



Monthly Mail - October

Dear parent/carer,

Squash!

Student Report by Courtney Steele Year 8

Since September, ten Year 8 pupils have been attending a Squash club run by Mrs Cooney and Mr Vince. We have been travelling to Sutton Squash club and have had some coaching sessions with a world ranked professional, Chris Hall. Squash club is an opportunity that helps children to learn a different sport. Squash isn't as popular as football, but I and all the other girls love it. Squash has actually helped me develop confidence as well as new skills. Squash is a 2 player game, where the server hits the ball then has to pass the red line to their opponent, they then start a rally until the ball can't be hit or it is missed. The Coach helped us to start with and he is amazing! Squash is not done in school, and I had never heard of it before but now I'm improving every week.

We have the opportunity, thanks to Mrs Cooney and Mr Vince, to see watch professionals play in the PSA Silver tournament at world class facilities at Sutton Coldfield Squash Club in November. We also have the opportunity to continue Squash on a Wednesday after school, run with all other children of our level to hopefully compete as a team externally to school. Rose Fabarova says she has developed lots of new skills and it is a huge success.



Cardinal Wiseman 'Brighten up' for CAFOD

On Friday 2nd October, we saw our school and students brightened up, for CAFOD's Harvest Fast Day. CAFOD's campaign was directed particularly at schools and young people, challenging them to raise money and awareness so that all young people around the world have the same opportunities and can achieve their full potential. Our school community really got involved on this day and saw it transformed with bright socks, wigs, ties and face paint. Pastoral manager, Mrs Short said, "We stepped up to the challenge to brighten up the world and what a fab day we had! It made everyone smile and think about those who live with a cloud over their lives." Our students really took an active role, helping to make a difference to the world we live in, as Thomas Lafferty, Head Boy said, "I think it's fair to say we certainly answered that challenge!" As a school community we raised over £300.00 from a house competition, staff quiz, soup kitchen and face painting. There was a fantastic atmosphere around the school and it

was great to see so many put in such effort. Head teacher Mrs Stewardson said, “CAFOD Harvest Fast Day allowed everyone to go a little sillier and brighter and all in an excellent cause!”

This was our first charity fundraising campaign of the year and we have got off to a fantastic start. Students, Kerryann Brannigan and Sinead Wickett (pictured below) said, “CAFOD Brighten up day was a great experience and really fun. So many people got involved and made the day special raising money to help others.” We’re really looking forward to building on this momentum, continuing to raise money throughout the year and for our students to take an active role in encouraging their peers to get involved and help raise money and awareness.

Chloe Rollinson- Lay Chaplain



Whole School Retreat Day

On Wednesday 23rd September, students at Cardinal Wiseman stopped their lessons and all went on a whole school retreat! Organised by the school lay chaplains, each year group were treated to an individually designed retreat day, every one revolving around a specific theme. The themes were, “Understanding the Eucharist” (Year 7), “Creation” (Year 8), “Who am I?” (Year 9), “Life choices” (Year 10) and “Who is God to me?” (Year 11). Students were able to focus on their own spiritual development and in the process grow closer as a year group. Experiencing team building games, group prayer, meditation and reflection, each student was able to take a step back from their day to day lives and think about themselves and their own faith and life journeys.

On the day, we were also extremely lucky to welcome seven seminarians from Oscott College to help us to enhance our day. They were skilled and inspiring in helping to deliver sessions such as giving testimonies and acting as an interview panel to be questioned about faith by year 11. They were a massive hit with the students with many of them stating that the visit from the seminarians was their favourite part of the day as many felt that they could relate with them and

their life stories. One seminarian said “It was a great day, it was so nice to spend time with the staff and students and to share in the liturgies.” Another said “The students were a joy to be with, they were willing to learn and I was happy to be there and answer the questions they asked.”

The day was a huge success with many students asking when they could do it all again. Joshua in year 8 said “I have really enjoyed the day, I overcame one of my biggest fears and spoke to new people.” A member of staff said “Students had time to reflect and consider things they wouldn’t have otherwise. A very thought provoking day with a lot for us to reflect upon from it.”

Megan Cox - Lay Chaplain



Student Report by Thomas Lafferty (Head Boy)



On Thursday 1st October Year 10 and 11 Drama students went to the New Theatre in Cardiff to see the musical Blood Brothers. We had been exploring the musical in our drama lessons and we were all really excited to see a live performance. The performance was truly amazing, the best I've ever seen, the acting, set, music and lighting were all brilliant and some of the actors were famous performers such as Maureen Nolan, Marti Pello and Sean Jones. Overall a great experience that really inspired me as an actor.

Why is reading important? Research suggests that without a reading age of 16 by the time a

Picking books for the library from Peter's Bookshop in Birmingham.



child reaches year 11, access to GCSE examinations will be difficult. We therefore ask that you encourage your child to read at home for at least 30 minutes a day, alongside the 30 minutes they already do at school during their DEAR sessions in order to help them achieve this result comfortably. We hope you will join in our mission to improve reading ages which in hand will see our pupils gain the fantastic GCSE results they are aiming for.

DEAR

Drop Everything
and Read

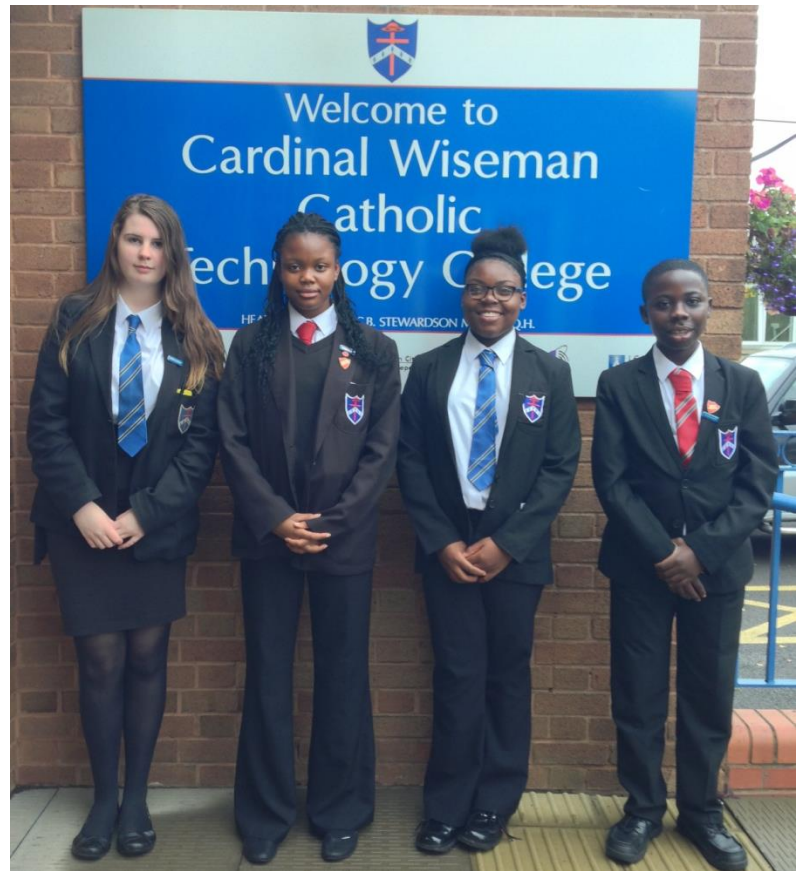
Healthy Living – Growing Food

Year 7 have been given the opportunity to work with Birmingham Health Education Services to grow a garden. We have been working with Marie from The Conservation Volunteers for the past two weeks. Last week students designed a plan for the garden and considered the different vegetables we could grow and this week we got digging. The group hope to grow potatoes, onions, courgettes, lettuce and many more. We all worked very hard as we started preparing the ground for the vegetables with the hope of starting to plant seeds next week.



PICCLS Conference

On Thursday 1st October four students from Cardinal Wiseman were invited to deliver a presentation at Don Bosco House to talk about their experiences and what the chaplaincy team means to them. We have received the following feedback from John Osborne Diocesan Secondary School Adviser, which I'm really pleased to share with you all. "The conference delegates were delighted when four pupils, Kwame, Lucy, Mary and Abigail opened proceedings with prayers written by themselves and reflecting their faith and commitment to Catholic life and spirituality. After their prayer, each pupil spoke of what it meant to them to be a member of the Chaplaincy Team in Cardinal Wiseman Catholic School. They spoke with such sincerity and gave a glowing witness to their faith. They are real ambassadors of the Catholic Life of the school". Kwame Oteng-Adusei our Deputy Head boy said, "I enjoyed the experience thoroughly and would recommend any future Chaplaincy members to also take part in any presentations like this".



On Thursday 24th Cardinal Wiseman School of the school community. huge success, with students, beautiful service-and belting Students read, served and was a perfect way to new school. Head of year

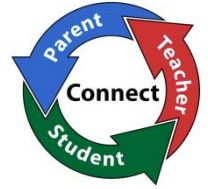


to see the year group and many of their parents coming together as a community and thanking God for all that has been achieved here at Cardinal Wiseman so far."

September, year 7 students from attended their very first mass as part The year 7 welcome mass was a staff and parents all participating in a out some fantastic songs of worship. fully participated in the mass and it celebrate starting a new term in a Miss. Kelly said, "It was wonderful



Parents in Partnership PiP



As Headteacher of Cardinal Wiseman I am always grateful for the generosity and spirit of the staff who I work with, especially when the staff go the extra mile for our students and parents by providing a series of additional parents evening throughout the year – one per year group.

We held our Year 11 Parent's Information Evening on 1st October which was very well attended. Your attendance at these evenings is essential if our pupils, your children, are to be as successful as they can possibly be.

At the Year 11 evening 100% of parents felt that the evening was helpful and informative and 96% of parents felt better placed to support their child at home after attending the event.

Here are a few comments that parents wrote:

"This evening has really opened my eyes to how very important revising is to achieve the grades needed".

"All I want is for my daughter is to pass her exams. I am encouraged & trust my child can, & will, do well because of the effort the staff are putting in".

"I am pleased that students are well supported & guided by their teachers & staff. Very helpful".

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the many parents who attended the event. We held our Year 7 Settling-In Evening. I will share with you a summary of the responses in the November edition of the Monthly Mail.

Teacher Training Days

Please note that we will not be having a teacher training day on Friday 5th April as stated in the in the Sept edition of the Monthly Mail. The dates below are correct:

- Friday 5th February
- Monday 11th April
- Friday 1st July

Dates for your diary

Half term - Monday 26th to Fri 30th October

Star Reading Tests - week beginning 2nd November

Year 10 Assessments - week beginning 2nd November

Year 11 Review Day - Friday 6th November.

Please note that only Year 11 students will be in school on this day.

Year 9 Assessments - week beginning 16th November

Please see the calendar on the school website for further dates and key events.



Yours sincerely,

Christina Stewardson

It is essential that parents/carers keep the school informed about any changes to your contact details.

Previous editions of the Friday Letter and Monthly Mail can be found on the school website.

The main office hours are from 8am to 4.30pm.

Merits, Merits and more Merits

As a school we would like to congratulate all of our students for their positivity throughout October. The allocation of over 3000 this month has resulted in many awards being given out in assembly ready for our first rewards assembly which we hope to come later in the term.

A massive congratulations to all of the winners of vouchers and certificates below:

Bernadette

Learner	Reg Group	Year	Merits
Lopes, Rodrigo	10Be	Year 10	25
Owusu, Priscilla	10Be	Year 10	25
Goring, Jamie	8Be	Year 8	22
Savage, Demi	8Be	Year 8	22

Bosco

Learner	Reg Group	Year	Merits
Underhill, Storm	7Bo	Year 7	28
Kelleher, Nickita	7Bo	Year 7	26
Pykett, Chanel	7Bo	Year 7	26
Westcarr-Stephenson, Shana	8Bo	Year 8	26

Newman

Learner	Reg Group	Year	Merits
Judge, Tayla	7Ne	Year 7	23
Holligan, Jarrell	7Ne	Year 7	22
Kenny, Erin	7Ne	Year 7	22
Jones, Elizabeth Marie	10Ne	Year 10	21

Teresa

Learner	Reg Group	Year	Merits
Harris, Courtney	10Te	Year 10	19
Mulholland, Morgan	10Te	Year 10	19
Oyovwi, Derrick	7Te	Year 7	20
Vicente, Luana	10Te	Year 10	22

Year 11

Learner	Reg Group	Year	Merits
Mieczynska, Natalie	11Te	Year 11	14
Howes, Emily	11Bo	Year 11	14
Davis, Karla	11Be	Year 11	14
Bibi, Areej	11Be	Year 11	14

Keep collecting and it may be you in the next one, Mr Matthews (Rewards Coordinator)

Enrichment Timetable Oct – Dec 2015

Day	Department	Activity	Time	Year	Venue	Description	Competitive Opportunities
Mon	PE	Netball	3:10 – 4:10	All years	Court	Develop skills in preparation for competitions.	House Netball competition.
	PE	Football Team	3:10-6:00	All Years	Field/Away	Develop skills in football and competition experience.	School League fixtures
	Science	Science Club	3:10-4:10	KS3	EP Room 22	Stretch your science skills through fun practical experiments	TBC
	Music	Area Band	3:30-4:45	All years	Christ the King	Brass and woodwind instrumentalists can learn a variety of wind band pieces and experience performing as part of an ensemble. Led by our instrumental teachers Mrs Turner and Mr Birnie students will also be offered opportunities to perform in prestigious venues such as the Adrian Boulton Hall in the city centre.	N/A
Tue	Music	Choir	3:10 - 4:15	All years	Room 41	Students will learn how to sing in harmony and perform to a high standard as part of a group. In the Autumn Term the choir students will be preparing for our Advent Carol Services which are taking place in December.	N/A
	PE	Squash	3:10-5:00	All Years	SCSRC	Develop Skills in preparation for competitions	House Squash Competition
	Spanish	Spanish Film and Media	3:10-4:10	All Years	Room 40	Students will watch adverts and short Spanish films. They will listen to more Spanish music and learn about Spanish Media	TBC
Wed	PE	Archery	3:10-4:30	GCSE PE	Archery Coaches	Develop skills and be assessed as part of the GCSE PE course	N/A
	PE	Fortnightly Football	3:10-6:00	Year 11	Field	Develop skills in football and competition experience.	School League Fixtures
	English	Read it! Watch it!	3:10-4:10	All Years	Library	Read a Novel before watching the film. Which one captures you more?	Quiz
Thur	PE	Badminton	3:30-4:30	All Years	Sports Hall	Develop skills in badminton and competition experience.	House Competition
	PE	Dance	3:10-4:10	All Years	Dance Studio	Develop dance skills in preparation for Showtime and House Talent Show	The Cardinal Factor
	Drama	Drama Club	3:10-4:00	All years	Drama Studio	The club is focused on improving student's confidence and performance skills. Students don't need to do anything to prepare for it	TBC
	Computing	Virtual Tour Creation	3:10-4:00	All Years	Room 8	Creating a virtual tour of school, with the possibility of including this on the schools website	N/A
	English	Debate Mate	3:15-4:15	All Years	Room 15	To develop techniques and skills to debate appropriately on specific topics.	School Competitions



Stars of the Month



Headteacher's Stars

Pupil name	Year/Class	Award	Reason
Natalie Mieczynska	11F	Head of Year 11	For gaining the most amount of merits in year 11 since September and having a truly positive attitude to learning.
Ilana Taylor	10Bo	Reading Star	For showing a real interest in and enthusiasm for reading.
Zahlemah Douglas-Wright	9Mag	Dance Star	For consistently hard work & dedication to the course. Making huge improvements in confidence & practicals.

Pupil name	Year/Class	Award	Reason
Rodrigo Lopes	10F	Head of Year 10	27 merits and having an excellent attitude to learning.
Shana Westcarr-Stephenson	8Bo	Head of Year 8	For gaining 26 merits since September and having an excellent attitude to learning around school!
Uthman Rogers	10S	English Star	For an outstanding start to English at school.
Keavy Murdoch	7Bo	Science Star	For achieving the highest level in her year group for the recent Science Assessment.
Sophia Moulard-Stevens	8Ne	RE Star	For dedication in RE and Debate. A true hard worker and a pleasure to teach.
Ashiq Shek	11opt 2	Geography Star	Excellent effort to catch up on missing work.
Luke Arlington	10 OPT 3	History Star	For making great progress this year!
Niamh Desmond	11Opt2	Media Star	For having a positive attitude to learning and ensuring that all coursework is in line with her target grade.
Jade Burrows	11Op2	Child Dev. Star	For improved attitude to learning outside of school.
Calum Noonan	8TE	Drama Star	For his outstanding attitudes in Drama lessons.
Sapphire Allen	Year 8	Art Star	For consistent outstanding behaviour and artwork.
Bereket Mario	Year 11	RM Star	Outstanding coursework
Mary Swoffer	Year 11	Graphics	Dedication to her revision tasks before Mock exams.
Connor Goddard Smith	11 Music	Music Star	For his positive attitude and hard work in music.
Oliver Batchelor	10 BTEC	PE/Sport Star	For Outstanding progress and attitude in PE.
Elizabeth Matthews	8 Theatre Skills	Challenge Curriculum Star	For working with great enthusiasm this term on the new script and performing really well.
Reace Savage	Year 9	Chaplaincy Star	For having a positive, caring and thoughtful attitude.

