

## PARENT FORUM 07 10 22

Welcome!

October marks the start of Black History Month with a schedule of activities, whole school letter goes out later today with full details. Lots of workshops and guest speakers taking place in school.

October is also the month of the Rosary and all students will be offered a Rosary to keep. All students had a chance to pray with the Franciscan Friars yesterday.

New catering menu goes live after half term which the Student Council have fed back on. Free fruit in the playground will be trialled next week also.

Lots of trips taking place, sadly the Year 10 bowling trip has had to be deferred today but will go ahead soon. Year 7 have been kayaking, there is Year 11 trip to France in December (over 100 places available) and Black History Month trips are also taking place this month. Day trips are easier to organise than residential trips any suggestions welcomed. It is difficult to fit in school trips for Year 11 after this term due to exam period. There is a RE trip to Westminster Cathedral to look at architecture and will review other trips. Suggestions of Brighton have been received, any other suggestions welcomed.

Catholic schools are inspected under two systems, i.e. Ofsted and a Diocesan Inspection Section 48, we had our Ofsted inspection last year and our Section 48 Inspection is due to take place this year.

School Council: How often do they meet? They meet every other week. Mr Rahman oversees the Council.

School photos: Year 11 did not have their photos recently, this takes place next week on the 19th.

AP1: Year 11 & 13 takes place straight after half term and rest of school has their AP1 week beginning 5<sup>th</sup> December.

School upgrade works: We have been on this site for 12/13 years and it has had regular upgrades including a new library and classrooms. There will be new canopy areas outside at the end of this term to provide shelter in extreme weather conditions, a new basketball mini-MUGA is being built as well as an outside catering pod to help facilitate quick lunch service for pre-made items i.e. sandwiches/wraps. We are also looking to upgrade our gym facilities and possibly a climbing wall for the sports halls if costings permit.

Too many passwords needed for online access: The school would like to have a single sign on for parents but currently there is no software available, we are looking further into this. The Go for Schools App is now live and parents/carers will soon be able to download this. It will give you access to your child's attendance data and behaviour and achievement points. It will also send push notifications through to you so you know if your child is late to school etc.

What Extra support is available for students: We have a SEND Department, and our SENCo (Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator) is part of the Senior Leadership Team, our student needs are a priority here. Ms Toma is the SENCo, please contact her for extra information.

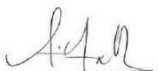
Our Extra-curricular programme is run by Mr Rahman and oversees personal development for students. We have a good mix of academic and extra-curricular activities, including chaplaincy, chess and sporting activities.

How do students catch up on work missed when they are ill? There is a homework schedule on our school website so you can see what has been set. Upon return to school, students should have conversations with their subject teachers about what is needed to be caught up on.

Thank you for a good start to my child's year, all her grades have been improved upon since last year and we have received good feedback from the teachers.

Cost of living crisis: What is in place for those who are unable to afford equipment? We do pick up on these issues and arrange for support. Students are always encouraged to speak to their tutor or Year Team. Additionally, we understand that some people are not comfortable making this public knowledge so we are looking at an online system where requests can be made for uniform assistance etc. In the interim, please email [enquiries@cardinalpole.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@cardinalpole.co.uk) Donations are welcomed of pre-loved uniform and equipment items, please feel free to hand them into the main office.

Thank you.



Mr A Hall  
Headteacher