



‘Cardinal Pole Catholic School is a community of *service* guiding young people on a path to *opportunity*, *aspiration*, and *reward*, founded on Catholic values.’

HEADTEACHERS ONLINE PARENT FORUM

Friday 1st March 2024

Year 9 have been out on retreats over the last week or so and whilst we have a lovely chapel and they are normally held in there, we have been visiting a local church this time.

Year 8 Parents’ Evening went well recently, we are the first educators and you as parents are the second so thank you for your support as home education is very powerful.

Year 12 have two Parents’ Evenings coming up, the A Level evening takes place next week and the CTEC evening takes place at the end of March.

Vaccinations: HPV uptake for Year 8 has not been as good as pre-Covid levels so please do take advantage of the school nurses coming into school to carry out this service.

Year 11/13 will today be given their exam results as well as being posted home next week. Sixth Form Internal Interviews are taking place next week on 6th March, provisional offers are made thereafter but these are subject to their final exam results in the summer.

There are 34 school days from Monday left until public exams so not a second to waste. Extra lessons are being conducted for selected Year 11 students which are compulsory and there is a comprehensive Saturday programme which will continue as well as revision classes during the Easter break.

Our primary school workshops continue to be carried out, this is where we invite Year 4 & 5 classes from our local feeder schools in to do specialist workshops. This is to work with the wider community and ensuring that they are aware of what we do here at Cardinal Pole. Applications to our school have increased as a result and I thank you for your support in spreading the good word to the parents of these children. National Offer Day today – thanks for those parents who have been supporting these applications.

Next Week’s we have Dr Tomas Karshan from UEA coming in to run some English Literature creative writing workshops for Year 12 & 13.

Next Friday is International Women’s Day, we are looking at Mary as a model of faith and what that means. Purple ribbons will be distributed and a charity collection made during the day.

The consultation period for academisation has now closed (9th February), a small number of responses were received but these were very positive. These responses will go to Governors and then they will decide what the next stage will be.

Parental workshops on how to support my child during exam periods will be running shortly, date to be supplied. Interventions going on during school, after school and at weekends and during holiday times to support exams. Thanks to staff who are doing this.

Lots of work on well-being taking place, details to follow.

Trips are fully funded by the school; every young person should go on a trip if they have met the standards required. This happened at Christmas and this will be the case just before Easter and during the summer term. This will look differently for Years 11 & 13 due to exam studies.

During the last week of the academic year some students will be in school, as work will be focused on extra-curricular activities and academic support.

We have appointed an Executive School Chef who starts on 11th March, they are an ex-staff member at Dusty Knuckle Bakery in Dalston, this appointment has resulted in the school deciding to bring all the school's catering in-house. We continue to run a free trial for drinks, this is flavoured water and is unlimited. Please bring in a refillable bottle or purchase one from ParentPay for your child to use.

Hope that your child(ren) are signed up to regular extra curricular activities, there is a large offer available including Paris Saint Germaine football club for both boys and girls and steel pans.

Parent Questions:

Jade: Is there an indicative timeline for academisation of the school? AHA: Governors will make a decision following the recent consultation and then if they choose to go ahead, there will be TUPE consultation process involving unions and staff, this is quite a straight forward path as the majority of schools in England are academies now. However, with a general election coming up, the DfE may go into purdah should this happen, which will suspend any decisions during this period and may delay matters. However, if Governors do agree academisation it would be their intention for it to take place from September 2024.



Mr A Hall
HEADTEACHER