



# CARDINAL WISEMAN

CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Newsletter Issue 45 21 December 2018

## LEADERSHIP UPDATE

As we come to the end of the term we reflect back on all the wonderful achievements of our pupils.

This term has been particularly exciting as the school has grown in numbers, both staff and pupils, compared to this time last year and it has been a privilege to welcome so many new families into our educational community. This term has been a term of great success and celebration and it was lovely to welcome over 700 people to our awards ceremony this week. The awards ceremony this year was extra special as we were joined by Mrs Louise Bayliss-Bennett OBE, Deputy Lieutenant to Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant of the West Midlands. Mrs Bayliss-Bennett met with a number of staff and students and also gave out a number of awards on the evening.

Christmas is an extra special time for all of our families and our Chaplaincy team have been busy helping our pupils reflect on the importance of this event in the liturgical year. All of our students have had the opportunity to reflect and write prayers for their individual intentions as well as take part in a number of prayer services leading up to Christmas. A highlight this week has been the school choir performance of a number of carols in aid of our Malawi charity and Myton Hospice.

We hope you enjoy reading our newsletters and would like to take this opportunity to remind you that we also publish a number of key achievements via our Twitter feed @OfficialWiseman.

We would like to extend our warmest wishes to you, your families and your loved ones for a happy and peaceful Christmas and may the light of Christ shine in your lives as we welcome in the New Year.

The Leadership Team

**School will reopen for all pupils on  
Wednesday 9 January 2019**

We wish you all a peaceful and happy Christmas

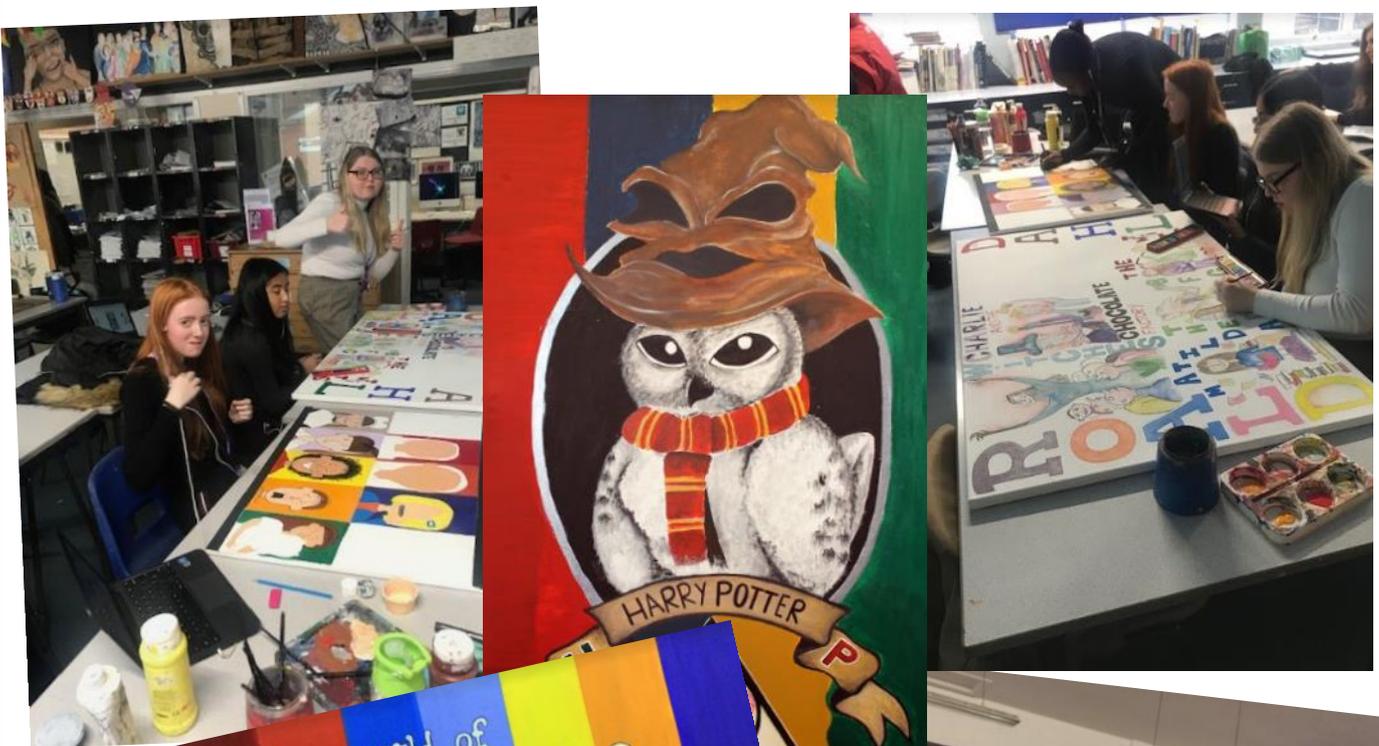


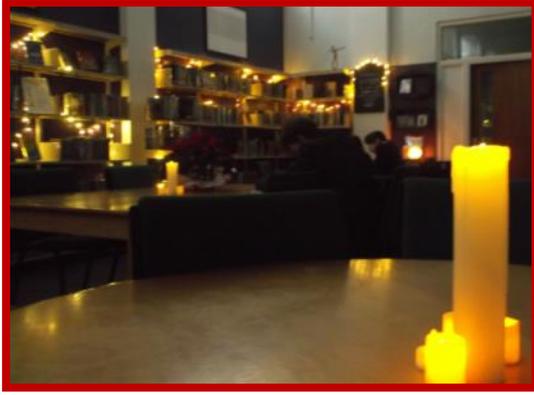
**A level Art students have spent their Enrichment time producing art work for St John Fisher Primary School's library.**

**They were asked to create art work relating to popular children's books. The students went above and beyond to produce outstanding pieces of work.**

**Mrs Williams and all the staff from St John Fisher are delighted with the work, time and effort put into this project.**

**A big 'thank you' to our A Level students.**





## *It's Christmas!*

Miss McClelland treated 10G to an end of term festive meal which was enjoyed by all.



During the last week of term the library was candlelit everyday after school.

Students read and did homework in a Christmassy atmosphere with LED candles, fairy lights and lanterns, listening to the choir of King's College Cambridge.



### **Cardinal Wiseman students celebrated Christmas and their Polish heritage with parents and staff on Tuesday**

The students hosted a Polish carol concert, performing songs and readings in the Polish language.

The concert was also linked to the centenary of Polish independence which was celebrated last month. There was a display about the anniversary and local history and the occasion was enjoyed by all.



Cardinal Wiseman Catholic School

# Carol Service



The Christmas Carol Service was truly uplifting. Our wonderful students worked tirelessly to prepare the service.

The performance was so outstanding that it was decided to repeat part of it at staff briefing on Friday morning in the Chapel and Year 7 was treated to it during the morning. We have some very talented young people!

Proceeds from the refreshments served will be going towards the Malawi Trust and Myton Hospice.



The school has been asked by Bernard Longley, Archbishop of Birmingham, to pass on the letter below and to bring the

***Statement on the Settlement Scheme for EU Citizens***

to the attention of all those who can make use of it.

The statement is available on the Cardinal Wiseman School website in the News section.



CATHOLIC BISHOPS' CONFERENCE  
OF ENGLAND AND WALES

Dear Brother Bishops,

As you will be aware, Brexit is causing uncertainty and concern to many EU citizens living in the UK. Both clergy and laity alike share this uncertainty and concern.

Apart from those who are uncertain about their future, others are inevitably in a state of ignorance and unaware that Brexit will affect their immigration status.

In March 2019, the Government is due to launch a Settlement Scheme. All EU citizens living in the UK will be required to make an application if they wish to remain here after Brexit. However, Irish citizens will not be required to apply as their rights are separately protected.

Many parishioners, priests and religious in our Dioceses will be affected.

Please see the enclosed statement setting out necessary information. I hope that you will be able to circulate this widely, including to your Vicar General, Director of Education, Vicar for Religious, together with those responsible for social action in the Diocese.

With my prayers and best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

+ Paul McAleenan

Bishop Paul McAleenan  
Lead Bishop for Migration and Asylum  
Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales



## Annual Awards Evening - Rewarding Excellence

On Monday 17 December the school hosted its annual awards evening where we celebrated the achievements of our students at all key stages from Year 7 through to last year's Year 13 leavers.

Guests were greeted by a string quartet upon arrival and this year, as well as Directors of the Romero Board, our guest of honour was Louise Bennett-Bayliss OBE, the Deputy Lieutenant representing her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant of the West Midlands. Ms Bennett-Bayliss also presented the final special awards of the evening.

The evening was a great success and in his closing speech Mr Leverage praised the students that were being celebrated as well as their parents for their support. He also thanked the staff of Cardinal Wiseman for their dedication and encouragement.





## A Christmas Message from the Bishop of Birmingham

**Rt. Rev. William Kenney CP**

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December, 2018

### To the Schools of the Southern Pastoral Area

Dear Friends

Christmas is a time of year that most of us look forward to: gatherings of family and friends, presents, good food and family traditions are all part of the mix.

We may not always think of why we do all of this, or perhaps just pay lip-service to the fact that we are celebrating the birth of Jesus, who is both God and human. Yet it is this which is important.

The things that we do at Christmas are all very human things which need other people. It is almost impossible to think of celebrating Christmas without some other people being there. In other words, at Christmas we celebrate that we are the people we are. That can sound rather obvious and yet it is something that most of us need to hear every so often.

All of us have things that we do not really like about ourselves and which we would wish were different. We think that other people might not like us as much if they know about these things or that we may not be loved as much. Christmas is a time of year when we know that we are loved by family and friends, even if we are not perfect.

To give someone a present is to say that we love them, and that we want them. I am not thinking of the sort of present we may get as some type of advertising, which is not really a present at all, but those presents which we receive from people we know well. A present also says that we need the other person, that they are important in our lives.

Jesus received presents from the three kings when they came to Bethlehem. This is why in some countries the 6<sup>th</sup> January, the Feast of the Three Kings coming to visit Jesus, and not Christmas Day is the day when people give presents. The King's presents had all of the above qualities and they also said something about the person who he was; that he was a King and that he would suffer, but like all human beings he was a valuable person.

Let's remember as we celebrate Christmas and receive presents from people that we also are valuable, and that we need other people. Let us kneel in front of the crib, and remember that God became as we are, and that we, because of that, are also just a little like God. That is what a present means.

A happy and holy Christmas

(Rt. Rev.) William Kenney CP.

