



## Cardinal Pole Catholic School

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S O A R  
Service Opportunity Aspiration Reward

7<sup>th</sup> October 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

What a fantastic start to the new year it has been! There is much to celebrate from September and much to look forward to over the rest of the Autumn Term.

October sees the whole school community celebrating **Black History Month**. Students and staff have prepared an exciting month of activities; workshops, education, and enrichment activities. This includes lessons on culture, guest speakers including barristers and BBC executives, a special menu in the canteen, trips to the theatre and a whole school competition. We are looking forward to having a month full of opportunities for all students to celebrate Black History around the world and in our community. Please see the full calendar of events [here](#).

In the Catholic Church, October is the **Month of the Rosary**. In true Cardinal Pole tradition, every student will be offered a Rosary to keep if they wish. Additionally, there will be a focus on how to pray the Rosary across all RE lessons over the course of this month. This week we also celebrate the Feast of St Francis of Assisi. On Thursday we welcomed the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal to school to lead Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament with Years 7-10 and the Sixth Form.

A reminder that **all Parents are warmly invited** to our Parental Prayer, and Bible Study Groups. These take place on alternate Mondays from 2.15pm-3pm (next one is the Bible Study group on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> October). Please email [chaplaincy@cardinalpole.co.uk](mailto:chaplaincy@cardinalpole.co.uk) to register your interest or please just turn up! In relation to RE and the Catholic Life of the school, I would be grateful if you could spend just 2 minutes completing our **Parental Survey** which you can find [here](#). Your views are important to us.

There are also several significant upgrades to the building planned for completion at the end of term. This includes custom canopies over large parts of the playground to provide year-round cover from the weather, the official opening of our new Basketball 'mini-muga', and the installation of a high-quality Catering 'Pod' to speed up service at lunch and give students more food choices.

### **Behaviour and Standards:**

As you will know, we have high expectations of students in relation to behaviour and conduct. To support this, I ask you to remind your child of the following expectations:

- Expectations of behaviour **outside** of school are the same as the standards expected **inside** school. Occasionally, a small number of students have let us down with their behaviour outside of school. Please remind your children that I will seek the toughest sanctions for those who bring the school into disrepute and damage our good name in the local community through their actions. All students will be reminded of this in assemblies next week.



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- **Healthy Eating:** Large packets of chocolate/crisps/biscuits and non-school compliant fizzy drinks are **not** to be brought into school. A small snack size pack can be brought in as part of a balanced packed lunch, and then consumed only in the canteen. As a guide, this should typically be a maximum of 200 calories per portion.
- Sweets such as Haribo and similar are prohibited.
- At break and lunch, only fruit and water are permitted to be consumed in the playground, both of which are available in the canteen. We are also trialling a free fruit stall for all students next week!

If any of the prohibited food items are brought into school, they will be confiscated and disposed of. If they are unopened, they will be donated to the Hackney Foodbank. If unsure, please call the school office prior to purchase and they will clarify further.

### **Uniform**

May I remind parents/carers that as the weather changes going into the autumn term, only Cardinal Pole School logo coats are permitted for Years 7-10 and plain black coats (no logos of any kind or fur hoods) are permitted for Year 11 and the Sixth Form. For extreme winter conditions, the following items are also permitted; gloves (plain black), a school hat (must be purchased from the uniform shop) and scarves (only plain black, grey or the school scarf is permitted).

### **Cost of living Crisis**

We are acutely aware of the current cost of living crisis and would welcome any donations from parents/carers of pre-loved uniform or other equipment which could be passed onto those in need. Please leave any items you wish to donate with our reception staff.

Additionally if any families are in specific need of help with school items, uniform or school meals in these challenging times, please email us at [enquiries@cardinalpole.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@cardinalpole.co.uk) and the school will try to offer any help we can. Rest assured, these requests will be handled discreetly and will not be shared widely across the school.

### **Half Term**

Please note that half term commences week commencing 24<sup>th</sup> October and school re-opens on Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2022 at the usual time.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours in service,



Mr A Hall  
**HEADTEACHER**