



Monthly Mail – April

Dear parent/carer,



Showtime 2016 – Bigger and Better!

This quality and quantity of talent on show during this year's show was the biggest and best we have seen at Cardinal Wiseman. This was the third show of this kind. Back in 2014 we had 38 students performing which was a great starting point. However, this year a whopping 132 students from all year groups took part in 43 different performances including Music, Dance, Drama and Gymnastics. The show was superbly presented by Tania Mfumba-Conde and Kane Murphy. A huge well done to all students and staff involved.

Many thanks for your dedication and for sharing your God given talents.



Challenge Exhibitions



Year 7 Genealogy and Heraldry students share their work on their own family trees.

A large number of pupils in Years 7 and 8 exhibited the work that they have been doing in their challenge subjects. Students who study Dance or Music performed their work in the show where students who study Sport, Genealogy and Heraldry, Debating and App Creator had to create an exhibition which was presented to their parents. A large number of parents attended the event and were well and truly impressed with the work that their child has been doing.

The Debating students did live debate which really made their parents think. In Genealogy and Heraldry some parents were amazed to find out information about their families that they did not know. One parent said "I've learnt so much about my own family that I never knew before such as my grandparent's full names."

Pupils who study Theatre Skills will be doing a performance of a play called 'Chicken' to parents in May and pupils who study Growing Food will exhibit their work to parents in the summer term.

Well done to everyone involved and thanks to the parents who came to support their children.

On Tuesday 8th March, members of our chaplaincy team in year 9 attended the wonderful Mass in memory of Blessed Oscar Romero. It was a fantastic day spent at St Chad's Cathedral, with lots of other students from across the Diocese. In the morning, we took part in lots of different sessions led by the CAFOD Birmingham volunteers which were brilliant! Our young people were able to think about climate change and Pope Francis' message to us all, that we all have a responsibility to protect the beautiful world in which we live. We started to think about how we could make a difference and as a school community, make a pledge in response to Pope Francis' call. As a result of the day, our chaplaincy team were inspired to incorporate ideas from the day into our school so that Cardinal Wiseman can make a difference to our world.

Oscar Romero Mass at St Chad's Cathedral



Monthly Mail

On the 21st March, I wrote to all parents about the plans for the Monthly Mail being sent via email. This would save money and be eco-friendly. In order for this to work we need to have the email addresses of all parents who wish to receive the Monthly Mail electronically. We have had a good number of responses from the letter I sent. If you have not already sent to us your email address, then please fill in the form at the back of this letter and ensure that it is returned to reception.

If you cannot access email and would prefer to receive a paper copy of the 'Monthly Mail', please indicate it on the form. It will be the responsibility of your child to collect a copy from reception when it has been published.

Mr Beckett (Assistant Head)

World Book Day and Encouraging Reading at Home

Last month, Miss Edwards, Miss Hennessy & Ms Bayley organised two key events in school based around reading.

Firstly, we had sessions with parents related to how reading can be encouraged at home. These sessions were successful and we hope they will show an impact in the forthcoming weeks. Secondly, we had World Book Day! What a success the day was! Staff & pupils all dressed up in the aid of literacy and came into school dressed as their favourite fictional characters. During the day, we had a photographer from the Great Barr Observer take pictures during DEAR and these pictures are now on the Great Barr Observer website. You can take a look at these pictures using the following link: <http://www.greatbarobserver.co.uk/pictures/World-Book-Day-2016-schools-Great-Barr-dress/pictures-28854153-detail/pictures.html>

We also gave prizes to those who had gone the extra mile and the rewards were awarded as follows:



Best dressed pupil:
Lucy Burbridge (Year 10)



Best dressed staff:
Miss Smith & Miss Gamble



Best dressed tutor group: 7
Newman

We also donated a staggering £315 for Book Aid International! Thanks to our donations, the charity has sent over 55,000 books to Africa! Thank you for your generosity and well done to all involved – we can't wait for next year already!

Well done to Ethan Bailey and Kelston Carty who performed as part of the Kingstanding Area Wind Band at a Birmingham Music Service Gala Concert on Monday 21st March at the Adrian Boult Hall in the city centre. Ethan in year 7 played trumpet along with Kelston also in year 7 playing Trombone. Congratulations to both boys!

We also have some of our other brass players performing at a Brass Chamber Concert at St Michael's Church in Boldmere on Tuesday 26th April.



Day Fever

The week of the 7th March saw Day Fever come to Cardinal Wiseman Catholic Technology College in Kingstanding. Day Fever takes the idea from Night Fever in which adoration, music and reflection enable people to come to connect with God in a way which they may not have been able to previously. Missionaries take to the streets to offer people candles and invite them into church to light them, pray, and enjoy the music and atmosphere.

Day Fever is a similar idea but is adapted for schools, so instead of going out into the streets, missionaries go out into the playground with candles at lunchtime and invite them to pray in the school chapel. The Day Fever event was co-ordinated by the team of lay chaplains and a few seminarians from Oscott College who are regularly on placement at the school and did a brilliant job of encouraging and leading the young people in prayer and worship over both lunchtimes

The young people enjoyed coming and taking part and the sense of prayerfulness was apparent in the chapel. Day fever was a special, important and significant event for Cardinal Wiseman with over two hundred young people taking part over the course of the day's event.

By Steven Fleming and Megan Cox



Lenten Whole School Mass

We were delighted to welcome Bishop Robert Byrne to Cardinal Wiseman Catholic School on Tuesday 22nd March 2016, to celebrate the end of the Easter term with a wonderful whole school Mass in Our Lady of the Assumption Church. It was a fantastic opportunity to join together and begin to end our Lenten journey, preparing ourselves for Holy Week. Over one hundred students actively participated during Mass, leading us in prayer and song, reminding us of how important each part of the Triduum is, and how relevant it remains in our lives today. Year 9 student, Amy Bennett said, "I thoroughly enjoyed being part of the choir for the Mass today and it was a great way to end the term together." At Cardinal Wiseman, we would like to thank Bishop Robert again for joining us and celebrating such a lovely Mass.



Amputee Veteran Inspires Year 10

On Wednesday 13th April 2016, year 10 students from Cardinal Wiseman were truly privileged to be visited by Lance Corporal Scott Yarrington and Alan McClelland from Help for Heroes. Scott is a double amputee who was severely injured in a blast whilst on an active tour of Duty in Afghanistan in 2010 whilst he was serving with the Irish Guards. Scott, a local lad from Streetly told of how he joined the army at a young age and worked hard to climb the ranks. After he was injured, he did not let his injury hold him back. Instead he said that it spurred him on to “take every opportunity” which he was offered. Scott brought along a vast array of the equipment which he uses on a daily basis as a result of his injury. He is 100% wheelchair free after a long recovery process, only using a wheelchair for sporting events and uses an assortment of prosthetic limbs in order for him to be as mobile and active as he is. He is a keen cyclist, rock-climber and basketball player. Scott truly showed students that there is no excuse to not keep pushing yourself in life. Despite set-backs and unplanned events you have a choice, to sit back and do nothing or to get-up and do something amazing. Scott chose to do something with his life and he is an amazing example of resilience and strength in the face of adversity. Scott told students to “take every opportunity you are given; you never know what tomorrow may bring.” The word inspirational is used a lot these days to describe many things but the students found Scott to be truly inspirational. Student Ilana Taylor said of Scott “He taught me to take opportunities and chances because you never know where it could take you in life.” Another student, Wiktoria Dziabowska also said “He inspired me to live like there’s no tomorrow because you never know what might happen next.” The students took a lot from Scott and Alan’s visit and it really spurred them on to make the most of their lives and to use their gifts and talents to work hard and inspire others by what they do. Cardinal Wiseman school would like to extend their heartfelt thanks to Scott and Alan for generously giving their time and efforts to supporting our students along their life journey in this way. This was definitely a valuable, encouraging and motivating experience for both staff and students alike.

Megan Cox – Lay Chaplain



ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Whole school attendance so far this year: 96.34%

Attendance by Year Group:

YEAR 7: 96.92%

YEAR 8: 96.08%

YEAR 9: 96.14%

YEAR 10: 95.58%


YEAR 11: 96.96%

This is a massive achievement for Cardinal Wiseman Catholic Technology College up by 3% from this time last year.

WELL DONE!

Percentage of students with below 90% attendance is 6.6%

In order for us continue to maintain good attendance this has unfortunately seen three of our parents being given penalty notices and fines issued in January 2016 after being placed on our spotlight campaign.

Dates for your diary	
Year 7 Star Reading Tests – week beginning 18 th April	
Year 7 Assessment Week – week beginning 25 th April	
Bank Holiday - Monday 2 nd May	
Year 11 Sleepover – Friday 6 th May	
Year 8 Assessment Week – week beginning 9 th May	
Year 7 Parents' Evening – Thursday 12 th May – All parents to attend.	
Half term – Monday 30 th May – Friday 3 rd June	
<i>Please see the calendar on the school website for further dates and key events.</i>	

Yours sincerely,

Christina Stewardson

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

Previous editions of Monthly Mail can be found on the school website in the News and Events tab.

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

Headteacher's Stars

Pupil name	Year/Class	Award	Reason
Nicole Cullen	9Te	Reading Star	For achieving a reading age of 16 in her most recent STAR reading tests - an improvement of 4 years & 6 months!
Aimee Baillon	11	Head of Year 11	For an outstanding attitude to learning as she approaches her exams
Connor Greaney	11CW	Maths Star	For a consistently outstanding attitude to Mathematics and being a model of success.

Pupil name	Year/Class	Award	Reason
Alessio Corbia	10	Head of Year 10	For having a positive approach to learning and always putting in 100% effort
Chloe Darby	9	Head of Year 9	For always having an excellent attitude to learning and willingness to help others.
Tayla Judge Lemar Thompson Katie Coady Shelby Moore	7	Head of Year 7	For consistently showing an incredible attitude to learning

Julianne Peralta	7Be	Science Star	For an outstanding piece of homework on the phases of the moon.
Ellis Truman	11F	RE Star	For improving his mock exam grade by 3 grades! Well done! :)
Amy Jones	8Ne	Geography Star	An excellent home learning project
Kai Spinx	11	History Star	For being really proactive and positive about his revision.
Connor Campbell – Elliott	11	MFL Star	For not giving up- improving his mock result and working super hard
Zahrah Mahmood	10	Business Star	Consistency with home learning and effort in lessons.
Connor Greaney	11	Computing Star	For hard work and effort in completing controlled assessments.
Chloe Purcell	11Opt2	Child Dev. Star	For outstanding dedication and work ethics. Well done Chloe!
Kimberley Gilliam	7BO	Drama Star	For an outstanding effort in her recent home learning project.
Mary Dosumu	110p3	Food Star	For always being enthusiastic in all tasks undertaken and for encouraging peers.
Ethan Bailey	7BO	Music Star	For his excellent attitude to learning and progress in his trumpet lessons. Also for performing at the Adrian Boulton Hall with the Area Band.
Ellis Trueman	11	PE/Sport Star	For outstanding achievement in the GCSE PE practical moderation. He impressed the external moderator with the quality of his Analysis of Performance in boxing. Well done!
Abigail Whyke	9Ne	Chaplaincy Star	For consistently supporting the Catholic life of the school. For always willing to participate when asked. You are amazing!!

Monthly Mail

Pupil name _____ Class _____

Please tick if you would like to receive an electronic copy of the Monthly Mail via email.

1st parent/carer email address _____

2nd parent/carer email address _____

Alternatively, please tick the box if you would prefer to receive a paper copy of the Monthly Mail. I understand that it is the responsibility of my child to collect a copy from reception.

Parent/carer signature _____

Date _____

Please return to reception