over £2000 was collected and distributed between Providence Row, our local homeless charity, and the Hackney Food Bank. The generosity of the community is quite remarkable, even more so given the economic climate and local context. I am very grateful for your support.

At the end of term we also said goodbye to Lincoln Fearon, Science Technician and staff governor and wished him well on his retirement at the end of term with a celebratory Mass. Derek Vitali, Vice Chair of Governors, presented Mr Fearon with a pair of Waterford crystal glasses.

The key focus of the school presently is on raising achievement. Support continues to be provided to students so that they can secure the best grades possible. This has included after school, Saturday and small group tuition. Achievement has been further supported by the appointment of three additional staff, one in English, one in Maths and a further member of staff in science for two terms. This is funded by the Pupil Premium and is secured to target identified groups in years 9, 10 and 11. Additional specialist teachers have also been secured for some Sixth Form lessons to raise achievement. Your help is important, please continue to monitor their homework and ensure your child attends and is on time.

We welcome Ms Leeuwner to the Science department and Mr Smith to the English department. Mr Okurut also continues for two terms in the Maths department. Mr Jackson Okosun joins the school as 2nd in charge of Maths and Dr Kirsten Foley as a science technician. Congratulations also to Halina Samuels on her appointment as Deputy Office Manager with immediate effect. We wish them all well in their new posts at Cardinal Pole.

Ms J. Heffernan
Headteacher

Sixth Form News



We are delighted with the number of successful applications Year 13 have made to Universities. In total our Year 13 students hold over 170 offers between them, including over 50 from Russell Group universities. We are especially pleased that Emmanuel Farinre, Head Boy (pictured) has been offered a place at Clare College, Cambridge to study Land Economy. We wish them luck.

Applications from Year 11 to our outstanding Sixth Form are welcome.

Young Poets Go Wilde

Here are some of our young poets who were invited to The Royal Society of Arts for a poetry event in December. as they pose by the Oscar Wilde monument.



Guest Reporter

Congratulations to pen-happy Spoken Word star Tian Sewell-Morgan (11C) whose poem 'I live in Britains Society' has been accepted for publication by United Press.

Further proof of Tian's exceptional writing skills is available on pages 2-4 when she became a roving reporter for this very newsletter!



THE PARENT'S NEWS

Reported by Tian Sewell Morgan, 11C

Monday 13th January 2014

Year 11 Visit The Guardian



Photography by Ms Messenger

On Wednesday 8th of January, Year 11 History students had the opportunity of going to the Guardian's Office to learn about the Suffragettes, and how they protested for women to have the vote in 1913. During this session they became journalists by the guidance of Elli Narewska, The Guardian's Education Officer. They created a front page based on the 4th of June 1913 (The day that Emily Davison jumped in front of a Epsom Derby horse 'for the cause') They performed different journalistic roles such as;

News Reporters - who would choose the main story, the second story and the short and uplifting brief stories.

Sub Editors - who would correct grammar, spelling and create their own headlines

Picture Editors - who would crop and choose which photos would be used.

Narewska literally epitomised the need to be able to meet deadlines as those who didn't meet the task at the time they needed to were 'fired' from their jobs. They had to adapt to different situations like changing their stories completely because they had been given more accurate and specified information on the events they reported on, at inconvenient timings.

Time flew by and as the session came to a close, Mohamuud Abdirahman, a student, made a short speech on behalf of the group and Cardinal Pole summarising the great experiences of day and expressing thanks.

Narewska said the group worked excellently and impressively because about half of the group hadn't been taught about the suffragettes and especially because some of the written work was exceptional. In terms of behaviour everyone was keen so she could easily assist and give advice.

The Maths Department Mean Business.

As of Monday 13th January, Every Friday there will be a test Year 11 students were provided on the topics you had to revise with a maths revision time during the week. The maths table, which will be colour coded, laminated and sent for failure and all the room for home. It consists of a six week success. And if this time table isn't a clear demonstration of schedule which covers all the GCSE topics for the exam; each day has range of 16-38 minutes of revision time per day and the clips vary from number, algebra, shape and data topics. these students to achieve the grades they deserve, I don't know what is. All the revision clips are from the Maths Watch VLE.

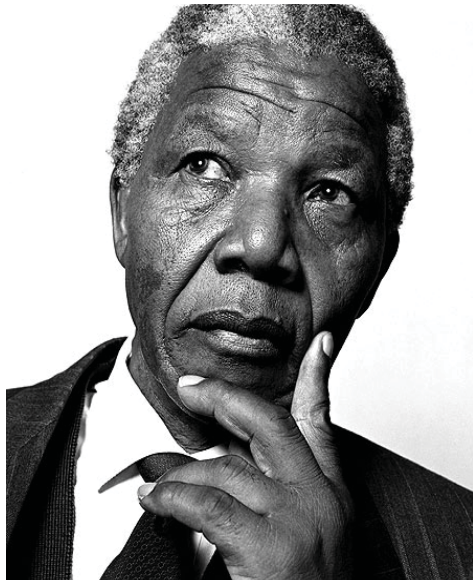
INSPIRE US!

Inspire, an educational partnership company, which will allow them to take returned to Cardinal Pole to them. At the end of the 10-12 week period students who have attended will receive an accreditation to put on their CV School to support the year 11 12 week period students who and there will be a celebratory event. If this sounds like the kind of club you are interested in ensure yourself a place by running for a 10-12 week period which will provide students with a variation of skills, abilities, programmes and companies filling a form and giving it to Mr Brown. Spaces are limited.

THE PARENT'S NEWS

Reported by Tian Sewell Morgan, 11C

Year 11 Attend Nelson Mandela Memorial



On Thursday the 12 of December, Year 11 students had the privilege to attend Nelson Mandela's Memorial service which took place in Westminster Hall, in Parliament.

The event was hosted by Commons Speaker John Bercow and Lords Speaker Baroness D'Souza. Various political figures such as Labour leader Ed Milliband, Foreign Secretary William Hague former and Commons speaker Baroness Boothroyd paid their tributes to the anti-apartheid movement figurehead. Peers, MPs and invited guests took part in the commemorative service to celebrate the life of South Africa's first black president on Thursday the 5th of December. Singer Joan Armatrading, who met Mr Mandela numbers of times, performed 'The Messenger', a tribute which she sang for him in 2001, inspiring the former leader to rise to his feet to dance.

It was a wonderful occasion and we are grateful to our local MP, Meg Hillier, for inviting us.

Food for Thought

I interviewed Mr Glover (A) and three students Mohamuud Abdirahman (B), Raqib Adebayo (C), and Kevin Tran (D), who were at the prestigious event, and asked a few thought stimulating questions;

Q. How did you feel being there?:

A. "There were two aspects; one being the awe of being in a part of the parliament building I have never been to. And also as a history teacher, being in such a historical place was quite moving"

B. "I was honored"

C. "I was pretty excited about it but I was also quite upset because I've always been inspired by Nelson Mandela but the event was great because they didn't really grieve for him they celebrated his life and not the fact that he had passed so it was pretty cool"

D. "I felt privileged but it was very cold, cold literally and metaphorically speaking."

Q. Which aspect did you enjoy the most .

A. "When some one had said one of Nelson Mandela's quotes "I'm no saint, I'm a sinner but I try" because we all sin and have vulnerabilities but we try ...and the lady who shared the story of going to the prison and pretending to be his wife to bring him food which was interesting."

B. "I'd lie and say it was the musical aspect but I mainly enjoyed the poetry by Dean Atta because through his poem it felt as if he knew Mandela, like he had deep conversations with him and was talking from the point of view of a brother or a cousin"

C. "The performances! Mainly because they were able to make me feel sad and happy at the same time; they were very artistic and elaborate."

D. "I liked the singing....no-no-no the speeches, especially Ed Milliband's; which was captivating and intriguing."

Q. How did this experience effect you?

A. "It will stay with me. I remember his visit to the country. In Trafalgar Square he was in jogging bottoms and a baseball cap, as a tourist; he was an ordinary guy but so special. I've lived through it all and my fear has been while growing up that in his absence that South Africa will descend in to terrible things where it becomes white against black and people enacting vengeance for the terrible things that have happened to Nelson Mandela. He truly is a shining example to us all. The memorial was like his life ,a piece of history that we will never forget."

B. It made me understand the true respect shown for Nelson Mandela, as I personally, didn't know much about Nelson Mandela, but a lot of important people came and paid their respects it really shows how he made a revolution and changed the world for the better."

C. "I'm grateful for being able to take part in such an event and it's something that I will always remember."

D. "It deepened my insight into the life of Nelson Mandela"

Message from the editor:

Many thanks to Tian Sewell Morgan from 11C for being our January roving reporter. The work ethic discussed on the Guardian trip was evident in her approach to finding good news stories. Truly, a great job done.

English

Developing Literacy

Literacy is a key skill needed for all. The school currently has a special focus on this. Activities include our Debating Club, Spoken Word Club and Word of the Week. This is supported by the staff and the library. You can also help by encouraging your child to read and discuss with you.

Spoken Word

Spoken Word Club is growing in popularity. Pupils from Years 7 to 13 regularly attend and are keeping Mr Antrobus, our poet in Residence, very busy.

Here they are at work on their poems in the English department on Wednesday evenings:



Some Striking lines by our young poets :

'the wrath of a backstabber blade'

Kai-John
Y8

'Darknesss lingers.. emptiness is its feature'

'Tornado's destructive spiral is cold air quarrelling ..a reckless beast with no mercy'

Chris Imonilce Y8

'Pacing away, I saw shells of our broken friendship drop softly behind'

'I live in a society where the scale of racism crescendos, The further up you go in the country'

Tian Y11

'The first day I realised the aim of a spotlight is not about the light it shines but how it makes every dark around it'

Abigail Y12

What is Spoken Word to me?
by Tian Sewell-Morgan, 11C

Poetry is a long lasting love to me and Spoken Word are the pair of wedding rings that tie us together. Spoken Word allows poetry to have another form of synthesis. It's a platform where I can express myself comfortably. It's empowering and it motivates me to become more outspoken individual.

Spoken word has forced me to be confident, prepared and vulnerable. Vulnerable in the sense that I am now able to bare all the emotion I tend to keep in and transform them into thought provoking poetry that can grip, motivate and intrigue people. I love it. It has allowed me to break down the barriers I made for myself due to my shyness because it has made me accept my past, my strengths, my weaknesses and has given me aspirations for the future.

Spoken Word has allowed my voice to become a cast of Shakespearean actors taking the role of my words. I can only thank The English Department and Poet in Residence, Raymond Antrobus, for organising the Spoken Word club which has changed my life.

Literacy

Accelerated Readers

Congratulations to the following pupils who have gained the most points in their English classes for reading for pleasure within the Accelerated Reading programme.

Year 7

Helena Boateng
Caelan Fortune
Ozgun Erdogan
Fidelle Bamba Twagira
Jordan Todd Roberts
Joshua Owsu-Brons
Martin McDonagh

Year 8

Peter Okufuwa
Trinity Leslie

School Library Software, iMLS App (Micro-librarian)

There is now a free app of the school library software available for pupils to access outside of school. All pupils have been given a log-in code and can go online to reserve books, access web-links and write book reviews.

It is as simple as downloading the iMLS app from the 'App Store', entering the school postcode and then logging in with the pupils individual log-in and password.

For more information visit www.microlib.co.uk

Special Guests



We are delighted that the Library has managed to secure two very exciting visitors to talk and work with our pupils: Professor Paul Braterman, scientist and author of 'From Stars to Stalagmites' and actor Ben Chaplin. We look forward to their visits in the very near future.



Book Swap Box

Do you have reading books at home that your children have grown tired of? Get your child to bring them in to school and swap for other titles in our new swap box!

Ms Hayward, Librarian

ICT and Business

TeenTech Event Trip

On 27th November, a group of year 9 pupils were selected to attend a Challenge Day event organised by TeenTech which helps young teenagers see the wide range of career possibilities in Science, Engineering and Technology.

TeenTech is an award winning and industry-led initiative. Over the course of the day, pupils got the chance to meet with Education Business Partnerships, companies, Universities and Business organisations to try their hands at experiments, handle leading edge technology and, most importantly, spend time with the Engineers, Technologists and Scientists. The pupils were able to discuss with the volunteers their jobs and products and also tried their hands at some related activities.

The pupils worked in groups during the event giving them an opportunity to develop their thinking, decision making, problem solving, creative and communication skills.

Congratulations to Martins Ladipo in 9A who was voted one of the winners for building the fastest model car.

Ms Cookson, Head of ICT and Business



SKILLS LONDON

On Friday 22nd November 2013, a group of 30 Cardinal Pole Catholic school 6th form BTEC students from the Business Studies Department and Health & Social department were invited by Skills London to attend the annual jobs and careers event at the Excel Centre in London. The event, which is the London's biggest career and job event was tagged "Skills London 2013. Skills London is an organisation that strives to ensure students leave school equipped with the skills and experiences to succeed.

The event showcases opportunities including apprenticeships, education, training, employment, internships and other options.

During the visit, students had the opportunity of meeting various employers such a Devere Group, Hilton Worldwide, Sky TV, O2, Tesco, British Gas, Heathrow, Cross rail, London council Apprenticeships, UCAS Progress and the Royal Army.

Training providers, colleges and organisations were not left out; training providers that were present included Birkbeck University, Middlesex University, University of Hertfordshire, Uxbridge College, Bsix College and Bromley College of Further Education.

The visit gave the students the chance to have a go at the careers on offer and afforded the organisations present the opportunity to explain their career routes and job opportunities. A useful day for all.

Mr Ogunmefun, Business Studies Department

Health and Fitness from Mr Purcell, Head of PE

Indoor Rowing Championships

Cardinal Pole hosted the Hackney Borough rowing championships on Tuesday 14th January and had some terrific results as follows:

Year 7

Maurice – Gold

Daniella – Gold

Kennice – Bronze

Year 8

Sephora – Gold

Daryl – Silver

Kwaben – Gold

Year 9

Eunice – Silver

Year 11

Phil Moke – Bronze

Overall the team placed secured second place. This once again showed the potential of our pupils who have been training hard every Tuesday after School with Miss Gare.



Sportshall Athletics

Congratulations to the Year 8 girls Indoor Athletics team, and team Manager Miss Pontifex, who, after winning all four Hackney league meetings, have qualified for the East London final for Sportshall Athletics.

The Year 8 boys could not get there consistency right this year and were beaten into second place by a very strong Urswick team.

With one meeting to go the Year 7 boys and girls are leading both their leagues and hope to continue their good form into the last event.

Healthy thoughts!



I continue to notice the large amounts of fizzy drinks children seem to have these days and often for breakfast. It is worth considering that the average 330ml can contains 10 cubes of sugar. Would any of us put this amount in our tea or coffee? The link below shares some interesting facts from an American website and is worth certainly worth viewing – <http://www.sugarstacks.com/beverages.htm>

Football

All teams are continuing to challenge for one or more cups this year with some very good performances to date. One of the recent highlights was the Year 10 team coming back from 3-0 down at half time to finish normal time 4-4 and then win 7-4 with 3 goals in the second period of extra time to beat Kingsford! It took real character and determination for them come back in this game which will serve them well in future games, whether they win or lose.

E-Safety: Social Networking



We have seen the use of online social networking sites increase tremendously over the last few years. There are a few things that you can discuss with your child to help them protect themselves when socialising online:

1. Are they at the legal age to have an account on a social networking site? For most social networking sites users should be 13 and over. If not then the account needs to be deactivated and reasons for this should be explained.
2. Talk to your child about who their online 'friends' are, encourage them to think about whether it is appropriate to share information with them. Teach them how to manage the information they share through Privacy Settings.
3. Ensure your son or daughter understands that they should never meet up with someone they only know online. People might not always be who they say they are.
4. Know what to do if someone upsets your son or daughter online. Sometimes 'friends' can do things that are upsetting. It is important that you and your child are aware of what you can do to block or report them.

Further information and advice can be obtained from the CEOP website at www.thinkuknow.co.uk

Andy English – Assistant Headteacher



Change of Details?

Parents are reminded of the importance of keeping your contact detail records up to date! It is imperative that we can contact you in an emergency and therefore ask that you check that the Office has the correct contact telephone number for you.

Similarly if you have recently changed address - you need to ensure we have the correct details.

Your next appointment...

Date: _____ Time _____
Date: _____ Time _____
Date: _____ Time _____
Date: _____ Time _____
Date: _____ Time _____

Please Note: If you fail to show up for an appointment or fail to give 24 hours cancellation notice, you will be charged 50% of the cost of your appointment.

Parents are reminded that any requests to leave early for a doctor/dentist appointment must be supported by an appointment card or letter. Students will not be given permission to leave without one.

Road Safety gets the green light!

You will already be aware of our concerns regarding road safety - particularly with regards to our immediate surrounding area. We are therefore delighted that TfL has recently reviewed the Homerton High St. and Ponsford St. junction and designed a layout which includes green man crossing facilities on all arms of the junction.

A public consultation exercise on this proposal will take place shortly.

Carolyn Laws - Deputy Headteacher

Cardinal Pole in the Community...



Community Links

Cardinal Pole is looking to develop links with other schools to exchange good practice and to create a support network. An aspect of this work has included participation with the visit from Suffolk Secondary Headteachers by the Learning Trust. Cardinal Pole hosted two schools.

In addition to this we have offered to support both Stoke Newington and Mossbourne in delivering A-Level Music and staff from St. Gregory's in Kenton on the delivery of History GCSE. The Maths department continues to provide support to local primary teachers in developing skills and knowledge to deliver Level 6 Maths at KS2 as well as classroom support to St Elizabeth's. This work is being lead by Mr English, Mr Warris, Ms Connolly and Mr Brookman.

Hillcroft Supporting Mothers

Hillcroft is the Educational Charity for Women only over 19 in Surbiton Surrey, helping women to get back to education.

The course runs from Monday 17th February to Friday 21st February 2014 and focuses on mothers and their children who are, or may be, dyslexic or dyspraxic and as a result may learn differently and need to be supported to maintain their confidence and achieve their full potential.

For more info contact Hillcroft on 0208 399 2688 , email then at enquiry@hillcroft.ac.uk or visit www.hillcroft.ac.uk.

Keeping healthy with your kids

In an effort to motivate kids to be healthy it would seem quiet sensible that parents could lead by example and, where possible, join in with their kids in an effort to improve their fitness.

We have had a number of parents in the past who have walked, jogged or attended the gym with their children which has had considerable benefits - not just to fitness but as a positive way to spend more time with their children.

It might be worth considering taking part in one of the UK Park run events which are 5K (3mile) runs held every Saturday morning at 9am. The events are very friendly/inclusive to all with the standard varying from elite to jog/walkers. You will need to register first by following the link below. Once you register you will be given a bar code to print off which you take to each event to record your finish and result.

<http://www.parkrun.org.uk/>

Admissions

Applications to the school for September 2014 at present stand at over 540.

This reflects a very healthy interest in the school. It is especially pleasing to see the increase in the number of Catholic applicants, especially from our local feeder schools. Well done to the Admissions team, led by Mr Glover, on this success. Thank you also to our parents for their trust in us.

Ms Heffernan, Headteacher



Dates for your diary...



EASTER TERM 2014

February

Thurs 6th	Y8 Parents Evening (4.30-7.30pm)
Thurs 13th	Twilight (INSET Early Close)
Fri 14th	Attendance Reward Breakfast Last Day of Term

HALF TERM (Mon 17th Feb - Fri 21st Feb)

Mon 24th	Start of Term
Thurs 27th	Y9 Parents Evening (4.30-7.30pm)

March

Tues 4th	Shrove Tuesday
Weds 5th	Ash Wednesday (Lent Begins) Y9 Options Parents Meeting
Thurs 6th	World Book Day
Fri 14th-Sun 23rd	National Science and Engineering Week
Fri 21st	World Poetry Day
Mon 31st	Y7 Certificate Assembly Y12 & Y13 Certificate Assembly

April

Tues 1st	Y8 Certificate Assembly
Weds 2nd	Y9 Certificate Assembly
Thurs 3rd	Y10 Certificate Assembly
Fri 4th	Y11 Certificate Assembly
Weds 9th	Attendance Reward Breakfast
Thurs 10th	Last Day of Term for Students
Fri 11th	INSET Day

EASTER(Mon 14th Apr - Fri 25th Apr)

EASTER REVISION PROGRAMME (14th - 25th Apr)

SIXTH FORM REVISION (Tues 22nd Apr - Fri 25th Apr)

SUMMER TERM 2014

April

Mon 28th	Start of Term
----------	---------------

May

Fri 2nd	Additional Learning Day
Mon 5th	May Bank Holiday – School Closed
Fri 23rd	Attendance Reward Breakfast
Mon 26th	Spring Bank Holiday

HALF TERM (Mon 26th May - Fri 30th May)

June

Mon 2nd	Start of Term
Mon 16th-Thu 19th	Y5 Taster Days
Fri 20th	Y11 Book Return Day
	Y11 Mass & Transition Day
Mon 23rd	INSET Day and Twilight
Tues 24th	Y12 to begin Y13 – Enrichment
Thurs 26th	New Intake Evening (6.00- 7.00pm)

July

Weds 2nd	Sports Day
Thurs 3rd	Y6 Induction Day
Tues 8th	School Show (6.00-7.30pm)
Fri 11th	Attendance Reward Breakfast
Mon 14th	Y7 Achievement Assembly
Tues 15th	Y8 Achievement Assembly
Weds 16th	Y9 Achievement Assembly
Thurs 17th	Y10 Achievement Assembly
Fri 18th	End of Term Liturgies
	Last Day of School Year - School finishes for students at 12noon

Further dates for the diary: August

Thurs 14th	A-Level Results Day
Thurs 21st	GCSE Results Day