

# Parents' Newsletter

Easter 2018



#### Dear Parents/Carers,

As we approach the Easter break (please see key dates below), I wish you a joyful and happy Easter. Your children have been fantastic in their commitment to charity and their Lenten preparation. It has been a busy term with the year 11 mocks and testing and lots of trips out and events in school. The work continues during the Easter break for years 11, 12 and 13. We have also received the good news that the school's Key Stage 4 has received the Ofsted 2017 progress measure as being in the top 8% of all schools nationally which is an outstanding achievement! Also, our Sixth Form has received the ALPS grade of "Outstanding". We

have also been ranked 3/55 by the DfE for similar schools nationally, a real accolade!

Please see below some key dates for your information.

DATES	EVENT	
Tuesday 27th March 2018	Non Uniform Day	
Wednesday 28th March 2018	School closes at 3pm for Easter for Years 7-10 and Year 12	
Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup> March 2018	School closes for Easter for Years 11 & 13	
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> April 2018	Inset Day	
Tuesday 17th April 2018	Return to School	

Finally, school attendance remains excellent here at Cardinal Pole School.

Please see below our recent student attendance and punctuality figures.

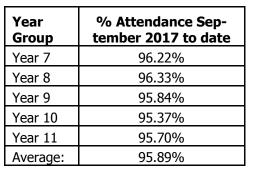
# 220 students across years 7-11 have 100% attendance so far this academic year – congratulations to you all!

The national average figure is 95% but we always strive to do better.

Congratulations to all our year groups who are above national average - **Year 8 takes the lead at 96.33%.** 

Although there is no official national figure for punctuality, we are always aiming as close to 100% as we can reach.

305 students across year 7-11 have 100% punctuality to date — Year 8 takes the lead with 76 students with 100% punctuality.



Year Group	No: of students with 100% punctuality
Year 7	65
Year 8	76
Year 9	72
Year 10	47
Year 11	45
Total	305

Congratulations and many thanks to those students and their families for supporting Cardinal Pole in reaching these targets!

We hope you have a relaxing Easter break and are ready to take on the new term in April.



Ms J Heffernan - Headteacher



### **CATHOLIC LIFE**

### The Liturgical Season of Lent

Lent has been the central part of the school's Liturgical Calendar over the last six weeks and the students have embraced this through, Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving. As we pass through Lent we reach the sixth week of Holy Week, the lead up to Jesus' death and resurrection. Holy Week begins with the blessing of palms on Palm Sunday and the dramatic reading of the Passion according to St Mark. In this most solemn season the minds of all believers should be firmly fixed on our Lord in his suffering and supreme sacrifice for us, culminating in the joy of Easter. The ideal is that all the faithful should do their best to share in the three great liturgies of Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday. On Holy Thursday night we celebrate the Mass of the Lord's Supper when he instituted the Eucharist and humbly washed the feet of the disciples. On Good Friday we venerate the cross and listen again to the account of his Passion. Finally at the Vigil on Holy Saturday night we celebrate with joy the victory of the Resurrection. Whether we are at home or away, Christians, should make a special effort to take part in the Holy Week and Easter Services. This is the most important week in the Church's year when we celebrate God's love for us, and the life of grace he gives us through Christ.

May God bless you and your families in this Holy Week.

#### Reconciliation



The school takes very seriously the Sacrament of Reconciliation and renewal during Lent and this has been available to all students, either through services taken during RE or available every Monday Lunchtime. A number of Priests have been invited to the school from local parishes in order to hear the students confessions, we thank all the priests from the Hackney Deanery who have been here especially to:

Fr Cyril Chiaha (Our Lady and St Dominic's Homerton),

Fr Gabriel Hassan (St Monica's Hoxton),

Fr Martin Tate (Our Lady of Good Counsel Stoke Newington)

Fr Neil Hannigan (St Jude's Clapton Park)

Fr Javier Ruiz-Ortiz (Our Lady and St Catherine Bow)

Fr Lawrence Lew (St Dominic's Priory Haverstock Hill)

This has allowed students the time to reflect on their lives and seek God's mercy through Confession, in order to prepare themselves for the Death and Resurrection of our Lord at the end of our Lenten Season.

### **42 Days of Random Acts throughout Lent**



One way to help the students with their Lenten observances was to partake in a different act every day from the day they returned back from the February Half Term break, up until Easter Sunday. Each day a different task was set, which made the students, reflect, act or read and guided them to do something good and something extra.

Daily Tweets were posted on Twitter with the daily task in order to let the Parents, Carers, Families and the wider community to follow and support the students.

Mr J Ryan — Chaplain

# **CATHOLIC LIFE, continued**

#### **Charities**

Lent has a focus of Almsgiving and every year group raises for a nominated charity in order to practice this as a Lenten Observance. The Charities that are being supported this year are as follows:

**Year 7**: Catholic Children's Society

**Year 8**: Saint Vincent de Paul Society (SVP)

Year 9: CAFOD and School of Hard Knocks (SOHK)

**Year 10**: St Joseph's Hospice **Year 11**: CARITAS Westminster

Year 12: Mary's Meals Year 13: The Passage

The Staff and students at Cardinal Pole Catholic School are very generous towards their charities and take great pride in them. Last year the school raised over £6000 and this year already we have raised £3,000 not including our Lenten collections. The charities always express their thanks, the fundraising is vital to keep their projects going.

### **Up and Coming Trips, Pilgrimages and Retreats**

25<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> April 2018: Year 9 Jewish Museum Visits (Whole Year Group)

14<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> May 2018: Year 10 Retreats (Whole Year Group) 25<sup>th</sup> June – 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2018: Year 8 Retreats (Whole Year Group)

### **CAREER NEWS**

#### **Year 7-9 Medical Skills Session**

We were fortunate enough to have several medicine students from Kings College London brave the artic conditions to facilitate sessions aimed to replicate day to day activities carried out by Doctors.



### **Year 8 Options Trips**

Alongside having their GCSE options meetings, students have undertaken different trips to support with choosing their options. See the picture of a team of year 8 girls on an engineering trip at The City Centre.



#### Year 9

Denzel, Anna, Abdoul and Anthony visited Aon Insurance to undertake a day of enterprising challenges. They worked with professionals from the insurance firm on a replication of a real life stock market challenge presenting their experience at the end of the day. Overall, they were great ambassadors for the school and displayed some great attributes.



# CAREER NEWS, continued

### Year 10 — Alec's Work Experience at M&G Investments

Alec in year 10 was lucky enough to spend a week's work experience at a city based investment bank over half-term. During this week Alec worked within the operations department of the bank. During this week, he had the freedom to talk to different traders alongside the marketing team. Alec said "this was very enjoyable and made me want to aspire more to work within financial services."

The main year 10 programme will take place between 9<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> July, please see Show my Homework for programmes that students can apply for. Students are expected to find their own placement, but where the school can support, any programmes will be listed on show my homework.

### Year 10 — Sky Academy Trip

A group of year 10 students made the annual jaunt to Sky Academy with Mr Egan and Mr Howard. On this day, they are given a tour of the Sky Studios where they see where many of the Sky Sports programmes are filmed. After the tour, they then produce their own news report based on celebrity culture, with each student taking on the role of a different part of a production team.

### Year 10 — International Women's Day Inspiring

Students networked with a group of successful young women at this event. Hearing the barriers that they overcome to be successful was very inspiring. The star of the show was undoubtedly Dr Ronke who is based at Homerton Hospital.



#### Year 8 & 10 — Outreach Successes

Bellmani	Takueni	
Jemimah	Lumbu	
Serena	Ndamba	
Brodie	Namaga	
Marithy	Munganga	
Sigfreda	Opoku	
Avril	Wiredu	
Viya	Katula	
Esther	Sabwe	

Year 8 Samdee has completed the UCL Young Engineers programme. Well done to Samdee for giving up his Saturday mornings to complete this programme.

Year 10 girls will attend a residential at University of Exeter over Easter and continue to work with them until they are applying to university. Well done to the girls (see table).

### **Year 12 — Sutton Trust US & Social Mobility Programmes**

Year 12 Lexie and Faith follow in the footsteps on previous students in reaching the next step of the Sutton Trust US programme. They will spend time at an assessment centre over Easter with the hope at reaching top US institutions such as Harvard and MIT to sample studying at a US institution.

We have also had several students who have been successful in their applications for the social mobility programme. They will undertake a wide range of activities including work experience at top firms. Congratulations to Sephora Teka, Faith Osifo, Lexie Nyerere, Amy Vu, Kayode Bakray-Odeyemi, Prince Amponsah, Kendra Mbadinuju and Bisola Allí-Balogun.

# **MATHS DEPARTMENT**

### Year 10 "Mathsfeast"

On "Pi day", 14th March 2018, a team of Year 10 students participated in the Mathsfeast 2018, a Maths competition held at Norlington School for Boys.

They came in 6<sup>th</sup> place! Well done Alec, Boran, Chris and Edward!





### Year 9 & 10 — Maths Challenge

60 students in Years 9 and 10 from Cardinal Pole School competed in the 2018 Intermediate



Gold	Edward Ntalindwa Badege	Year 10
Silver	Alec Lau Chris Hew	Year 10
Bronze	Chyna Grey Jessica Ugori Princewill Mbakwe Eugine Amponsah Honour Okoroji Boran Sis Jennifer Modaku	Year 10
	Tracey Prempeh Dorcas Sabwe Ashani Ettienne-Horne	Year 9

These are the winners! Congratulations!

Ms V Coria—Lead Practitioner for Maths KS4

### **SCIENCE DEPARTMENT**

#### **Biorobotics Course**

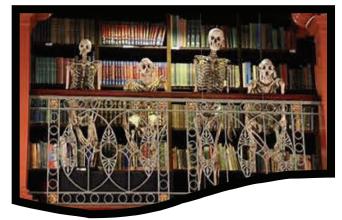
UCL student, Sadhbha Odufuwa-Bolger has been coming into school to help STEM club participants code a micro-bit processor and connect it to motors on a robot framework, to programme the robot to move, like a caterpillar. This was then followed up on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2018 with a trip to UCL University, where students had a workshop at the Grant Museum of Zoology (on the corner of Gower Street & University Street), this included a museum trail looking at the specimens, one of the weirdest ones was the jar of moles – see if you can work out how many were in there! The students also had a rotation of 4 activities looking at the strength of bones, looking at the similarities between skeletons of humans and rabbits, looking at snake movement and identifying different skeletons; the group that made the strongest bone stacked a total of 34 books on top – including some very thick books!

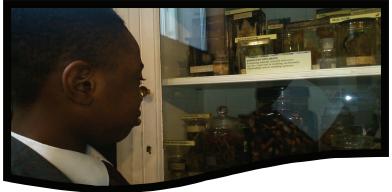
This was then followed by a short tour of UCL after lunch. Perhaps the most interesting part for year 7 was passing through the Cloisters and seeing the UCL Sikh Society, celebrating a meal together (free food) – to celebrate Guru Ka Langar I believe. It's a shame that Jeremy Bentham's auto-icon (preserved body - usually on display) is currently on tour. Unfortunately it also started raining, so we didn't take any photos outside the university as a group.

To see some of the specimens look at <a href="https://www.ucl.ac.uk/culture/grant-museum-zoology">https://www.ucl.ac.uk/culture/grant-museum-zoology</a> and scroll down the page. The Grant Museum of Zoology is open to the public on Mondays - Saturdays between 1-5 pm; around the corner on Malet Place is UCL's Petrie Museum of Egyptian Archaeology and is open Tuesdays - Saturdays between 1

- 5pm to the public.











Ms E Agathangelou—Science Teacher

## **SCIENCE DEPARTMENT, continued**

#### **STEM Club**

We've had an exciting term with lots going on!

#### **Women in Science**

To celebrate the UN International Day of Women and Girls in Science on 11<sup>th</sup> February 2018, on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February some of our top year 9 & 10 girls had the opportunity to meet top scientists from UCL, to hear about their current work and the routes they took to get where they are now.

The scientists visiting were Katharine Curran, Simoni da Ros, Argyro Gkili, Hend Mahgoub and Danae Pcobelli. Thank you girls for asking such interesting questions, it was the first time they had presented to any students and you made an attentive audience!



#### **BAE Roadshow**

On Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2018, despite the appalling weather, BAE systems (Matthew Leigh, Jade Williams and Michaela Gasteratou) came in to Cardinal Pole to deliver a wonderful roadshow "It's a numbers game" to our year 7 and 8 students. I think Maya, the voice-controlled robot was a definite hit, as was the paramotor on Matthew's back! For more information see their twitter feed on <a href="https://twitter.com/Roadshow Team">https://twitter.com/Roadshow Team</a>.

Ms E Agathangelou—Science Teacher

### DRAMA DEPARTMENT

Congratulations to year 13 Drama students who completed their performance exam on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> March. Students performed the Complicit play The Three Lives of Lucie Cabrol and were assessed by a visiting examiner. The play tells the story of Lucie who is born and raised in a French farm and whose life spans the two World Wars. We see how Lucie, who is perceived as an outcast, struggles to find her place in the world. We are incredibly proud of our A Level students who have once again proved themselves to be creative, committed and hugely talented. We look forward to celebrating their success when we find out the results in August. **Ms L Thomas — Head of Drama** 





#### **Hamlet**

Cardinal Pole students had the privilege of attending a performance of Hamlet by the RSC at the Hackney Empire in March. Following a critically acclaimed run in Stratford-upon-Avon in 2016, rising star Paapa Essiedu revisited his triumphant Hamlet in a riveting and contemporary take on Shakespeare's tragedy directed by Simon Godwin. Shakespeare's Denmark is transported to modern-day Africa, and when young Hamlet returns from university to find his world upside down, he is faced with life-changing choices.

Students studying English Literature were able to observe a different take on this famous play and use this interpretation to help them understand Shakespeare's language independently. The production innovatively used movement and African drums and song to bring Hamlet's struggle alive, giving Drama students more examples for study.

Cardinal Pole students thoroughly enjoyed the performance and continued to discuss it for days to come. Well done to all in attendance.

#### Ms K Archibald — Head of English

#### **Houses of Parliament**

On Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2018 nine students from Year 9 went to the Houses of Parliament to debate against schools from across London. With Peter Kyle, MP for Hove in attendance, the team competed in two rounds and won one! The team have only been learning to debate since the beginning the year, but have already developed their skills and style to an impressive level. Peter was so impressed with the competitors that after he took them on a personal tour of the House of Commons!

#### Ms A Dixon — English Teacher

### **Year 8 Shakespeare Project**

Well done to Year 8 pupils in 8Q1 who have been very busy completing a Shakespeare project and increasing their knowledge about the bard. Students have been working on creating their own children's book version of Macbeth, building a replica of Macbeth's castle, learning soliloquys by heart and reinterpreting key quotes. Dillon Pepra even wrote a long and well informed rap based on the play which was then performed by Dillon, Marvin and Moses to rapturous applause from their class. Jamahri's hand and dagger model and Laura Montes castle deserve special mention and can be seen on display in our new Library. Itunu's comic version of the play is also impressive. Well done to all the class.

#### Ms A Gallagher — Gifted and Talented Lead Practitioner











### **Brexit Talk**

Sam Evans from "Involver" visited Cardinal Pole to deliver 5 engaging seminars to our KS4 and KS5 pupils. Involver is a social enterprise that helps young people to have a say in the places they go and the services they use. They deliver award-winning educational sessions that promote active political debate, EU awareness, and a forum to discuss Brexit. The seminars 'EU, Brexit and your future' were commissioned by the European Parliament to ensure young people are well informed about this important issue.

"The Brexit talk was very interesting, and enlightening about the decisions of the government, how the EU works and what will happen when we leave the EU."

Taiwo Olaojo Year 10

"I enjoyed discussing the advantages and disadvantages of Brexit. It was very educational and I now have a deeper insight into how it will affect my future." Christie Gwanmesia Year 10

You can find more up-to-date information, blogs and workshops on their website: <a href="https://involver.org.uk/">https://involver.org.uk/</a>

Ms K Hayward — English Teacher



#### **DEBATE MATE UDI**

This year Cardinal Pole hosted the Annual Debate Mate Urban League competition. The competition, running after school, consisted of two rounds of debate with visitors from Buxton School, Clapton Girls, Dagenham Park and Seven Kings. The event was very enjoyable with our teams winning 6 out of eight of our debates.

Debate Mate contacted us after the event:

"thank you for hosting the UDL round Monday afternoon!

We understand that these events can be additional work on top of an already full schedule

so we really appreciate your extra effort! Your hospitality is essential to being able to host

these competitions, which is so crucial to the development of the students.

We were very impressed by the great number of students competing from Cardinal Pole and how good they are as debaters so early into the programme. They have clearly improved a lot over the past few weeks and were entirely professional, polite, and considerate of their opponents. They are all great ambassadors for your school."



**Ms K Hayward — English Teacher** 

#### THE BIG DEBATE

January saw lots of debating opportunities for our pupils. One of the highlights was our annual 'Big Debate'. We were lucky enough to welcome some professional adult debaters, all Glasgow alumni and now top of their careers: Kath Moore Chief Information Officer – Automation and Innovation, Global Operations, HSBC; George McGregor – Managing Partner, Interel Group; Catriona Ferris – Unilever, Insight Director for Hellman's and Maille; Hugh Meechan – Senior Test Manager, RSBC.

Our pupils worked closely with the visitors in a workshop throughout the day, working on speeches, delivery and research of the motion: 'This House Believes London Should Be An Independent City State'.

The debate was a huge success with Faith OsifoYear 12 winning best speaker; Catriona Ferris (visitor), Phillip Webb and Edward Ntalindwa Badege, both Year 10, winning best team.

Alec Lau one of our regular debaters said `The Big debate lived up to my expectations. During the workshop I was able to learn from the professionals present, not only about his profession but debating strategies. This enhanced my debating skills. This experience was most educational and has given me a deeper insight into politics as well as the financial industry.'



Catriona Ferris, one of the visiting debaters wrote to us and told us how she was 'very impressed by the debating students both in the small groups and in the main debate. They were a credit to the school and to the debating club. They listened, asked questions and responded to the discussion - skills that will be critical for them in the future. I also had fun and had forgotten how much I enjoy dialectic debating. My team winning the best team was an added bonus for a Friday afternoon well spent.'

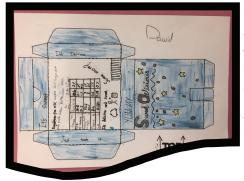
Hugh Meechan also wrote to us to express his thoughts: 'It was again a privilege to work with students who were committed and talented. For someone working in IT, it was a joy to get out and see the future is people not bytes, and with people like the students it's a good future. Hugely enjoyable. Thank you to the staff, and thank you to the students for making it challenging, rewarding and fun.'

George McGregor was very 'impressed by the standard of debate. The pupils were a credit to themselves, their teachers and the school. They were well informed, passionate and articulate. Learning debating skills at a young age puts you in a good position for the rest of your life honing your analytical and communication skills".

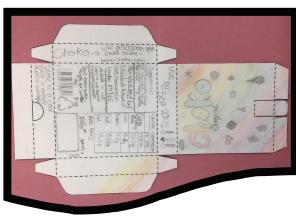


### **DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY**

#### KS3 — Years 7 & 8

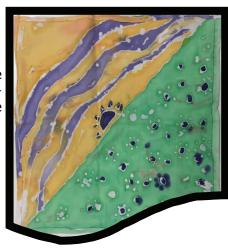


Yr7 Chocolate Box Project. The Year 7's have been working really hard on their designs for their graphics packaging. Have a look at their design work.





Year 8 Batik Bandanna Project. They have been really creative and researched Aboriginal culture to inspire their final pieces. We are really pleased with their progress!



### KS4 — Year 11 Product Design



Year 11 are busy manufacturing their final pieces for their coursework. They have used wood working machinery, the laser cutter with 2D Design software, experimented with plastics and much more. Please have a look at some of the work in progress!

Ms B Stern & Mr J Bradley — Design Technology Teachers



### **MUSIC DEPARTMENT**

This has been a very busy term with Year 11s completing their performing and composing coursework. The students have worked really hard!

The Junior Choir is currently practising Jonah-Man Jazz – a great set of songs that tells the story of Jonah and the Whale with a lot of humour. We are looking forward to performing this soon.

The School Orchestra has been growing and we are currently working on a performance of 'English Country Garden'.

Many students are taking instrumental and singing lessons and, after a special recruitment drive, it is very pleasing to report that there are healthy numbers of students learning woodwind (flute/clarinet/saxophone) and brass (trumpet/trombone). As the Year 11s have finished their coursework, some more places will soon be available and I shall be writing further about the opportunities available.

Dr C Maxim—Head of Music

### PE DEPARTMENT

#### Junior NBA Basketball

The Year 7 girls were astonishing in the early rounds of the JR NBA Basketball League. The girls won a game and had a loss too, but even against a challenging team they had fight and determination to keep the score close. I am very proud of both performances.

The girls progressed to Round 4 having recently beat Greig City Academy after a tight loss in the previous round and won against Clapton Girls' too. The girls were strong and powerful, uniting to perform extraordinarily as a team. We host the fifth round at home very soon; I have no doubt that the girls will play their best to secure more wins.

Round 5 of the JR NBA League, we faced Greig City for a third time and the team work tirelessly to keep the score at 8 - 8. Although, they dominated each quarter with their rapid movement and driven dribbling, Greig City had a strong defence and blocked our shots. Outstanding performance yet again. Heartland High School next!

### **Year 7 Sports Hall Athletics**

The year 7 girls and boys and year 8 girls represented Hackney in the London Youth Games Sports Hall Athletics. Fantastic individual and team performances from many of our athletes in track and field events. So good that both our year 7 teams secured an impressive 3rd place, just missing out qualifying for the semi finals. Excellent work teams.

#### **Danielle Grego—PE Teacher**









#### Well Done!

A huge well done to both the year 7&8 netball teams for having a very successful netball league winning a large majority of games and improving in every game. Continue the hard work ready for next year.

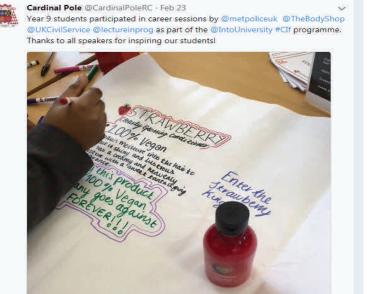
A mixed year 9 & 10 girls volleyball team represented the school and Hackney at the London youth games recently. Well done to the girls who finished a fantastic third position in their group! The girls progressed significantly throughout the tournament and they all had an amazing day out. Well done to: Makia, Darlene, honour, Alna, Nicole and Viya.

Also a huge congratulations to all students involved in the sports hall athletics where we had a year 7&8 girls team and a year 7 boys team represent Hackney. All students performed amazingly and done themselves and the school proud. Some fantastic athletes. A special mention to the year 7 girls and boys team who both finished 3rd and to the year 8 girls team for finishing 8th overall.

#### Ms S Reed — PE Teacher

# **CARDINAL POLE TWITTER FEED**







Cardinal Pole @CardinalPoleRC · Mar 1 #WorldBookDay at @CardinalPoleRC





 $\begin{tabular}{ll} \textbf{Cardinal Pole} @ Cardinal Pole RC \cdot Mar 5 \\ \hline \textbf{Good luck to our talented A level Drama students who perform The Three Lives of Lucie Cabrol tonight for their performance exam!} \\ \end{tabular}$ 





Don't Forget to follow us on Twitter@CardinalPoleRC



# **CARDINAL POLE TWITTER FEED, continued**



Cardinal Pole @CardinalPoleRC . 3h

100 of our lucky students are off to see Black Panther at the Hackney Picture House on 22nd March 2018 as a reward for their great work and excellent behaviour!







You Retweeted



10

Christopher Bean @phyrebrat · Mar 9

Thank you to the yr 7 boys of @CardinalPoleRC #school for being the best #dance class I've taught this year. Outstanding performers and focus AND feel honoured to be referred to as 'uncle'. Thanks N McDade for the opportunity



Cardinal Pole @CardinalPoleRC · Mar 8

The @Urban\_Lawyers volunteers gave our aspiring lawyers interesting legal cases to unpick yesterday during their first session yesterday

Q 13 07



Cardinal Pole @CardinalPoleRC · Mar 8

Year 12 students braved the snow to attend the HE and Apprenticeship fair at the Emirates Stadium. Thanks to @UKUniSearch @Milkround\_SL for organising



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# **CARDINAL POLE TWITTER FEED, continued**









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