



Monthly Mail – April/May 2017

Dear parent/carer,

Catholic Schools Maths Competition

On Thursday 14th of February four students from Cardinal Wiseman competed in a maths competition against all the catholic schools in Birmingham. The students: Chloe Busst, Sapphire Luczak, Dennis Dugard and myself completed a series of challenges to earn points within the competition. The challenges included arithmetic, times tables, problem solving and mental maths. After doing said challenges, we unfortunately did not place within the top 3, however the experience was well worthwhile, especially the congratulations from the staff and other students.
Shoana Colleran



Speech Writing Competition



On the 29th of March 2017, a group of Year 8 students went to St Paul's for girls Catholic Secondary school, in order to participate in a speech writing competition about the most important world leader to us, we took part with 8 other schools. We had two teams from our school that participated, the first consisted of myself, Katie Coady and Hannah Melaney; the other consisted of Jacob Buckley, Keavy Murdock and Odane Dixon. When presenting the speeches the other schools were attentive and engaged and it made us feel self-empowered and confident for the final result. Although we didn't win, it was a very enjoyable event for us to partake in and a great way to represent our school. It was fantastic!

Tayla Judge- 8NE

On March 16th, 27 girls from Year 9 attended the Big Bang Fair at the NEC. An annual event which showcases careers and opportunities in science, technology, engineering and mathematics as well as some fantastic science shows about the gross side of science. The girls were chosen to attend this event in the hope that it would inspire some of them to take up a STEM career.

There were lots of freebies up for grabs and loads of opportunities to get a hands on experience of what it might be like to work in any one of the STEM areas. However, the chips in the on-site café proved the biggest hit!

The girls also had the chance to watch and take part in a gruesome science show about the human body, where the speaker had every member of the audience spitting into a cup! Then they took a trip through the human body in all its slimy, fascinating detail.



The Big Bang
UK Young Scientists & Engineers Fair

Attendance Update

We would like to thank all parents and carers who make sure their children attend school regularly. Please can we remind you that it is your legal responsibility to get your children to school each day and on time. If you have any questions about this please contact us.

Please can we ask you to check our school online calendar (under the term dates tab) and in this monthly mail for all term dates and teacher training days when planning holidays. Parents will always be informed if there is a teacher-training day coming up and this will be displayed on our website.

WHOLE SCHOOL ATTENDANCE: 95.89%
PERSISTENT ABSENCE: 6.71% (BELOW 90%)

ATTENDANCE BY YEAR GROUP

YEAR 7: 95.81%, Persistent Absence 6.61%
YEAR 8: 95.78%, Persistent Absence 6.72%
YEAR 9: 95.70%, Persistent Absence 5.21%
YEAR 10: 95.24%, Persistent Absence 9%
YEAR 11: 95.90%, Persistent Absence 6.25%

In order for us to continue to maintain good attendance, this has unfortunately seen 11 of our parents being given penalty fines - a total of £3000 during this year.

NOTE: Last days of terms/ non-school uniform days are ALL COMPULSORY school days where all children MUST attend.

Please note: Children must be in school by 08:45 last bell is at 08:50 late after this will see your child in detention that day.

ATTEND TODAY.....ACHIEVE TOMMORROW

Years 8 and 9 Retreat to The Briars



On 29th March a collection of our year 8 and 9 pupils began their three-day retreat at the Briars Catholic retreat centre in the Archdiocese of Nottingham. The retreat began with team introductions and room allocations, using a clip from the film “Evan Almighty” we then began to look into the love God has for us, and the love we should have for ourselves. The next day we delved deeper into the themes of the retreat, as well as going for a walk and celebrating mass together. In the evening the Briars team hosted a talent show, which our pupils the chance to perform on stage in front of each other, the talent show then went into a disco. The day ended with night prayer lead by a briars team member. The final day allowed us to reflect upon the lessons we learnt during our retreat our retreat, as well as reminding people of their gifts and talents through affirmations.

By Jonny Leybourne



Young Enterprise

The Year 9 BTEC Business class will be launching their mini-enterprise companies in this term, with a few fundraising activities. The Summer term will see them planning their business and developing a range of products that will be available for sale after the Summer.

In the Autumn term, the mini-enterprise groups will combine to form a Young Enterprise Company, which will represent the school at trade fairs competing against other schools in the local area.

Support from students, staff, parents and carers will enable our young entrepreneurs to be a success.

Ms Jennings

Lenten Whole School Mass

We were delighted to welcome Fr John Martin to Cardinal Wiseman Catholic School on Friday 7th April 2017, 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 7 student, Damaris Creta said, "I thoroughly enjoyed reading my bidding prayer in Spanish and being part of the choir for the Mass it was a great way to end the term together."

Lucy Chapman

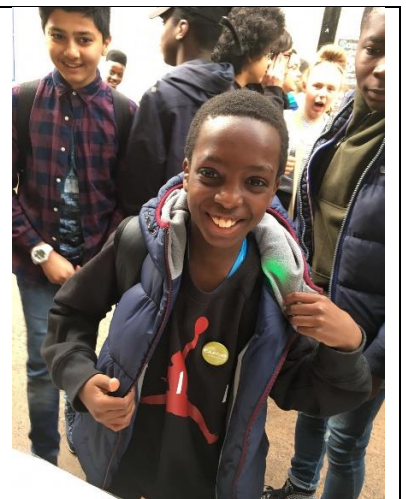


EAST AFRICA CRISIS APPEAL

On Tuesday 4th April staff and pupils of Cardinal Wiseman took part in our CAFOD East Africa Crisis Appeal, to assist CAFOD we had a cake sale, organised a non-uniform day which raised a total of £420 and most importantly offered our prayers for those in need all over the world.

Our donation went towards providing food, clean water, healthcare and sanitation for people in desperate need.

As we were focusing on those in need of food and water, the April 4th also kicked off our Lenten Challenge, which was for pupils and staff to donate tinned food and other essentials, these were donated to two local charities, one in Kingstanding and the other in Sutton Coldfield.



Uniform Donations

Do you have any uniform that is no longer used?

We would be most grateful for any donations.

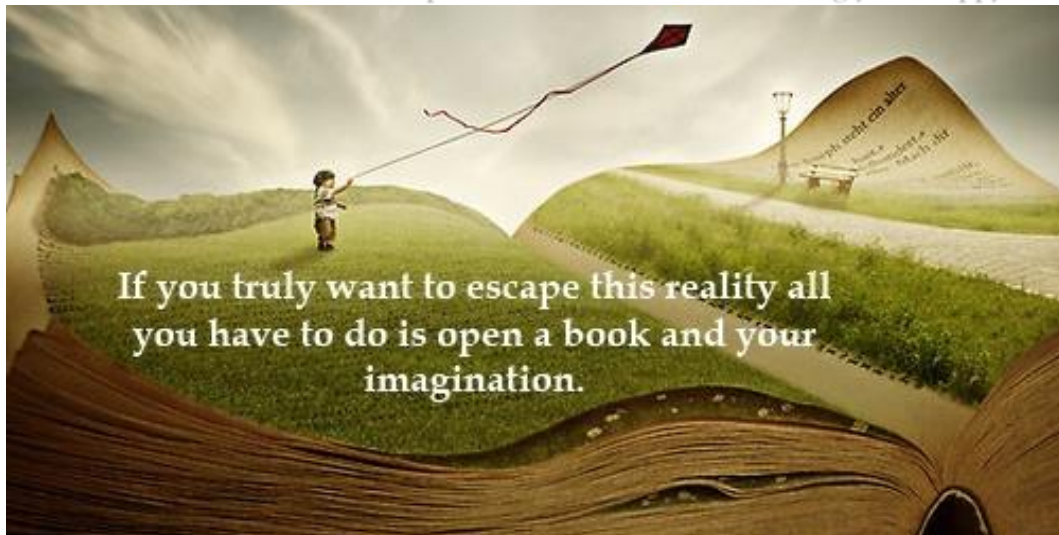
Please drop into reception.

Thank you for your ongoing support

Most Improved Readers

Over the last few weeks, our pupils have been carrying out their Star Reading tests. The test are completed three times a year by pupils in years 7-10 and will ascertain their reading level and enable us to see if their reading age has improved.

With this in mind, since September, our pupils have successfully increased their reading ages. For example, Caleb Day, Demi Savage, Jacob Buckley and Jordan Assoua have impressively improved their reading ages by at least 3 years. We look forward to further improvements over the forthcoming year. Happy Reading!



Confirmation Club

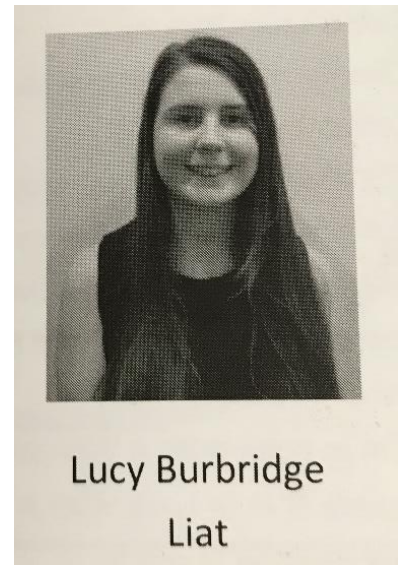
On the 23rd March myself and two year 10 students, Demi and Weronkia headed to one of our feeder Catholic Primary Schools, Christ the King. Weronika was particularly excited as she was returning to her own primary school. We were heading to Confirmation Club to talk and discuss our own faith journeys with the year 6 students who are preparing to receive the sacrament of Confirmation. Both girls were a credit to Cardinal Wiseman as Weronika spoke about her own Confirmation and her active role within the school and Demi focused on the how she has changed as a person after attending a Catholic Secondary school. Hopefully we have inspired the Confirmation Club to put their faith into action and be all for Christ.

Emily Tierney



Do you run a club or group and need a place to hire or train? We have our Sports Hall, Dance Studio, fields, classrooms and a Hall with tiered seating (200 seating capacity) available to hire evenings, weekends and school holidays. We offer competitive rates and parking. Please contact Sue Woodley (0121 360 6383) between 8am and 4pm for more information.

On Wednesday 26th April, the Drama department went to Sutton Coldfield Town Hall to watch Lucy Burbridge star in South Pacific. She did a wonderful portrayal of Liat doing both herself and the school proud! Well done Lucy and all the best in your exams!



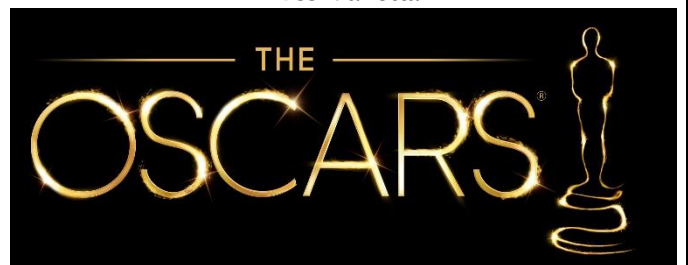
The Wiseman Oscar's

To celebrate the success of the Drama practical exam year 11 students attended an award ceremony and party a few weeks ago; The Monologue Master, Coursework Conqueror and Keep Calm and Carry On were some of the awards received!



It has been wonderful to see all of them progress so much over the past few years, devise, and perform original performances for the visiting examiner. Every one of them did me and the rest of the Drama department extremely proud and we wish them all the best in their future!

Miss Valletta



Men's retreat

On Thursday 6th April 2017 8 Cardinal Wiseman pupils attended the men's retreat "Face2Face", the retreat was hosted at the National Motorcycle Museum, and was led by international guest speakers such as Bishop Caggiano from Bridgeport and Jimmy Mitchell from Nashville; along with our very own Archbishop Bernard Longley, and ex comedian Fr Frankie Mulgrew from the Salford Diocese. Each speaker allowed us to explore deeper into what it means to be a Catholic man, and how we can serve God through any vocation we choose. Jonny Leybourne



Cardinal Wiseman Catholic School welcomes safe cyclists!

We are pleased to announce that a growing number of children cycle to school but did you know that more than 2000 children are killed or injured whilst cycling in the UK every year (Source – RoSPA)? With this in mind we must do all that we can to protect our children from injury and so **from the first day of the Summer Term (Monday 24th April 2017) any pupil cycling to school must wear a helmet.**



We also expect that pupils cycling to and from school will cycle safely and with consideration for other road-users. Any pupil found to have not to have done so will be banned from bringing a bike to school.

Parents and carers should note that the school gates are locked at 08.50. If pupils arrive after this point their bikes cannot be securely stored. Pupils who repeatedly arrive late to school will not be able to bring a bike for security reasons.

Uniform update

We would like to remind parents/carers about our expectations regarding school uniform and general standard of dress. **Pupils are not permitted to wear jewellery of any kind** (including whilst travelling to and from school). It is also a school rule that **pupils must wear appropriate school shoes** (not trainers or canvass shoes). Finally a number of shops have started to stock clothing marketed as 'school wear' which does not meet our expectations. This particularly refers to skirts and trousers. **School skirts must not be made of 'stretch' fabric and should reach to the knee** (without constant adjustment). **School trousers must not be made of 'stretch' fabric and should not be skin-tight.**



Not allowed at school – too tight

Not allowed at school – canvass shoe

Promoting healthy lifestyles

Parents and carers are reminded that **pupils are not permitted to bring energy drinks (such as Red Bull or Lucozade) or sports drinks (such as Lucozade Sports or Powerade) to school.** We would like you to join us in encouraging pupils to bring a water bottle to school each day.

Child Protection and Safeguarding

Summary of Child Protection Information

Cardinal Wiseman Catholic School is committed to the highest standards in protecting and safeguarding the children entrusted to our care.



Our school will support all children by:

- ✓ promoting a caring, safe and positive environment
- ✓ encouraging self-esteem and self-assertiveness
- ✓ effectively tackling bullying and harassment

We recognise that some children may be the victims of neglect, physical, sexual or emotional abuse. Staff working with children are well placed to identify such abuse.

At Cardinal Wiseman Catholic School in order to protect our children, we aim to:

- ✓ create an atmosphere where all our children feel secure, valued and listened to
- ✓ Recognise signs and symptoms of abuse
- ✓ Respond quickly, appropriately and effectively to cases of suspected abuse

<p style="text-align: center;">If you have any concerns that a child is being harmed, is at risk of harm, or you receive a disclosure (intentionally or unintentionally) you must contact one of the following members of staff as soon as possible:</p>	<p>DSL name Robert Swanwick</p>	
	<p>Deputy DSL name Esther Short</p>	
<p>If they are not available please contact: Christina <u>Stewardson</u> (<u>Headteacher</u>)</p>		

Dates for your diary	
Week beginning Monday 29 th May – Half Term	
Week beginning Monday 5 th June – Year 9 Exam Week	
Monday 19 th June – Star Reading Tests Years 8-10	
Thursday 22 nd June – Open Evening (5 - 7.30pm)	
Week beginning 26 th June - Year 10/11 Exam Week	
Friday 30 th June – Year 11 Prom	
Thursday 13 th July – 12.30 finish for staff training	
Friday 14 th July – teacher training day	

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 Monthly Mail can be found on the school website.

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

West Midlands Police Press Release

I have been asked to share the following West Midlands Police Press Release, regarding the tragic incident in Manchester.

We remain deeply shocked following last night's tragic incident in Manchester and all our thoughts are with those affected.

We have provided some support to Greater Manchester Police to assist in the policing of the incident in the early stages.

Greater Manchester Police continue with their investigation – at this stage there are no known links between the perpetrator and the West Midlands. We continue to liaise with GMP to establish if there are any victims from our area.

Here in the West Midlands, our focus is on providing an appropriate policing response over the coming days.

We have a variety of tactics available to us on a 24/7 basis – we have teams of local neighbourhood officers, response officers, specialist firearms officers and traffic officers on duty around the clock.

Looking forward to the weekend, Birmingham plays host to Pride which is a large lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender event and we're expecting tens of thousands of visitors to the city. This is an annual event with a parade, music and festivities which is enjoyed by many.

I appreciate that people planning to attend may feel a sense of nervousness – I would like to take this opportunity to give you some reassurance that a full policing operation is in place and is subject to ongoing reviews.

We will have a large number of police officers, specials and police staff on hand to keep the public safe – this isn't only for the Pride event, but also for anyone visiting the city to enjoy all it has to offer.

Everyone needs to be vigilant – be alert not alarmed. As ever, we ask the public to be our eyes and ears. If something doesn't feel right, call us. We act on every piece of information, no click or call will be ignored, we will only take action after appropriate checks have been carried out.

It is really important for us all to remember that acts of terrorism and hate crimes are committed by a small minority of people and those people do not represent the public. This is a time for us all to work closely together and unite against those who seek, through violence and extremism, to intimidate or cause fear.

If you or any young persons have any concerns, please contact WMP. There are many ways you can report – through local police on 101 or in an emergency 999 | the Anti-Terrorist Hotline on 0800 789 321 | Online you can click on the red button on the West Midlands Police website to report online terrorist and extremist material.

Paul T Chester
Police & School Partnership Manager
(East and West Birmingham NPUs)