



# Monthly Mail – May

Dear parent/carer,

I would like to start by wishing our Year 11 students all the best with their examinations which start next week. We all know that this can be a stressful time with so many examinations to take. I have heard so many great things about how hard Year 11 have been working and I know the pupils have had fantastic support and guidance from their teachers and staff. Good luck!

Last week we had a three day review of teaching, learning and leadership in our school. I would like to congratulate all staff and students for an excellent outcome. The vast majority of teaching observed was good or better and the work in the pupils' books showed evidence of real progress. As always, pupil behaviour was superb. Well done to our whole school community!

## 'Elevate' Revision Seminar – Student Reports

The seminar that myself and others took part in was incredibly useful, the methods mentioned by Ben (an *Elevate* spokesman) enabled us to use our initiatives to focus our preparation correctly – for the upcoming GCSE exams. His first seminar in January, gave all the pupils who hadn't started their revision yet, motivation to begin before it's too late. It would be selfish not to recommend *Elevate* to other years in the school, it is a priority – if not a necessity for young adults to be well prepared for their GCSE exams; *Elevate* does just that.

Kane Murphy (Year 10)



Year 11 revision specialist comes to reveal all!

On the 20th April, Ben from *Elevate* Education came back to inspire us and teach us how best to utilise our time we have left to revise. This time he came to speak to us about our memory and ways we can use mnemonics to help remember different topics in our subjects. For example, he taught us one where we can remember the first 10 elements on the periodic table by making us remember a sentence which contained the elements in some way. I liked today because he taught us a fun way to revise topics. It motivated us in our final countdown to our exams. Jay Donnelly (Year 11)

## Acting Master Class



On Wednesday 11th May the year 10 Drama students had a visit from Paul Collings, a professional actor, who had played the role of Micky in *Blood Brothers* in the West End. The students are currently studying the play by Willy Russell as part of their GCSE course and got a master class in how to play some of the key characters. It was a very productive and inspiring session and hopefully we can have Paul back again sometime in the future!

## Year 10 Careers Fair – Student Report by Chelsea -Leigh Rogers



On Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> April Year 10 got the chance to experience our very own careers fair. We had the opportunity to speak to local College's, Sixth Forms and Universities. We were able to ask questions and talk to the people to help us make the right choices. This helped a lot of people to decide on where they would like to go when they leave school. The Careers Fair helped me decide that I would like to attend University after Sixth Form. Although I am only in year 10, being able to decide where I would like to go has really helped me to be more ambitious and hard working. Also, we got the chance to write our personal statement ready for our applications. This has helped us because we have been able to think about how we are behaving and our attitude towards our school work.



## Wow! Cardinal Wiseman's pupils are reading up a storm!

Here at Cardinal Wiseman we use the Accelerated Reader programme to help support and improve our reading age, and this term we saw a Year 7 pupil become the first member of the Accelerated Reader Millionaires' Club. How do you become a Millionaire? Read one million words! Pupils who have read over a million words this school year belong to a select group of Accelerated Reader Millionaires. A word count is generated each time a pupil reads a book and then takes a reading practice quiz online using our Accelerated Reader software. Who wouldn't want to become a 'millionaire' and join this exclusive club?

Keep an eye in the monthly mail to see who else becomes a Millionaire as we have other pupils very close to joining this elite club.

We would like to say a huge congratulations to Katie Coady in Year 7.



**ATTENDANCE @ CARDINAL WISEMAN CATHOLIC TECHNOLOGY  
COLLEGE  
FOR  
MAY 2016**

**#ATTENDANCEMATTERS!**

***Whole school Attendance for Year So Far: 96.31%***

***Attendance by Year Group:***

***YEAR 7: 96.87%      YEAR 8: 96.01%      YEAR 9: 96.17% -Up from last month***

***YEAR 10: 95.68% -Up from last month      YEAR 11: 96.83%***

***Well done to Years 9&10 for their improvement from last month.***

***Percentage of Students with 90% below attendance: 6.97%***

***In order for us continue to maintain good attendance this has unfortunately seen 3 of our parents being given penalty notices and fines issued in January 2016 after being placed on our spotlight campaign.***

## Official opening of Soli-centre for youth ministry

On Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> May, students from Cardinal Wiseman had the privilege to be invited to attend the official opening of Soli-centre for youth ministry in Alton, Staffordshire. It was a gloriously sunny day to reflect a glorious occasion in Soli's history. Students met with Archbishop Bernard Longley and were able to witness the historic event of the cutting of the ribbon and the official opening and blessing of Soli.

As a part of the day, visitors were able to have a tour of the completed house and take part in a sample of the prayer related activities which Soli would usually offer to those participating in a retreat. Our tour took us all around the different areas of the house and allowed both students and staff to get a feel for what it would be like to attend a retreat at the centre. Seeing the absolute passion which the team and supporters of Soli have for the centre was massively encouraging to the students who attended the day, as they could truly see the love which people have for Soli because of the amazing work they do and impact which they have on the people they serve.

Our day concluded with a visit to the Mercy door in the parish of St. John the Baptist in Alton and a short time of reflection to think and pray in such beautiful surroundings at this historic church. Students could also have time to reflect on the impact that the work of Soli may have, or may have already had on their lives and their faith journeys. Year 10 student Jordan Booker said of the event, "Thursday was a fantastic experience in which we were able to learn so much more about Soli and the amount of work which has gone on during the development. I would hope that in the future, I will be able to go to Soli House to be able to work for a year. Thank you to Lucy and Megan for making it a fantastic day." Another year 10 student, Lucy Burbridge said "I thoroughly enjoyed the trip to Soli House. The team members were so welcoming and informative. I really hope that I can return to Soli on retreat soon."

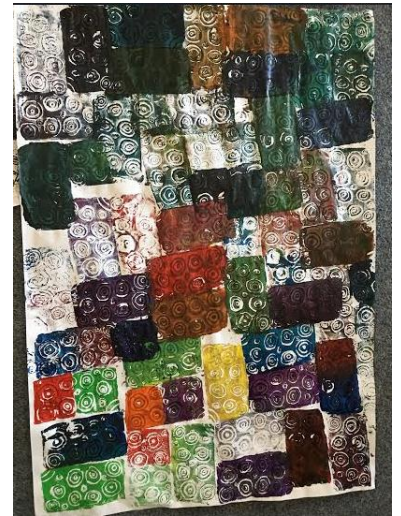




## Exceptional, unique and imaginative minds



On the 5th and 6th May our talented year 11 artists completed their 10 hour GCSE Art exam with outstanding results. Each artist worked painstakingly for 2 days to complete a variety of pieces using traditional and contemporary materials and techniques. These photos are just a small insight into the exceptional, unique and imaginative minds of our talented students at Cardinal Wiseman.



### Fundraising - Year 11 Sleepover

On Friday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2016, 27 Year 11 pupils arrived at Cardinal Wiseman Catholic Technology College raring to go. We began our evening with a presentation and reminder about the Jimmy Mizen story and why we had gathered together. We then began a reflective prayer liturgy where students and staff visited small prayer stations in the school hall, one to cleanse us of our worries, one to consider our future dreams and goals, one to reflect on our friendships and memories and one to write a personal letter to God. We finished the session with positive thoughts and messages to each other.

Next on the agenda was developing and building friendships and relationships. Students were then able to spend time together, chatting, watching films, eating, dancing and having fun!!

This was such a successful experience for all those involved that this has now become an annual event and the Jimmy Mizen Foundation has become one of the many charities our school supports.



# Wiseman Tweeting

As mentioned in the last Monthly Mail, we have now launched our Twitter account. Everyone can now keep up with events in the school by following the twitter feed which is on our home page.



## Science club gets growing

With the better weather on the way the students of Science Club put their botany skills to work in the science garden.

Science Club, which consists of year 7 and 8 students, and meets on Fridays after school, have had a great time turning the empty garden into a flourishing mini allotment.

Students first sowed a selection of veg seeds in cultivating trays and spent time outside weeding and tidying the garden area in preparation for planting. Once the seeds had germinated and sprouted into seedlings it was time to transplant them into the planters and beds in the garden.

The eager students have also been tending to their plants throughout the week by watering and checking them, especially after the monsoon weather!

After all their hard work it is hoped that science club students will be rewarded with a great harvest of tasty healthy produce and we all look forward to tasting some home grown veg.



# Year 8 Challenge – Gardening – Student Reports

I have thoroughly enjoyed gardening. We have grown everything from herbs to vegetables. We are entering a competition to grow a meal in a wheelbarrow. We have so far taken home herbs and vegetables to grow at home, one herb of our choice and onions. We have mostly planted things at school and watched them grow.

We have learnt all about which plants are eaten by animals and what plants need to survive. We also learnt how to make compost and how to care for a plant and give it the nutrients it needs. I now understand what plants and herbs go into each family.

I am happy that Cardinal Wiseman has started a gardening project and U would advise more people to go gardening because it has helped me to care for the environment and has made me become a better person.

By Katie Glasgow 7NE

Year 7 have put together a gardening club every Wednesday morning. We work with a volunteer and Mrs Biddle for the whole lesson. So far we have created 6 amazing beds, which will be the home for the herbs and vegetables such as potatoes, tomatoes and many, many more. We have planted a row of fruit bushes which will hopefully grow many different types of berries.

By Jacob Buckley 7BO



In our year 7 challenge lesson we have an amazing opportunity to go and do gardening. We have learnt many things like the different plant families like the root family, legumes, Brassicas and cucurbit. Later in the year we did PH testing which was testing the type of soil. We the fertiliser our soil with bone meal which us made out of fossil which is good for the soil. Afterwards we planted some vegetables and herbs.

By Odane, Kelton and Evan


## Cardinal Wiseman Trumpeters perform in Boldmere

On Tuesday 26th April Ethan Bailey (year 7), Yamikani Ajuti, Julia Dilinskas and Nigel Madya (year 8) performed in a Birmingham Music Service Brass Chamber Concert at St Michaels Church in Boldmere. The concert featured some of the finest young brass players and school ensembles in the city, with performers ranging from the ages of 5 - 18.

Our young trumpeters played the less well known piece 'Mission Impossible' but their playing was equally as exciting as a Tom Cruise film! The church had a large audience and along with their Brass teacher Mr Birnie they really did themselves and our school proud.

Congratulations Ethan, Yamikani, Julia and Nigel we look forward to hearing more of you!



<b>Dates for your diary</b>	
<b>Year 10 Spanish Speaking Exams</b> - 25 <sup>th</sup> and 26 <sup>th</sup> May	
<b>Half term</b> – Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> May – Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June	
<b>Year 9 Science Trip to Alton Towers</b> – 13 <sup>th</sup> June	
<b>STAR Reading Tests – Years 8-10</b> – Week beginning 20 <sup>th</sup> 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
Aimee Baillon	11	<b>Head of Year 11</b>	For an outstanding attitude to learning as she approaches her exams
Connor Greaney	11CW	<b>Maths Star</b>	For a consistently outstanding attitude to Mathematics and being a model of success.
Ellis Truman	11F	<b>RE Star</b>	For improving his mock exam grade by 3 grades! Well done! :)

Pupil name	Year/Class	Award	Reason
Nicole Cullen	9Te	<b>Reading Star</b>	For achieving a reading age of 16 in her most recent STAR reading tests - an improvement of 4 years & 6 months!
Alessio Corbia	10	<b>Head of Year 10</b>	For having a positive approach to learning and always putting in 100% effort
Chloe Darby	9	<b>Head of Year 9</b>	For always having an excellent attitude to learning and willingness to help others.
Tayla Judge Lemar Thompson Katie Coady Shelby Moore	7	<b>Head of Year 7</b>	For consistently showing an incredible attitude to learning
Lauren Westcarr-Stephenson	10C	<b>English Star</b>	Exceptional attitude to learning and great improvement in recent poetry assessment.

Julianne Peralta	7Be	<b>Science Star</b>	For an outstanding piece of homework on the phases of the moon.
Amy Jones	8ne	<b>Geography Star</b>	An excellent home learning project
Kai Spinx	11	<b>History Star</b>	For being really proactive and positive about his revision.
Connor Campbell - Elliott	11	<b>MFL Star</b>	For not giving up- improving his mock result and working super hard
Rhys Gallagher	11	<b>Media Star</b>	Significant improvement in overall coursework and for helping others.
Zahrah Mahmood	10	<b>Business Star</b>	Consistency with home learning and effort in lessons.
Connor Greaney	11	<b>Computing Star</b>	For hard work and effort in completing controlled assessments.
Chloe Purcell	11Opt2	<b>Child Dev. Star</b>	For outstanding dedication and work ethics. Well done Chloe!
Kimberley Gilliam	7BO	<b>Drama Star</b>	For an outstanding effort in her recent home learning project.
Mary Dosumu	110p3	<b>Food Star</b>	For always being enthusiastic in all tasks undertaken and for encouraging peers.
Ethan Bailey	7BO	<b>Music Star</b>	For his excellent attitude to learning and progress in his trumpet lessons. Also for performing at the Adrian Boult Hall with the Area Band.
Ellis Trueman	11	<b>PE/Sport Star</b>	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	<b>Chaplaincy Star</b>	For consistently supporting the Catholic life of the school. For always willing to participate when asked. You are amazing!!