



Newsletter Issue 118

18 December 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Seasons greetings to all. After what has been the most difficult term of our childrens' lives, we are close to the celebration of Christmas, and the sense of hope that it brings for the year ahead. 2020 has shown the power of education and how important the place of schools are in the community, and I hope that 2021 brings the joy and success that we have willed for this year.

As you may have seen in the news, the Department for Education has requested a staggered start for schools in January. **This will mean that only Years 10-13 will be onsite from 6 January, with all other year groups returning from 11 January.** Provision will be made for the children of key workers and we will update you via ParentMail if we get any further updates.

Christmas is also a time for reflection, and I would like to pay tribute to those staff who are leaving us for new posts, or very well-deserved retirement. Mr O'Brien and Mrs Taberner, from RE and Sociology respectively, leave to take up roles elsewhere and Mr Molloy and Mrs Scott celebrate their retirement after many, many years supporting the development and journey of thousands of our students and we wish them joy and happiness in their next adventures. Finally, Mr Leverage leaves us to take up his role as CSEL at another group of Catholic schools in the Midlands. He has had a transformative impact on our school and I am sure the students in his care in his next position will benefit from his aspirations and belief in a similar way.

I hope that you all have a wonderful Christmas, however you celebrate, and in the best circumstances that you can, and I look forward to seeing all of our children back for a new year and a new start in 2021.

Merry Christmas, and God bless.

Mr Everett

Important - Revised Start Dates

Year 10 - 13 to return to school on Wednesday 6 January

Years 7 - 9 to return on Monday 11 January



024 7661 7231



admin@cardinalwiseman.coventry.sch.uk



www.cardinalwiseman.coventry.sch.uk



KEY STAGE 3 NEWS

A Message from Mr Alcott - Head of Key Stage 3

So, we reach the end of what has been an unusual and challenging term to say the least.

I want to thank all KS3 students for their continued support of the school's attendance and behaviour standards in what I know has been a challenging start back to school. I know that working in Year bubbles, in the same classroom day after day, can be testing and I appreciate your resolve, respect and continued understanding as we work hard to keep all of our students and staff safe.

I want to thank all KS3 teachers, tutors and Heads of Year for their tireless work to support you all. I wish you all a very merry Christmas with family and friends, and look forward to your safe return in January. Enjoy the rest.

A Message from Mr Forinton and the Year 7 team

I would just like to say a huge well done to ALL Year 7 students for what has been a successful first term. You have all settled in remarkably well after missing the end of your time at primary school in Year 6.

You have all shown lots of resilience and enthusiasm which has been highlighted with the best attendance of all the year groups - lets hope this continues for the rest of the year!

It has also been lovely to drop into some of your lessons and witness the amazing work you are all capable of.

I would like to wish you and your families a relaxing and merry Christmas, see you in January!

A Message from Mr Nagle - Head of Year 8

What a year!

This has been a very challenging time for us all; you have been exemplary in your determination to overcome each and every barrier that has been put in front of you.

Isolation, social distancing and remote learning, Year 8 have all demonstrated maturity, determination and perseverance.

The Year 8 team wishes you and your loved ones a merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

A Message from Miss Lindsay - Head of Year 9

Year 9 have had a wonderful start to this academic year so far, they have all shown great determination and resilience by continuing to come to school during this unprecedented time.

As students break up for the well deserved holiday, I wish you all a safe and happy Christmas and New Year. I look forward to welcoming Year 9 back in 2021 as they go on to choose their GCSE options.





KEY STAGE 4 NEWS

A Message from Miss Greenway - Head of Key Stage 4

As we move into the Christmas holiday, I would like to send a message of thanks to all staff, pupils and parents of Key Stage 4. This year has been a turbulent one to say the least, and we are so proud of the way in which pupils have handled and coped with all of the changes that have been made to their normal way of working.

I would like to thank all staff for their hard work and reassurances that they are giving to our pupils and also thank you to carers and parents for your continued support of the school and your children.

I wish everyone a restful and healthy Christmas

A Message from Mr Lambert - Head of Year 10

In these difficult times I have been very impressed by the maturity and resilience shown by our Year 10 students. The majority of lessons I have had the pleasure of visiting have been calm, focused and positive in terms of learning and engagement. As a year group, we have attended well, behaved better than any year prior, and have generally adapted very well to a 'new normal'.

I couldn't be prouder of those of you who have stepped up to the challenge that this year has thrown at you. Your resilience and drive is inspiring. You are a credit to yourselves and your families.

Enjoy a well deserved break. merry Christmas, and my absolute best wishes of good fortune and good health for the New Year!

A Message from Mrs Taylor - Head of Year 11

It has been a positive start to Year 11 for all of our students and wonderful to see so much learning taking place. Although there have been challenging times this term, with periods of isolation, Year 11 have adapted well to new ways of learning and should be commended for their resilience and positive attitudes.

I hope that you all have a very merry Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year with your loved ones. God bless and see you all in the New Year.





A Message from the Sixth Form Team

It has been a very busy Autumn term - September seems like a distant memory. Despite this having been a difficult and challenging time for everyone, the sixth form students have adapted to the changes and settled back into their learning after a long time away from the classroom.

The Sixth Form has been fortunate to have come through this last term relatively unscathed. Though some students and their families have been affected by COVID 19, how blessed we are to have reached this point in the year with our families safe and well; that really is the best Christmas present we could wish for.

It has been a real pleasure to start to get to know the new Year 12s; many of them are already impressing their teachers with their drive to excel. A number of them are already enrolled on Pathways programmes to a range of professions through the Universities of Warwick and Birmingham. We can already see that we have students who are going to achieve the highest grades in their courses. Students may not always realise how privileged they are to have access to a high quality education at no cost to their families, having had the experience of being deprived of their education they are now able to appreciate how precious education is.

Year 13 students have been busy completing their applications to University, applying to study a range of courses across the sector. We wish them well with their applications and are excited to see where the next step in their education will take them. Other students have really engaged with our careers programme and are beginning their journeys into apprenticeships next year.

Unfortunately, COVID has impacted on our planned programme of events to introduce the Sixth Form to our Year 11 students... but don't worry, we have rescheduled everything for January 2021. In January all Year 11 will meet with the Sixth Form Team and some sixth form students to ask questions about studying, support and 'life' in the sixth form. At the end of January, Year 11 students will be able to participate in some 'taster lessons' and have an opportunity to try some sixth form subjects for real.

Very best wishes to you and your families for a very happy Christmas and a wonderful New Year,

Mr Kingshott, Ms Duffy, Mrs Campbell and Mrs Brown



Romero Child Charter: Creative Arts Projects



MAC PROJECT
MUSIC AND CHANGE

FREE ADMISSION EXPERT SUPPORT

MUSIC BUSINESS, PERFORMANCE & TECHNOLOGY

PERSONAL GROWTH THROUGH MUSIC

THE EXCITING MAC PROJECT OFFERS A NEW ROUTE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE, INSPIRING THEM TO MAKE POSITIVE GROWTH THROUGH AN IMMERSIVE RELATIONSHIP WITH MUSIC BUSINESS, PERFORMANCE & TECHNOLOGY.

WITH EXPERT SUPPORT AND MENTORING, YOUNG PEOPLE WILL LEARN IMPORTANT NEW SKILLS, INSPIRING AMBITION & POTENTIAL.

THOSE AGED 11-18 YRS WILL...

- LEARN TO CREATE MUSIC
- LEARN ABOUT THE MUSIC BUSINESS
- INCREASE THEIR CONFIDENCE LEVELS
- BE INSPIRED TO GROW AS INDIVIDUALS
- DEVELOP EMPATHY AND SOCIAL SKILLS
- DISCOVER ROUTES TO EMPLOYMENT

WHAT IS INCLUDED:

- 6 MONTHS OF SUPPORT
- WEEKLY 1-2-1 AND GROUP SESSIONS

• MUSIC •
• MINDFULNESS •
• MENTORSHIP •

PRESENTED BY COVENTRY BOYS & GIRLS CLUB

CBGC, 50 Whitefriars St, Coventry, CV1 2DS
admin@cbgc.org.uk | 02476 224975 | www.cbgc.org.uk

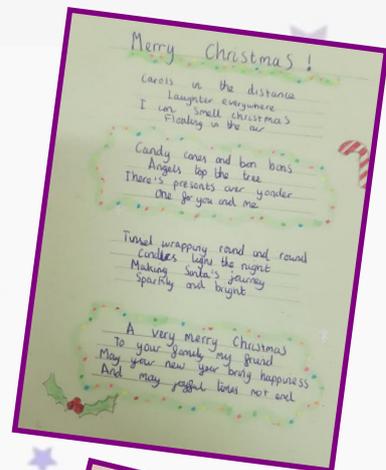
As part of our enrichment and character education programme, a group of Year 9 and 10 boys have been working with Coventry Boys Group on a project called 'Music and Change'.

These sessions have been allowing pupils to look at community issues, personal journeys and life skills in order to support them in their future successes.

The sessions have been incredibly successful with the pupils really engaging with its aims and we are really looking forward to hearing some of their music creations in the new year.

As part of our Romero Child Charter, Year 8 pupils have been working with Miss Greenway to create some amazing Christmas cards that will be sent out to the local community as part of their morality and relationship work in RE.

The level of creativity is incredible and we hope that the receiver finds them as joyful as we did.





End of Term Whole School Christmas Services



On Thursday afternoon, we at Cardinal Wiseman, concluded our Advent celebrations.

Our school Chaplain, Fr Peter, celebrated the Mass.

Mrs Quinn introduced the Mass and gave thanks for the dedicated service to the school by Mr Leverage, Mrs Scott and Mr Molloy who are all leaving at the end of term.



On the last day of term, the school was treated to our staff choir streamed live into classrooms. They sang traditional Christmas carols to get us all in the mood for a peaceful and reflective holiday.



Bumper Hamper Success!

During the month of November, we launched a House food hamper challenge to help support some of our families during the Christmas period.

The response and support was overwhelming from staff, pupils and the community and this year we were able to issue the largest hampers to date.

It was lovely to also be able to make faith links with the Ar-Rahman Academy who supported our collection this year and we thank them very much.

The winning house was Veritas and the competition was very tight between 7G, 9F and 10E who collected an amazing amount for us.

We will also be collecting items after the Christmas holidays so that our support can continue into the new year. If, like many of us, you find yourself over indulging during the festive period and have non perishable items that you would like to donate, it would be greatly appreciated. Items can be dropped into the main reception for the attention of Miss Greenway.



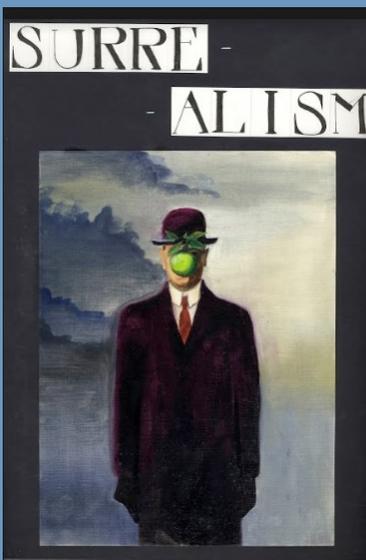
Ahead of 2021 showcasing Coventry as the City of Culture, the Romero Academy's Christmas wish to you comes through the Coventry Carol, which ties in our city's heritage with the message of Christmastide. Please select the link to view our pupil choirs across the eight schools. Happy Christmas!

[Christmas Carol 2020](#)

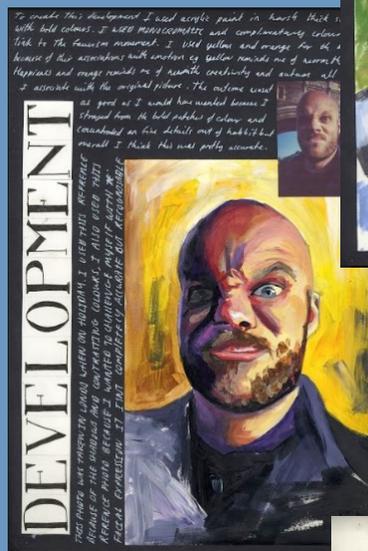
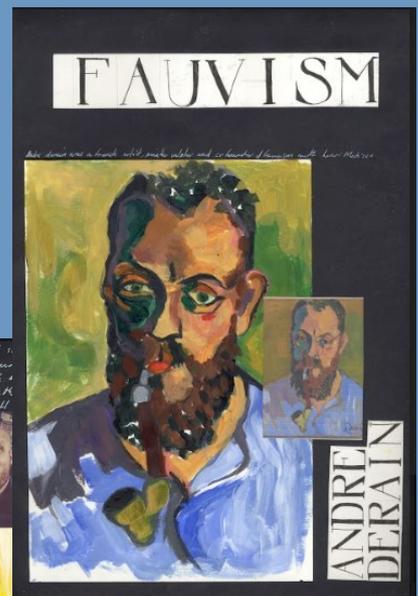
FEATURED ARTIST GALLERY

Daniella Hall in Year 10 has been selected as 'Artist of the Term', for her exceptional start to her GCSE.

These examples of her work demonstrate a small selection of her Strange Folk project. In this she has explored both historical and contemporary artists, combining this with her own individual thoughts and ideas.



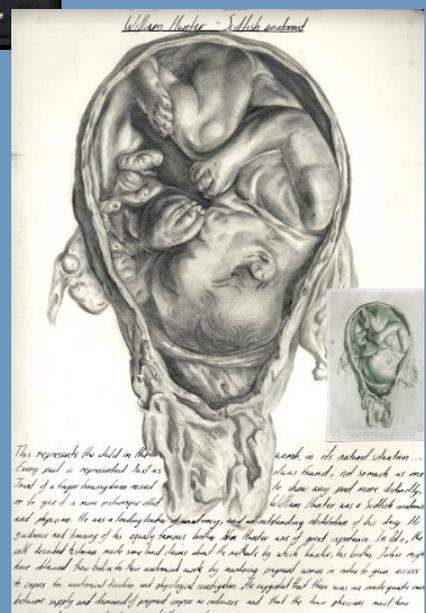
She has used oil paints to explore artists within her art history study of different art movements, such as the colourful, complementary colour blends of Fauvism and the unusual and often abstract compositions of Surrealism.



She is experimental in her chosen use of materials, mixing pen with hand sanitiser to create blended portraits and combining a range of textures and impasto painting techniques inspired by William Turner's atmospheric seascapes.



Incorporating her interest in medicine and anatomy, she researched early Renaissance artists such as Leonardo Da Vinci and Scottish anatomist William Hunter, and produced highly detailed pencil studies.



Miss McClelland

Times for Romero Schools' Parish Masses

Please check the details with your local church as many are taking bookings or allocating tickets for each Mass.
Please do not just turn up this year!

Corpus Christi

Christmas Eve 5.00pm Family and 9.00pm
Christmas Day 10.00am

Sacred Heart

Christmas Eve 4.00pm and 7.00pm
Christmas Day 10.30am

St John Fisher (St John Fisher, St Gregory's)

Christmas Eve 5.00pm, 7.00pm and 9.00pm
Christmas Day 9.00am and 11.00am

St Patrick (St Patrick's, Cardinal Wiseman, SS Peter and Paul)

Christmas Eve 5.00pm and 7.00pm
Christmas Day 9.00am and 10.30am

St Elizabeth (Good Shepherd)

Christmas Eve 6:30pm (Children & Families Mass)
Christmas Day 9:15am and 11:15am

The God Who Speaks: Bishop Peter Brignall (Wrexham) has created *At the Manger: Family Crib Services for the Eight Day of Christmas*. You may wish to use this with your own family during the Christmas Octave and to share the link with families.

godwhospeaks.uk/at-the-manger-family-celebrations-for-the-eight-days-of-christmas



Christmas Jumper Day!

On Friday 11 December, staff donned Christmas jumpers and added a bit of sparkle to our day. It all helped to raise money for the NSPCC.

Over £130 was raised.

Happy Christmas!



ATTENDANCE

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

We would just like to thank each parent and guardian who continue to support us with attendance and phone in your child's absences each day. As a school we are extremely grateful for this.

Just a reminder that if anyone in your household is displaying any COVID symptoms (continuous cough, high temperature or loss of taste and smell) then please isolate as a household and organise a COVID test. Please inform school if anybody in the household has a test.

All results negative or positive need to be forwarded on to attendance@cardinalwiseman.coventry.sch.uk

We understand the cases are rising throughout the UK but we are ensuring Cardinal Wiseman is following all procedures and is working closely with Public Health England and the Local Authority.

Thank you again for all your support and have a peaceful and safe Christmas.



attendance

The 12 Online Safety Tips of Christmas

FOR CHILDREN WITH NEW DEVICES

Christmas is almost upon us once again, and soon some lucky children will be excitedly tearing the wrapping off a new mobile phone, tablet or games console. For some of them, it will be the first time they've owned a device that connects them to the online world. Even for older children, a new device means new corners of the digital landscape to explore – and, unfortunately, new risks to be aware of.

We've put together our top tips so that you can guide your young ones in enjoying their new digital gifts safely and responsibly throughout the year to come. Merry Christmas!



1. ALWAYS SET A PASSWORD



If your child's new device has a password protection feature, use it! It'll help to keep their private information safe and will deny others access to their device without permission. Your children's passwords should be something memorable to them – but something which other people can't guess (it's also a good idea for parents to write it down in case it gets forgotten!).

2. SET UP 'PARENTAL CONTROLS'



This really is an essential when your child gets a new device, so they're protected from the outset. Most phones, tablets and consoles allow you to customise their settings to determine which games your child can play, how they can communicate (and who with), what content they can access and so on. It will give you peace of mind that they can't inadvertently do something they shouldn't.

3. PAY ATTENTION TO AGE RATINGS



One of the first things children want to do with any new device is play games and explore apps. Before they download anything or install a new console game, check its age rating. Many popular games and apps have content that's not suitable for younger ages. The safest long-term solution is to adjust the device's settings so they can only download and use games and apps appropriate for their age.

4. KEEP NUMBERS AND DEVICES PRIVATE



Make sure your child understands that they should never share their phone number with someone they don't know or accept a friend request from them. They should also appreciate that it's a good idea to mainly keep their device out of sight, never lend it to a stranger, and never put it down somewhere that other people could steal it or take it to use without asking.

5. HAVE 'THE MONEY CONVERSATION'



Before your children start using their new device in earnest, talk to them about in-app purchases and other ways that money might be spent through their device. Once they understand, you might want to agree on a spending limit and reassure them that they can come to you if they're uncertain, or if they have made a purchase by accident.

6. DISCOURAGE DEVICE DEPENDENCY



Of course, children who've just got a new device will naturally want to spend as much time on it as possible. But whether they're zapping bad guys, watching videos or connecting with friends, it's easy for them to get attached very quickly. Gently remind them that having family time, going outdoors and getting some exercise are still fun, too. And the device will be there when they get back.

7. EXPLAIN SECURE WIFI NETWORKS



Your home WiFi is protected by a password that only your family knows, whereas public networks (like those found in coffee shops, for example) can be accessed by anyone. It's important that your child grasps this difference because, if they're using a portable device on an unsecured network, then a hacker could access their personal information without them even knowing.

8. LIMIT SCREEN TIME



Using a device for too long, especially just before bed, can interfere with a child's sleep quality and reduce their concentration and overall enthusiasm. It might be helpful to agree on certain times of day when they don't use their device. Most devices' settings let you specify a screen-time limit, helping your child to stay fresh and focused in order to perform well at school.

9. ONLY PAIR WITH KNOWN BLUETOOTH DEVICES



Your child may want to connect to another device via Bluetooth, so they can listen to music wirelessly or share pictures and videos with nearby friends. But if they use Bluetooth to link with a device that they don't know, they're at risk of a stranger being able to see their personal information or having someone transmit a virus onto their device.

10. TURN LOCATION SETTINGS OFF



It's safest to disable the device's location services (if it's a portable device) so your child doesn't inadvertently make other people aware of where they are. You can usually do this via the device's privacy control settings. Turning location settings off not only means your child's whereabouts can't be tracked by others, it also significantly extends battery life.

11. STAY AWARE OF THE SURROUNDINGS



It's quite common to see adults not looking where they're going while engrossed in their phone. Children are even more easily distracted. In some cases, children have been hit by cars or cyclists because they were staring at their device and lost track of where they were. Remind your child that screens and walking don't mix. If they need to use their device, they should stop in a safe place first.

12. BE THERE IF THEY NEED TO TALK



Even when you've made a device as secure as you can, there's still a possibility of your child seeing something that bothers them, or someone they don't know attempting to contact them. If this happens, listen to their concerns, empathise and reassure them. Once they've explained what happened, you can decide if you should take further action like blocking or reporting another user.



NOS National Online Safety®
#WakeUpWednesday





Coventry Early Help and Family Hubs



Here to Help

Early Help is a range of services working together to help children, young people (0 – 19) and their families. We can provide this support through the Family Hubs and within the local community.

We aim to reach children, young people and families when the need first emerges; and to help and support when we can have the greatest impact.



Early Help

0800 8870545

Emergency Duty Team

024 7683 2222

between 5pm – 8.30am and during weekends

Multi-agency Safeguarding Hub MASH **024 7678 8555**



Earlyhelp@coventry.gov.uk



www.coventry.gov.uk/familyhubs

www.coventry.gov.uk/applyearlyhelp



Find Family Hubs on facebook



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