



Cardinal Pole News

Cardinal Pole Catholic School Parents Newsletter

website: www.cardinalpole.co.uk

Dear Parents,

As we come to the close of the year it is our opportunity to reflect on all that has happened within our Catholic community. There have been many highlights, our best results ever, our school visits, productions and competitions, all reflecting the gifts and talents of the children in our school. Advent has given us further opportunities to reflect on our preparation for the coming of Christ.

Archbishop Nichols has recently written: 'Tonight the narrative is clear: God, in his infinite love, enters our world in one unrepeatable, transforming moment. The Eternal Word of God takes flesh and is born of the Virgin Mary.

From that moment all is changed. The horizons of our consciousness are expanded. Now the instinct, the desire, for 'more', which always stretched us beyond the present towards an inexpressible future, finds its full meaning. God has shared in our human condition so that we might come to share in God's own divine life. This is the wondrous exchange, this transformation of our existence, this revelation of truth, of meaning, of enduring hope which gives rise to this beauty as our hearts sing in thanksgiving and praise.

Let us play our part in the recovery of this true Christmas story. Let us tell it in its fullness within our family circle, around a family crib, passing it on in wonder and loving awe, from generation to generation. Let us not be dismayed by the inevitable streak of cynicism which emerges out of the culture in which we live. But let us with faithful simplicity share our joyous faith in the God who comes to meet us. "

Christmas this year has again been a time of giving at the school—through our service to others and our fundraising for charity. As we look forward to the New Year our Christmas Liturgies have given us an opportunity to challenge the cynicism, to share our joyous faith together as a school community and help us to face 2012 with faith, confidence and a good heart.

Wishing you all a happy and joyous Christmas
Ms. Heffernan, Associate Headteacher

Lower School Production of A Midsummer Night's Dream

As part of the Shakespeare Schools Festival, a talented cast of Year 7 and 8 pupils performed their production of William Shakespeare's magical comedy A Midsummer Night's Dream.

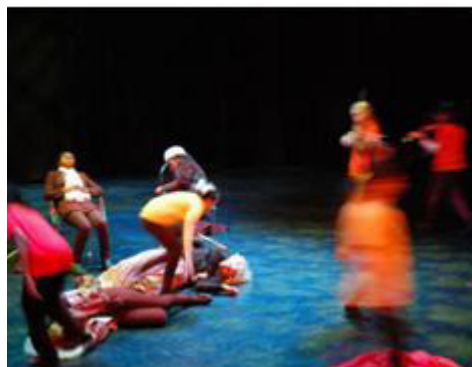
The Unicorn Theatre in Southwark was the venue on November 5th for four schools from all over London to perform productions of Shakespeare's plays. The Cardinal Pole cast were easily the youngest performers on the day and held their own admirably.

The production was greeted with great applause. Students from one South London academy were heard to complain that our production was much better than theirs!

Lydia Lewison of the Shakespeare Schools Festival wrote to me after the evening: "I really wanted to write to you to say a huge 'congratulations' to you and your cast for your lovely production of A Midsummer Night's Dream. I really enjoyed your use of live music and the way that carried through from the beginning of the action right the way through the story. It was a really magical and mysterious version of the Dream, which I really enjoyed. And how wonderful to have that modern rap in the middle of the play to shake us all up! " "It was great to see your young performers interpreting and performing the story in their own original way. There were so many great moments - the scuffle between Demetrius and Lysander, when Puck paused the action with a clap, the masked fairies who were darker and more mischievous than we usually see, and of course your hilarious play-within-the-play which brought the house down! Your cast had great energy, and were a lovely ensemble who clearly enjoyed working together."

The production was also performed onstage in Kenworthy Road Hall as a part of the school's end of term celebrations.
Mr Fonseca, Head of Drama

It was a joy to watch such gifted and talented performers. My thanks to the students and staff who gave up so much time to prepare for the performances. Well done to the music students who also performed on the evening - full of energy and fun.
Ms. Heffernan, Associate Headteacher



Football News

Year 7

A team - Currently 4th in the Saturday league
B Team – currently 3rd in Saturday league
A team - still in Inner London cup (round 3) and London cup (round 1)

Year 8

A team – Currently 1st in Saturday league
B team - Currently 2nd in Saturday league
A team – still in London Cup (round 2)

Year 9

A team - Currently 1st in Saturday league
B team - Currently 9th in Saturday league
A team – still in London cup (round 1)

Year 10

A team - Currently 2nd in Saturday league
B team - Currently 7th in Saturday league
A team – still in London cup (round 2)

Year 11

Still in Inner London Cup (round 2) and the London Cup (round 1)

Hackney Empire Gala Concert

The Gala Concert on the 10 th November has seen performances from the various borough-wide ensembles, orchestras and vocal groups as well as a choir.

Cardinal Pole pupils performed exceptionally well. The school’s African Drumming Group was praised by everyone and the group’s leader - John Adesokun together with members Gbenro Arojoye, Kennedy Nwouse, Otim Ozee, Daniel Okuokenye, Oluwatomin Adegoke, Akimbo Akinremi and Prince Kastrati have created a memorable performance. Well done boys!

There were also other pupils performing with various Hackney Music Service ensembles. Mae Slade on violin and Andres Nino on trombone joined the Hackney Borough Youth Orchestra

With Hackney Creative Jazz Ensemble was John Adesokun and with Voice Jam Group included several girls from year 10.

All students involved in the show were a credit to our school. The concert was filmed throughout and the recording should be available soon.”

Finally, there is a budding school choir in the Upper School – please join us . We rehearse on Tuesdays and Fridays after school.

Wishing you Merry Christmas from the Music Department

Ms. Stockton, Head of Music

Debating News



From Wednesday 30th November to Monday 5th December nine sixth-form pupils were away in Slovenia at the World Schools Debating Tournament. They had a fantastic time and learned a lot. Please congratulate all of the sixth formers who took part on their positive attitude and hard work, with particular congratulations to Maurice Rowan Bishop, Steven Nguyen and Rebecca Shepherd who made it through to the quarter finals and were rated the fifth best team in the entire competition. Ms. Hartley

Providence Row Charity

Well done to the fund raising efforts of both 7A and 10L for raising the most money for this worth while charity . They were rewarded with a day off!

Providence Row tackles the root causes of homelessness to help people get off, and stay off, the streets.

Mr. Glover, Assistant Headteacher

Italy



The school was visited by our Italian partner school Liceo Labriola. This school is from near Rome and is doing work with some of our Sixth Form pupils in terms of Science and awareness of the environment. Our Sixth form pupils have already set up a lively emailing group as ‘pen pals.’ There were four members of staff and twenty students who all had an enjoyable time combining sight seeing with Science lessons. We look forward to the return part of our exchange.

Ms. Allan, Assistant Headteacher

Raising Standards

Students at Cardinal Pole continue to excel. Our recent statistics from the government show that Cardinal Pole students continue to make progress above expectation in many subjects at Key Stage 4 and 5. We continue to support our current Year 11’s with a range of opportunities and strategies to ensure they achieve their best.

News from Morning Lane



On the 7th October, four lucky students were invited to lay the final shovels of concrete, at a 'Topping Out' ceremony at our new site in Morning Lane, hosted by Mansell Construction Services.

Designed by architects Jestico & Whiles, our new three-storey building is on schedule to be completed by September 2012 when Cardinal Pole Catholic School moves from its two current sites at Victoria Park Road and Kenworthy Road to a brand new, modern, single campus on Morning Lane.

Councillor Rita Krishna Cabinet Member for Children's Services, said: "We are transforming secondary schools in Hackney and continuing to raise education standards through well designed, multipurpose buildings with state-of-the-art facilities. Cardinal Pole's new building will be a wonderful environment for young people to learn and thrive that will also benefit the whole community."



The four lucky students that attended the

Central to the building at the core of our school is the chapel. The spectacular entrance sets the scene. Our new school will also have a number of special features including ICT suites, a sixth form area, indoor and outdoor learning spaces and a multi-use games facility. Central to the building is a two-storey high main entrance and a Chapel.

Students, Patricia, 12, and Mae, 13, from the lower school in Victoria Park, along with Shanai and Kennedy, both 15, from the upper school in Kenworthy Road, were as excited as the members of staff to see the progress being made on the new school. They were also delighted to be included to lay concrete for the official Topping Out.

Father David Evans, Chair of Governors, said: "The Topping Out of Cardinal Pole's new school represents an enormous achievement for all the team that have been working with us for the last two years, I would particularly like to thank; Hackney Council, MBE, Jestico & Whiles, Max Fordham and Mansell. Today is a major milestone in the history of Cardinal Pole and it is an honour to come here with both staff and pupils to celebrate this wonderful occasion".

Shanai Glover 11D, says "it was a great privilege to be part of the Topping Out ceremony. It made the move to the new site more realistic knowing that it was only a few months away and it is all coming together."

Kennedy Nwosu 10R, says that he found the ceremony "exciting and insightful".

Patricia Vieira-Parreira 8C, says "I was thrilled to be able to help put on the last part of concrete on the floor of the building and am so excited to go to the new school next year!"

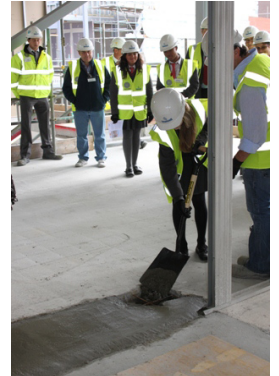
Mae Slade 8C, says "It was an amazing experience to be able to walk around what will be our new school."

"When we each finished off shovelling the last blob of concrete into the building, I felt privileged to have been there"

"It was really interesting to go into the building and witness the vast space"

Student Shanai said: "We're looking forward to being able to mingle with the younger pupils in the new building. It already looks really good, and the bricks are a timeless design."

Mr. Parker, Business Manager



London Youth Games Feeder Event

Five of Cardinal Pole pupils competed in the London Youth Games Feeder Event in West London on the 27th November 2011 and all of them secured medals!

The team arrived at the lower School at 7am to make the journey to Brunel University and weigh time for their competitions. It was great to see how dedicated they were and the commitment they have shown to training paid off with all five receiving medals as follows:

Tian Sewell-Morgan	Gold
Samuel Ibini	Gold
Damani Anderson	Gold
Omar Anderson	Bronze
Christian Paton	Bronze

The London Youth Games feeder event is a development competition for London Borough Clubs which leads into the London Youth Games structure.

A big thanks to Gabor Szanyi-Nagy is the head coach at CP/CLJC who continues to do a wonderful job with our pupils and others locally preparing them for competition. The support of British Judo and Arsenal has also been a key factor. Hopefully the club will continue to develop when we move into our Morning Lane premises in 2012.

Mr. Purcell, Head of PE



Well done to all our medal winners!

Important Dates

Monday 19th Dec 2011
6th Form last day of term
Work experience

Tuesday 20th Dec 2011
Work Experience – Year 11
Carol Service – Lower & Upper
Early school close - 12.15pm

Wednesday 21st Dec 2011
Work Experience – Year 11
Early school close - 12.15pm

Thursday 22nd Dec 2011
- **Sunday 8th Jan 2012**
CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY's

Monday 9th Jan 2012
Start of Spring Term - Students to arrive for registration/assembly at 8.35am as normal
A/S AND A2 PUBLIC EXAMS IN MATHS AND SCIENCE
Science Revision - All Day

Tuesday 10th Jan 2012
GCSE Year 11 English
Science Revision - 3 till 5pm

Wednesday 11th Jan 2012
GCE Year 12 Biology - Unit 1
Science Revision - 3 till 5pm

Thursday 12th Jan 2012
GCSE Year 12 & 13 Physics
Year 10 Science

Friday 13th Jan 2012
GCE Chemistry

Monday 16th Jan 2012
Years 10 & 11 Controlled Assessments (3 weeks)

Wednesday 18th Jan 2012
GCE Year 12 Biology/Yr 12 Science

Thursday 19th Jan 2012
GCE Chemistry

Friday 20th Jan 2012
Years 7-10 Audit 1 sent to parents
Years 12 & 13 Audit 1 sent to parents.
GCE Year 13 physics

Monday 23rd Jan 2012
Year 11, 12 & 13 Art visit to Tate Gallery

Tuesday 24th Jan 2012
GCSE Year 11 Biology P1 & P2, Unit 2
GCE Year 13 Physics

Wednesday 25th Jan 2012
Year 11 Parents Evening
GCE Year 13 Biology

Thursday 26th Jan 2012
GCSE Year 11 Chemistry

Monday 30th Jan 2012
GCSE Year 11 Physics

Tuesday 31st Jan 2012
Year 8 Parents Evening

Wednesday 1st Feb 2012
GCE Chemistry

Friday 3rd Feb 2012
Years 10 & 11 controlled assessments complete

Wednesday 8th Feb 2012
Year 10 Parents Evening

Monday 20th Feb - Friday 24th Feb 2012
Half Term

Monday 27th Feb 2012
Back to school - Students to arrive for registration assembly at 8.35am as normal

Prayer

*Loving Father,
as we come to the end of
another term we turn to you
in confidence and place any
difficult relationships into the
healing hands of Jesus, your
Son.
Enable us to leave behind
any regrets and bitterness,
and 'entrust the past to your
mercy,
the present to your love and the
future to your providence'.
Help us to appreciate more the
need to keep a good balance in
our lives.
May the holiday be for us
a time for rest and recreation
to help restore us
in your image and likeness,
as we enjoy
more of the love and presence
of our families
on whom we ask your blessing.
Amen*

Preparing for the New School Year

Year 9 students will return in January to sit their mock end of year key stage assessments, and Year 10, 11, 12 and 13 continue to sit modules in January. It is essential they come to school prepared for the exams and with the equipment they need. Mr English, Assistant Headteacher

Uniform

Well done to students who look very smart in their new uniform. Can I remind parents that students in Years 7-10 are expected to wear the school coat and only this coat is acceptable.

In Year 11, a plain black coat without logos may be worn only. Please also remember that only official school hats and scarves may be worn. Uniform and equipment checks will take place on the return to school in January. Thank you for your support.
Mr White, Associate Deputy Headteacher

Wishing all our students, parents, staff and governors
a happy and holy Christmas