



CARDINAL POLE  
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

# OUR MISSION

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

## HEAD OF SCHOOL ONLINE PARENT FORUM

Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> September 2025 - 1.30pm

Clarification was made about student issues only being raised with year teams and this forum is for general school news/information only.

We have welcomed all our year groups back and the new year 7 & 12. Year 7 had their bible Mass on Friday and then their trip to Canterbury yesterday – their behaviour was outstanding. Thanks to those parents who attended the Year 7 Bible Mass last week, they have made a settled start to school and hope they make the most of their opportunities.

School photographers were in for years 7, 9, 11 & 12 and these are on sale - please do not miss their deadlines to purchase.

We have embarked on our year 11 & 13 intervention programme – every Monday after school there are exam training sessions in key areas on various subjects. First one was last week - Maths and English was yesterday. Congratulations to Year 11 on the way they have started. We also ran a Year 11 Raising Achievement Evening last week which was very important for them. The key message for Year 11 this week is being delivered via Parents' Evening which takes place on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> October. Parents are allotted times but if there are difficulties for you, we can put you into a different slot.

New extra-curricular programme is up and running including rockband, embroidery, football (both internally run girls and boys' clubs and PSG run for years 8 & 9 boys), basketball (both internally run and one led by Hackney Jedi), coding club, girls' boxing will be added to this as well as it was very popular last year. Sign up is done via EVOLVE where you are asked to give your consent. All these clubs are fully funded, there is no cost involved. This is one of the biggest programmes run in the borough. Sign-ups are sent to form tutors. This programme is open to all year groups 7-13.

Year 7 MCAS (Bromcom) service is being sent out shortly, this App allows you to track your child's behaviour and attendance record and also send messages to school. Instructions on how to sign up to this will go out next week. It is a very useful tool to keep up to date with your child's progress.

Parent Question: how often do we have to sign up for the extra-curricular programme? AOD: Termly, we issue new timetables in January and April, to withdrawal consent you can contact the school directly.

Open Evening took place last week – it was a super event, the most visited Open Evening since I started 13 years ago. Had a huge uptake of interest. Thank you to the students who helped out with the tours they were excellent. Open Mornings are running from 9.15am-10.15am for the next two weeks. If you know anyone who would like to attend please encourage them to do so.

Year 11 students attended a Geography fieldwork trip to the Olympic Park last week.

Black History Month begins tomorrow, a full timetable of activities is being sent out to parents and will be on the website. These include creative writing workshops with authors, African drumming workshops, Black and British workshops, a visit to Hamilton, staff versus student quiz and ends with Culture Dress day. Students have been informed in prep of all the activities. Lots of events are planned. These encourage our links to the community and gives us access to a range of resources for events/activities.

Please have a look at our social media accounts they show you all the activities our young people have been doing and will continue to do over the next few weeks.

Half term begins on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> October finishing on 17<sup>th</sup> October at the normal time. We return on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November at usual time.

Next Parent Forum on 18<sup>th</sup> November. A reminder that specific concerns should be raised with the year team directly. Yours in service,

Mr A O'Donoghue  
**HEAD OF SCHOOL**