



Cardinal Pole Catholic School

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S O A R
Service Opportunity Aspiration Reward

3rd October 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

What a fantastic start to the new academic 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, a special menu in the canteen, trips to museums 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, with workshops and treats.

We are also finishing our significant improvements to the school building this week which includes providing the Sixth Form with an enhanced area and additional classroom space and brand-new PE changing rooms in the main building.

Catering

After October half term, the school will be parting ways with our catering company, Chartwells and moving the catering provision in-house. During this period of transition there will be challenges in the short term but in the longer term we will have greater control over the quality and variety of our food service. Prices will remain unaffected and there will be no changes to the way payments are made to topping up accounts or to our Free School Meal provision. The Student Council will be involved in our new menu design and we will be working with external partners to ensure a smooth transition.

Parent Governor Vacancy

I am pleased to inform you that our recently advertised Parent Governor vacancy has been filled by Tessa Lubrun, a Year 8 parent – congratulations Tessa! Myself and the Governing Body are looking forward to working with her.

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).



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Award

I am delighted to inform you that the school has been nominated for another award by Future Ed as “Mental Health and Wellbeing School of the Year”. Also, our Inclusion Manager/Mentor Ms John has been nominated as Mentor of the Year - congratulations Ms John, well deserved after over 20 years’ service! The award ceremony is not due to take place until December; however, I will keep you posted on the result.

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 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

A reminder that half term runs for two weeks, commencing week 23rd October and school re-opens on Monday 6th November 2023 at the usual time.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours in service,



Mr A Hall
HEADTEACHER