



.....energising abilities.....

Cardinal Pole Catholic School

Cardinal Pole Catholic School Parents Newsletter

April 2014

Headteachers Message

website: www.cardinalpole.co.uk

Dear Parents,

The term has flown by and as always the hardwork and efforts of our students and staff continues, as is evident in this edition of our Parent newsletter.

At the beginning of February we celebrated the Feast Day of St Josephine Bakhita, one of our four patron saints who is a true inspiration to us all. The day was celebrated with a Mass, led by Father Gerard King, the Episcopal Vicar for East and West London in Westminster Archdiocese followed by lunch and a slice of delicious celebratory cake.

Other exciting events included the Spoken Word 'Poetry Devotion' showcase on Valentines day, where participants from all year groups had the opportunity to perform poems they had written (see page 2); a visit from ex-professional footballer Paul Canonville (page 4) and some wonderful charitable efforts from students and our wider school community (page 6).

A focus for staff has been Pupil progress, ensuring all students have access to support and resources particularly those nearing their exams ; monitoring of homework and of course preparation for the school year 2014/2015.

A mere snippet of all the things that have been taking place; least not forgetting assessments, revision and the continuing extended school programme! Further updates on these areas will follow in our next edition of the Parents newsletter.

Ms J.Heffernan
Headteacher

MyBigCareer at No.10



Staff from MyBigCareer continue to work closely to assist pupils at Cardinal Pole to secure places at top universities. In addition to supporting individuals, part of their remit is to secure support for their work at local and national level. Deborah Streatfield, founder of the Charity, made good use of her time at number 10 to secure support for careers in education. We look forward to seeing our final offers.

Mr Allison - Head of Sixth Form

Feast Day of Saint Josephine Bakhita



Father Gerard King, The Episcopal Vicar for East and West London in Westminster Archdiocese, led our Year 8 students in a celebratory Mass on Monday 3rd February to mark the feast day of St. Josephine Bakhita (the actual feast day was 8th February).

Students joined with staff and Father Benedict, our School Chaplin, to celebrate the life of this of this truly remarkable saint

who exemplified the gospels values of love and forgiveness and is a role model for us all. The Mass was followed by the blessing of our statue of St. Josephine Bakhita as well as a celebratory lunch. Fr. Benedict - School Chaplain

Poetry Devotion...Spoken Word Showcase

On Friday 14th of February, our poet in Residence, Raymond Antrobus les Cardinal Pole Young Poets first Showcase to a packed assembly hall. Participants ranged from Year 7 to Year 13 and we are proud to say that there were performances from students of all year groups who had written their own pieces.

The theme was aptly titled 'The First Time' and the quality and range of pupil input was impressive. The acts ranged from being humorous and reflective to deeply personal and clever. The quality of writing was delightful and both solo and collaborative acts were a joy to watch. There truly was no better way to celebrate the end of term.

Due to its huge success, a further date of the 5th March has been set for pupils to showcase their work at another venue and meet pupil poets from other Spoken Word Schools. In addition to this, we will be hosting a showcase at Cardinal Pole on 9th April for the local community - so friends and family can see these fine young poets in action! In the meantime, here are some comments from the audience following the event on 14th February:

Student Comments:

'Spoken Word club helps people get over stage fright and have more confidence'

'The poetry I heard today was amazing and inspirational'

'The guillotine that slices dreams into reality' ...Big Boy rhymes'

'Seeing this inspired me to write my own'

'The acts today have got me interested and has influenced me to get involved'

'Mr Antrobus Well done ! Very Inspiring!'

'A great way to improve your English and meet new people'

'This experience enlightened me and my viewpoint on presenting poems'



Some memorable Lines:

'Peace, the false messiah which seized my serene mind...'

'Aren't your souls darker than I am?'

'Snowflakes that dance around me'

'Your voice to me was constructed from untouched heart strings'

'The sky, tinted by particles of darkness...'

'Like Samson, stripped of my power.... I Live lived life as an immortal'

Further Comments from other Audience Members and Special Guests:

'I am blown away by the work presented here this morning, Ray... it's a perfect example of the power of Spoken Word to engage students from Year 7 to Sixth form.....Look out Spoken Word Competitor Schools, Cardinal Pole is coming'

Chantel, Arts Council Chairperson

'It is a joy to see the pupils-poets' hard work coming together so perfectly. Really impressive that there are performers from all year groups working together. The impact of having a poet in residence is fantastic. We are hoping to recruit even more members for our Spoken Word club after half term'

Ms Gallagher, Head of English

'This is fantastic. I am so glad I came. It's the best show I've seen here and in 30 years time it's what I will still remember'

Mr O'Donoghue, Head of Learning for Year 11

'Year 8 have thoroughly enjoyed their Spoken Word sessions with Mr Antrobus. It has been great fun to hear students recite heartfelt odes to loved ones, to see formerly quiet young people rise confidently to the challenge of performance, and to read their more and more sophisticated use of the English language on the page'

Mr Varley, English teacher



A Level Drama Coriolanus Project

The Cardinal Pole A2 Drama and Theatre Studies group recently performed a piece of devised drama onstage at a top West End theatre. This was the culmination of a project which involved theatre professionals from the Donmar Warehouse coming into school to work with students. The group, pictured below onstage at the Donmar Warehouse, had undertaken a day of workshops and an evening performance of Shakespeare's *Coriolanus*, which they are studying for the final exam. The event was made even more special as it was Abayomi's 18th birthday – the whole audience sang to him, and the drama group had clubbed together to buy him a cake!





February Sports Round-Up

Former Footballer Paul Canoville talks to students about living the dream...



In preparation for both GCSE exams and the reality of GCSE study the young men of the football team in Year 9, 10 and 11 had the chance to meet former professional footballer Paul Canoville.

Paul met with students after school on Wednesday 12th February to talk about his career focusing on the importance to combine studying with the dream of becoming a professional footballer - something the young men in the audience could one day hope to relate to.

Paul explained how his own career ended prematurely due to injury and went on to offer a valuable insight into the struggles he then faced to find an alternative route into employment - having himself left school with no qualifications and effectively no education to fall back on. The students were totally engaged with the presentation and found it very inspiring. Many thanks to Paul for taking the time to speak to students.

Students at Cardinal Pole are encouraged to take sports seriously, often to Olympic and professional levels. Whilst this is celebrated, it is recognised that securing good qualifications will be assets to keep for the future.

Mr Brown, Y11 Pastoral Support Manager

Football news

The Year 9 team were beaten by Stoke Newington in their quarter final of the inner London Cup recently. However, the boys have made terrific progress this year under the guidance of Mr Graham.

The Year 8 team were beaten in the inner London and London Cup recently in close games against Woolwich and Robert Clack. We are confident they will be back next year with Mr Gunning stronger and more determined.

The Year 10 team are still in the London Cup to be played after half term and the Year 11 team have reached the quarter final of the Inner London Cup and are also still contesting the London Cup.



Athletics team news

The Year 7 teams and the Year 8 girls teams have all qualified for the East London Sportshall Athletics Finals which take place on Tuesday 4th March at the Copper Box Arena on the Olympic Park. A fantastic achievement and we wish them the best of luck!

Sports updates from Mr Purcell, Head of PE

Former Pupils making progress in sport

Stephen Arthurworrey continues to make progress in professional football. He is currently on loan from Fulham FC at Tranmere Rovers and has made six first team starts since moving in January. Stephen was a fantastic all round sportsman at School and represented just about every team we had! He was a fantastic athlete who was part of the School team to finish 5th in the England team finals in 2008 and was 3rd in the England championships at High jump when in 2009. Stephen was also a member of the School football team who made the final of the London Cup in Year 7 and won the Inner London Cup in Years 8 & 9.



In the photograph above Stephen is at the back of the picture on the right and is next to *Alfred Mugabo* who is currently at Arsenal FC and has played international football for Rwanda. Alfred was another fine athlete and sportsman in his time at Cardinal Pole. The skills these two boys practised outside of football have served them well in their all-round development and I hope they both continue to progress in their careers.

Kamil Ahmet Çörekçi (pictured below, front row, third from right) left Cardinal Pole at the end of Year 8 as his family moved out of the area. Thankfully he stayed long enough to help his football team to a 1-0 win over Chingford in the London Cup final. Having arrived at School in Year 7 recovering from a broken leg he made rapid progress going from the school team into the District team and onwards to Fulham. After a spell at Fulham and Millwall he moved to Turkey and is currently playing at Adana Demirspor.

Mr Purcell, Head of PE



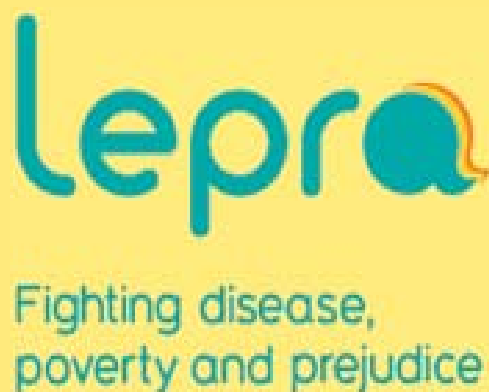
Charity begins at home...

A huge thank you to all students, parents, staff and friends of Cardinal Pole who continue so actively to call to charity. Examples of this include those that took part in the annual 10 Bridges Charity Walk on the last Sunday of September 2013. A cheque for £500 which was raised from the walk was presented to Anita Brien from St. Joseph's Hospice. A very grateful Anita told us that although they do receive some funding from the government they need a whopping £7 million to be raised each year, via charitable donations, to enable the Hospice to run!

Our Hackney Food Bank collection was a real testimony to the generosity of staff, students and parents.

A further cheque presentation for £2000 made out to Providence Row was made at a recent Year 7 assembly. This amount was raised during Advent when students took part in various fund raising activities including Carol Singing outside our local Tesco's as well as bake sales - all proceeds raised goes towards supporting Providence Row in their work with the homeless.

During Lent we will continue with our focus on charity, raising money for LEPRA and the Catholic Childrens Society. Thank you for encouraging them in their efforts. A non-uniform day and talent show will be held during lent to raise funds for those in need.



Being a Scientist

Last half-term I arranged for my mentor, who was assigned to me by the Aspiring Professionals Programme, to give a talk on 'Being a Scientist' to our GCSE students. The talk given by my mentor, Dr Ruth Tunnell, a research scientist at QinetiQ, gave the students a valuable insight on the various routes which can be taken to become a scientist. It was nice to see that some students have already begun thinking about university and I hope the information Ruth shared about her PhD and experience as a research scientist proved beneficial. We hope to organise more events like this in the future.

Joan Lawal, Y13 Sixth Form Science Society



Dr Ruth Tunnell, Research Scientist at QinetiQ

The Apprenticeship Club

is giving students in Year 11 the opportunity to find out about post 16 apprenticeships in different vocational areas which involve working, learning and earning money at the same time. Apprenticeship opportunities cover many sectors including IT, Art and Design, Business Administration, Construction and many others. The club has already looked at Interview skills, CV writing and has given students time to find out how to apply for apprenticeships. Students feedback so far has been that it has been very useful and informative!



Uniform Reminder

Coats: Only Cardinal Pole outdoor coats are to be worn. Students arriving to school wearing any other coat or non-uniform outer wear will have it confiscated.

Bags: Plain black bags or rucksacks only, large enough to accommodate textbooks and exercise books. Drawstring PE bags are available from the PE Department. Bags with large or colourful logos are not part of our school uniform. The school has plain black bags available to buy from the School Office for £8.

Jewellery: One small pair of gold or silver stud earrings is permitted, and a wristwatch. All other items will be confiscated and will only be returned to a Parent or Carer at the end of each half term.

Hairstyles and makeup: Extreme or fashion hairstyles are not permitted. These include brightly coloured weaves or hair extensions for Girls and Mohican styles or shaved patterns in the hair or eyebrows for Boys. This is not an exhaustive list and it is for the school to advise on extreme or fashion hairstyles. Make-up, including nail varnish and nail extensions, is not permitted. Long hair should be tied back.

Sixth Form Students: Our Sixth Form students are role models for our younger children and we therefore have high expectations of these students' dress and appearance. The general rule is that Sixth form students wear black and white business-like attire (NO trainers or canvas shoes, jeans, leggings, tight or revealing clothing, hoodies or extreme hairstyles)

We very much appreciate your co-operation in ensuring that all our students at Cardinal Pole arrive suitably dressed and ready to concentrate on their core business - study and learning! If you are experiencing any difficulties in obtaining an article of uniform, or wish to discuss a financial issue, please contact your child's Pastoral Support Manager (PSM) or Head of Learning (HOL) at the school.

Carolyn Laws, Deputy Headteacher

Keep in contact:



If you have recently changed your mobile number, home telephone number or postal address, please inform the school office as soon as possible. You can do this by calling us on 020 8985 5150 or in person between the hours of 8am-4pm each day (during term time).

Dates for your diary...

EASTER TERM 2014

April

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)

April

Mon 28th	Start of Term
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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)

SUMMER TERM 2014

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

Wishing you a
Happy
and Holy Easter

