



21st January 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

HALF TERM UPDATE

It is with a heavy heart that I write to inform parents that a member of the Cardinal Pole School community has sadly passed away. Mr Fulinara, our Reprographics Officer, sadly died over the Christmas period. I am sure you will join me in passing on our condolences to his family. A Mass will be celebrated on Friday for Mr Fulinara and his family. This will be recorded and shared with the school community.

Parent Forums

You will be aware that there are now in place weekly opportunities for parents/carers to raise their concerns or queries to either their Head of Year or myself via Microsoft Teams virtual meetings. Details of these meetings have been emailed out to you. These have been very positive and encouraging forums where parents have expressed an interest in the school extending their offer of virtual lessons to the lower year groups, concerns about the level of work set and access to IT. We have been able to address these concerns swiftly, so please do join us.

Student Engagement

Key workers and vulnerable students are welcome on site to participate in our provision, please email enquiries@cardinalpole.co.uk with the details of both you and your child, and the days you wish to secure a place.

The parents/carers of those students who are failing to engage with our virtual school will continue to be contacted by their Heads of Year and will also be asked to attend our on-site provision in order to ensure that they do not fall further behind with their education.

Further resources have been sent out to students this week in the form of exercise books as well as laptops being issued to those students in need of additional support. If your child has any problems logging on to our virtual school, please contact our IT support on extension 2143.

Remote Learning, Safeguarding and Online Protocols

Live lessons and meetings with parents online are a very positive aspect of our offer; however, the recording of online lessons or meetings without consent is strictly prohibited. Any students or parents engaging in such activity will have access to the school system blocked and students will be directed to onsite attendance. Our Remote Learning Policy will be available shortly on our website and emailed to you when it has been agreed by our Governing Body next week.

Student/Staff Testing

You will be aware that we are now carrying out weekly testing for staff and students on site as per Government guidelines. Parents/carers will be written to with the test results and all positive cases will be asked to self-isolate for the recommended 10 day period from the date of the test. Those in close contact will also be asked to self-isolate.

Vacancies

Currently, Cardinal Pole Catholic School has vacancies for a Premises Manager and Assistant Premises Manager, as well as a Business Studies Teacher; please see our website for further details.

Yours sincerely

Ms J Heffernan
HEADTEACHER