Cardinal Pole Catholic School

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29th November 2013

Dear Parent/Carer,

As November draws to a close, so does the Year of Faith and Advent begins. As a school community, Advent is a time to prepare for the Christmas celebrations. As part of our preparations, we are organising a number of charity drives.

The school has a long tradition of generosity both for our local, national and international charity events. Students and staff have given generously to our collection for the Philippines. Students raised money though a cake sale and staff through a hotly contested 'bake off'. Congratulations to Mr Keiler for winning the competition. During Advent, in addition to our annual collection for Providence Row, a local charity which supports the homeless, we will be collecting food for a local food bank from 2nd - 6th December 2013. In the current economic climate the food banks provide vital assistance to our local community. Please give generously. All foodstuffs are welcome and should be brought to reception.

The school has received much positive press recently. We were on the front page of the Westminster Record, celebrating Catholic Education. The school was also name checked in the Hackney Gazette where our students participated in the Remembrance Day service at the Town Hall. We were also praised by the Learning Trust for improvement in our attendance figures for what was already very good attendance, at over 96%. Good attendance is essential for your child to achieve their very best. In this otherwise very positive context, a very small number of students occasionally let both themselves and the school down by immature behaviour. For this reason we have made it clear that 'play-fighting' or any other such physical contact between students is not acceptable under any circumstances. Any child seen engaging in such activity will receive a two hour Headteacher detention.

As the winter draws in, I thank you for your support in ensuring that your child wears an appropriate coat to school. If there are financial issues which make it difficult for families to provide a school coat, please let the Head of Learning know so that a discussion can take place.

Finally, can I remind you that the term for students ends on Thursday 19th December 2013, with our Carol Service taking place on Wednesday 18th December 2013.

Yours sincerely,

1. Heffernam

Ms J. Heffernan Headteacher

