

Edition 3
Nov 2017



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Nov 2017 - Monthly Mail

Dear parent/carer,

Cardinal Wiseman Catholic School on the BBC News



Following on from last year's successful BBC School Report, on 11th September, BBC media editor Amol Rajan came to school with producer Elizabeth Bennett and cameraman Rob Pettit. They worked with Mr. Hanley (2nd in English) and 10 students from Years 9-11: Jordan Williams; Julianne Peralta; Katie Coady; Regan Farebrother; Slyvenisha Smith; Abby Conlon; Suraj Kendal; Aaliyah Edwards; Loius Prom and Reece Seager.

They recorded a story about the impact of Fake News on young people. It was aired on the 10 o'clock news on Monday 16th October. The story can still be found by following the links below:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/correspondents/amolrajan>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/entertainment-arts-41665814>

This was a fantastic experience for the students involved and the students were a credit to the school. Amol wrote, "The teenagers at Cardinal Wiseman school in Kingstanding, Birmingham, were hugely bright. It is an impressive school, with inspirational teachers and some wonderful pupils."



Parent Governor Elections

A letter has been sent home to all parents regarding the vacancy of a parent governor. If you are interested in the position, please collect a nomination form from reception. Forms need to be returned by Fri 1st December.

Year 11 Academic Awards Assembly



On Thursday 19th December Year 11 celebrated their first academic awards assembly. The assembly was to reward students who had made excellent progress within different subject areas. Students were nominated for having an excellent attitude to learning, increasing their working at grade, consistent hard work and for excellent commitment for classwork and revision. Throughout the assembly, the students heard why staff had nominated them, which always makes the students smile. Students received a certificate and an entry into the end of assembly raffle. There was a fantastic buzz within the assembly especially when it came to the raffle draw. Reece Seager was the first name pulled out, he won a £10 voucher, James Clark was the second name pulled out, and he won a bag of goodies. Well done to everyone who was nominated.

Below is a list of Subject Awards for Outstanding Progress that were won throughout the assembly :

English - Louis Prom and Paris Palmer

Maths – Lirian Dano and Emmanuela Aiwekho

Science – Hubertas Varanuskas and Connie Luong

RE – James Clarke and Torrian Webber

History – Abul Chowdhury and Oliwia Bednarek

Geography – Breakthrough Akanbi and Sara Imafidon Evboboru

Spanish – Matthew Flemming and Nicole Cullen

PE/ Dance – Jamal Gittens and Victoria Beard

Computing, Media and Business - Suraj Kandel and Jade Taylor

Drama – D’Andre De Costa and Elena Atansaova

Food Technology – Reece Seager and Amy Bennett

Art – Pawel Gwozids and Connie Luong

Music – Jordan Mckensie and Mugthalana Allen

English as an additional language – Lirian Dana and Elkhanssa Gassm Elsyed

Headteachers’ Award for Most progress – Louis Prom, Hubertas Varanauskas and Rebeca Karaliunaite



Food for Thought - Revision

Our Year 11 students have been working hard on their Food tech revision as they sat their exam on the 1st November. We are proud of all of you and we hope you get the results you deserve.

Miss Gamble

Spelling Bee Competition

Tuesday, 31st October



Congratulations to all pupils who took part in this term's Spelling Bee Competition Well done to the winner, Farah Coubadja-Toure and runners-up, Alexa Moses-Brown and Anthony Hewson. Spelling Bees are hard work but also great fun, as those who participate know.

At Cardinal Wiseman, we know our pupils learn much of their advanced vocabulary from reading, and Spelling Bees are as useful as speed reading races! Pupils entering our competition know that benefits outweigh everything, providing a valuable educational experience but also ensuring all have great fun! Oh, and some fancy chocolates!

The Spelling Bee allows all to compete in a supportive environment and believe me, our audience were so supportive and happy, that it proves, brain activity and excitement is just as stimulating as a football or netball match! This meant that the adrenaline of our contestants and our wonderful audience was matched! Friendly rivalry is created and we all interact and cultivate friendships. In many ways, we all won, as we are all developing a range of comprehension skills, including an ability to handle pressure, enhance memory, and boost confidence levels, all of which are highly beneficial during secondary education.

Our next Spelling Bee Competition is on **Tuesday, 19th December 2017**, and even if you do not win, it is important to remember that just taking part will result in a range of benefits from higher confidence to better vocabulary. Oh, and some fancy chocolates!

Funny moment from competition:

'Can you spell overreact?'

'OF COURSE I CAN, I'M NOT STUPID!'

Year 7 Elite Reading Club with Mrs Stewardson

In October 2017, all Year 7 pupils sat a reading test, which generated a reading age for them. The aim is for a pupil's reading age to be in line with or higher than their chronological age. Reading is a fundamental life skill, which all pupils should seek to develop both within school and at home because it has been suggested that "teens who choose to pick up a book for pleasure are more likely to succeed in life." (*The Telegraph*).

We have many superb readers in Year 7, and we are introducing a number of different intervention strategies over the coming weeks to encourage all pupils to keep striving on with their reading. As part of these interventions, we have launched our first ever **Elite Reading Club**, which will take place every Monday during DEAR. Every half-term the pupils will read a more advanced text with a member of staff who has a real passion for reading. The first session is being run by **Mrs Stewardson**, who has chosen to read *Bog Child* by Siobhan Dowd with the group – a hard-hitting novel about the troubles in Northern Ireland during the 1980s. The 13 pupils involved all have a reading age of 15+ and are excited to get started on the text.



Key aim – That every child should read for at least 30 minutes every day at home. Please can parents / carers monitor that this is done.

Mrs Buckle (Assistant headteacher – Literacy)

Cardinal Wiseman Christmas Fair

Students/Staff: KS4 Lunch

Parents/Carers: 3.10 – 5pm



On Wednesday 13th December 2017, Year 9 IT and Year 10 Business students ICT will be holding a Christmas Fair. We will be selling food, sweets and everything “Christmassy”. All the money raised by Year 9 students will be going to Birmingham Children’s Hospital. This will be the first opportunity for parents/carers to meet the Young Enterprise Company from Year 10, *Pura Cultura* and their range of products. Remember if you want to buy something, you must bring money! Santa’s Secret Surprise, along with other companies, will be selling high quality, handmade Christmas presents. In addition, music will be performed after school in the main hall until 5pm. We hope to bring out your Christmas spirit!

Tamara McGonigle

Year 9 IT

Dates for your diary		
Week beginning 27 th November	Year 7 and 8 Exam Week	
Thur 30 th Nov 6-7pm	Year 11 Awards Evening (this is for the families of pupils who were in Year 11 last year).	
1 st December	Winter Warmer Fundraising Event	
Starting 4 th December	Year 11 Exams	
Fri 8 th December	Feast of the Immaculate Conception. Retreat Day – supporting the local community. School finishes at 2.20pm.	
Wed 20 th December	Wiseman Day – pupils will learn about a range of PSHE topics. School finishes at 2.20pm.	
Fri 22 nd Dec	End of Term– school finishes at 12.30pm.	
Mon 8 th Jan	Term starts	

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