

Edition 1
Sept 2017



Cardinal Wiseman Catholic School
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Sept 2017 - Monthly Mail

Dear parent/carer,

Exam Results - Another Good Year for Wiseman!



Our headline figures have held steady this year despite huge changes in the English and Maths exams that mean that they have become much harder for students. In English 69% achieved 4+ and in Maths the staff and students worked really hard and achieved 46% 4+. In both English and Maths, students were awarded the highest level of 9, and we are delighted that our teachers have proven that they can stretch and challenge the most able.

The three students with the highest grades are as follows:

Liam Matthews (11) - 9 A/A*8-9s, 3 B 5-7s

Yonatan Tirunch (11) - 6 A/A*8-9s, 5 B 5-7s

Allesio Corbia (12) - 2 A/A*8-9s, 6 B 5-7s 4 Cs or 4s

Liam and Yonatan are going to Bishop Vesey Grammar School to study A' levels in Sciences and Maths and Allesio is going to Streetly Academy to do his A' Levels.



Top achievers



Excellent progress

The three students who made the best progress this year were Jordan Booker (our Head Boy), Tommy MacDonald and Radarnae De Costa.

Boys did exceptionally well across the school and in all subjects – another group who have achieved highly are our EAL (English as an additional language) students with 61% achieving 4+ in both English and Maths.

Subjects which did particularly well were Art with 92% of students achieving A*-C, Spanish with 90% A*-C Triple Science Biology 93% A*-C and Religious Education 81% A*-C. Well done to all of those departments for their superb work.

The staff from Cardinal Wiseman would like to wish our leavers all the best in the future.

Amazing Homework

Over the summer, our new Year 7 students were given the challenge of an "All About Me" project. These were presented to their new DEAR groups at the end of their first week here. Some of the responses were incredible - with detailed autobiographies, beautiful artwork and wonderful songs performed. Many students thoroughly impressed us, showing an intent to succeed at Cardinal Wiseman through their excellent efforts.



Awards Evening – July 2017



Before we broke up for the summer holidays, we held our annual Awards Evening at the Holte Suite – AVFC. Over 100 pupils and their families attended the fantastic event that truly celebrated the best of our pupils. Pupils received a range of awards such as the Headteachers' Awards for Academic Progress, Outstanding Achievement and Wiseman Virtues Awards to name a few. The evening included speeches by the new Head Girl and Head Boy and everyone was treated to a selection of dance and musical performances.

The evening concluded with a disco with DJ Dominic McPherson on the decks.

Many thanks to everyone who organised this event & well done to all of our students who received an award.





Team Building Puzzle Day

On Monday 24th July, Year 7 took part in a reward day with the big puzzle company. The pupils were mixed up throughout the whole cohort and were given a task of coming up with team names. The pupils were then set up with the challenge carousel, which involved pupils collecting boards of various challenges that they had to complete as a team.

Pupils had to work well together, communicate effectively and decide how to overcome challenges in order to gain points. Pupils had 30 challenges to choose from and all pupils worked really well throughout the day. Points were collated and an awards assembly at the end of the day saw one team pick up a trophy for showing great teamwork and succeeding in multiple challenges.

Well done to all Year 7 pupils who showed that they work well with one another!



Intentional and Learned

'History Most Able Working Breakfast' runs every Wednesday at 8:15. Well done to the 11 students who attended for source scrutiny, hot chocolate and croissants! Very 'intentional and learned'!



Attendance - September 2017



Each day that your child is absent from school has a significant impact on their overall attendance. It is proven that pupils who miss school, even just the odd day, do worse in their examinations and are more likely to have difficulties than those who have none or few absences.

Tips to consider:

Please do everything that you can to ensure your child attends school every day.

If your child should feel unwell first thing in the morning, but feels better later on in the morning, please send your child into school. This will have a positive impact on his/her overall attendance, as they still get their mark even if they have to come into school late.

You must call into school EACH day your child is absent from school to avoid a home visit from our attendance team.

You must provide medical evidence if possible as this enables us to authorise any absence. This includes appointment cards / medication.

Holidays in term time

Please note we do not authorise holiday taken in term time, unless exceptional circumstances are granted from the Head Teacher.

If authorised, please ensure a letter with the relevant information i.e. location/dates and proof of flight tickets are provided and given into either Reception or the Attendance office. This enables us to know the whereabouts of the children at all times, avoiding a home visit from the attendance team.

Lateness to school

If your child is late to school then they will have to complete a detention, unless there are exceptional circumstances. The detention takes place on the same day with Mrs Commander, Attendance Officer, for 30 minutes. The sanction for those who are persistently late to school will be more serious.

Mr Swanwick
Deputy Headteacher

Mrs Commander
Attendance Officer

Summer Camp

Student Report by Derrick Oyowwi


If you were to ask me to describe my experience at summer camp, I would say it is one of the best experiences of my life. It was so amazing as there are not any words to describe it.

I've been to Alton Castle three times now and this summer camp was the best yet. It is an event that happens once a year to allow you to strengthen your relationship with God. It is unbelievable how the staff relate God to the activities that are set; whether it's archery or trekking. It is all linked backed to God in a very fun way.

When I first came to camp I knew no one, I was a lone wolf. However, by the end of it I was friends with everyone.

One of my favourite parts of this amazing experience were the parties. After every party, we all sang up beat hymns, praising the Lord and singing about how God loves each and every one of us. However, the most enjoyable part was going to Alton Towers for a day and seeing our team leader's (Liam) face when he rode Thirteen for the first time. It was so funny!

I am glad that I went to summer camp 2017 because it taught me a lot more things about my faith. I am definitely 100% going to summer camp next year and I hope to bring more young people with me.

Dates for your diary	
Fri 22 nd Sept – Year 11 Elevate Education	
Tue 26 th Sept Student Chaplaincy Team - Chaplaincy Commissioning Mass @ St. Chads Cathedral	
Fri 6 th Oct - CAFOD - Harvest Fast Day	
Week beginning 9 th Oct – Year 10 Exam Week	

Safeguarding Team

Safeguarding is about promoting the welfare of, and the protection from harm of, all children aged 0 -18 years old.

All of the staff at Cardinal Wiseman are trained to deal with concerns in regards to the welfare of the children we serve. However, we have a specialist team of staff who are trained to deal with highly sensitive safeguarding issues. They are known as Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL). These members of staff are as follows:

Assistant Head (Lead DSL)	Mr Beckett	abeckett@cardinalwiseman.net
Pastoral manager	Ms Short	eshort@cardinalwiseman.net
Family support worker	Mrs Jenks	djenks@cardinalwiseman.net
Deputy Head	Mr Swanwick	rswanwick@cardinalwiseman.net
Headteacher	Mrs Stewardson	cstewardson@cardinalwiseman.net
Assistant Head	Dr Beavan	lbeavan@cardinalwiseman.net
SENCO	Mr Allen	jallen@cardinalwiseman.net

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 email dsl@cardinalwiseman.net or contact one of the safeguarding team as soon as possible.

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.

CARDINAL WISEMAN

CATHOLIC SCHOOL

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Spotlight on Attendance

A very important message for all parents/carers

15th September 2017

Dear Parent/Carer,

Cardinal Wiseman Catholic School are working in partnership with parents to improve school attendance. **We would like to congratulate the many parents who make sure their children attend school regularly.**

It is a parent's legal responsibility to ensure their children receive appropriate education. Failing to send your child to school regularly without good reason is a criminal offence.

Absence disrupts the education of the individual pupil and the whole class. Are you aware that children who do not attend regularly:

- do not achieve well in exams
- find it difficult to maintain friendships
- are more likely to become involved in crime
- miss out on opportunities in further education and the world of work

Absence can only be authorised by the Head Teacher, within the boundaries set by the Education (Pupil Registrations) (England) Regulations 2006.

Please remember that parental illness, going shopping, visiting family, truancy, not wanting to go to school, alleged bullying (speak to school immediately to resolve the issue) are not acceptable reasons to be absent. All of these will be recorded as unauthorised absence, including if your child arrives at school after the close of registration. Leave in term time will only be authorised in exceptional circumstances.

Legal action that may be taken include:

- **Issuing penalty notices:** Each parent receives a penalty notice for each child who has unauthorised absence. The penalty is £60 or £120 depending on how soon payment is made. So, if there are two parents and two children the total penalties could be up to £480. Failure to pay may result in prosecution.
- **Taking parents to court for unauthorised absence:** Education Act 1996 Section 444(1) - court can fine each parent up to £1000 per child, order payment of prosecution costs and/or impose a Parenting Order.

- **Taking parents to court for persistent unauthorised absence:** Education Act 1996 Section 444(1A) - court can fine each parent up to £2,500 per child, order payment of the prosecution costs, impose a Parenting Order and/or sentence you to a period of imprisonment of up to 3 months.

Being taken to court could result in you having a criminal record.

How does your child compare?

Attendance during one school year	equals this number of days absent	which is approximately this many weeks absent	which means this number of lessons missed
90%	19 days	4 weeks	133 lessons
80%	38 days	8 weeks	266 lessons
70%	57 days	11.5 weeks	399 lessons

Frequent absence can add up to a considerable amount of lost learning and can seriously disadvantage your child in adult life.

If your child's level of absence is of serious concern you will receive another letter advising you about improving attendance. After this, any further unauthorised absence may result in the School and the Local Authority taking legal action.

We will improve attendance by making it clear within the school and local community that unauthorised absence is not acceptable. You will be informed of the number of penalty notices issued, prosecutions and the level of fines.

Again, we would like to thank those parents who make sure their child is attending school regularly and are therefore benefiting fully from their educational opportunity.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs C Stewardson
Headteacher