

**Cardinal Wiseman
Catholic School**
Part of The Romero Catholic Academy

Newsletter

Saint John Paul II Feast Day 22 October

Newsletter Issue 110

16 October 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are now entering week eight of this academic year; in some ways, it seems to have flown by but in others, when I consider how much has been achieved and how the school has adapted to remain open, I sometimes cannot believe that we have achieved so much in such a short space of time. Once again, credit must go to most of our students who handle themselves in a mature and sensible manner and understand why the school has had to adapt and change in the way that it has.

We have been particularly concerned with the mental health of our students this half term and are keen to continue to support where possible. Please keep in touch and let us know via form tutors or Heads of Year if you have concerns and we will do all that we can to address them and keep our students safe, happy and confident.

Although we do all that we can to safeguard our students in school, once students leave the gate, it is very difficult to track them. We have had communication from residents on Frankwell Drive and Minton Drive about students being boisterous, unruly, and a small number who have been confrontational. Please can I ask for your support in speaking to your children about getting home quickly and safely during these times, not just because of being in groups, but also as the dark nights draw in. Similarly, if your child gets the bus from Potters Green shops, can you please emphasise the need to be respectful to those who own businesses there and how to keep themselves safe as they queue for the buses.

Finally, I would like to thank all students, staff, alumni and the community at large for the send off given to Gordon Rutherford as he celebrated his retirement after starting at Cardinal Wiseman in 1977. It was a truly fantastic day with so many memories being shared. Gordon has had a profound impact on so many of us and I hope that you continue to share your memories and stories so that we can pass them onto him.

Have a wonderful weekend.

God bless.

Mr Everett



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Gordon Rutherford ~ 'The Legend'

It was with great sadness that we said goodbye to a very much loved and respected, long-serving member of staff. Gordon Rutherford started his teaching career at Cardinal Wiseman in 1977 as a French teacher and was also a Form Tutor and a Year Head. For the last three years he was a member of the support staff playing an important role as part of the behaviour team. He retired on Monday 12 October which was also his 65th birthday.

As a teacher, Gordon will be remembered for many things including his passion for not only teaching, but inspiring students to believe in themselves and to follow their dreams. Colleagues will remember him for his great wit and sense of humour, always there to support them in any way he could, a very caring compassionate man.



On his last day Gordon received an abundance of cards and gifts from staff and a guard of honour, waving international flags, was formed either side of the school entrance as he left for the last time.

Gordon's retirement and service to the school were recognised at the annual Romero Mass which was held at Sacred Heart Church on Tuesday 13 October. The Mass also celebrated the retirement of Kath Farrugia (RE teacher) who retired at the end of the Summer Term, Bernice Scott (Finance Officer) and Jason Molloy (Design and Technology teacher) who are both retiring at Christmas.

One ex-student described Mr Rutherford as 'a legend' and I think anyone who knows him would agree. Another ex-student, Caroline, wrote, "You believed in me from the start and told me I could be anything I wanted to be. On my GCSE results day I achieved A*/A grades and was going to leave school and secure a job. Mr Rutherford went mad at me and told me to stay on and take 'A' Levels and to aspire to my dream to be a solicitor. I went on to achieve my dream goal and cannot thank Mr Rutherford enough for not only being a fantastic teacher and Year Head but for believing, caring and mentoring".

The Cardinal Wiseman family will be keeping Gordon in their prayers. We wish him a long, happy, healthy retirement with his wife Ann. They have a shop called 'Cat in the Hat Curiosities' on London Road and I'm sure if any ex-students or staff pop in they will receive a very warm welcome.



Launch of our KS3 and KS4 Rewards and the 'Romero Child Charter'

Cardinal Wiseman School has re-launched our student rewards systems this week.

Pupils are rewarded in three ways:



* Positive points are awarded for showing our school values of **Knowledge, Ambition, Respect and Resilience**. The top five pupils for each value will receive a prize during celebration assemblies at the end of each half term

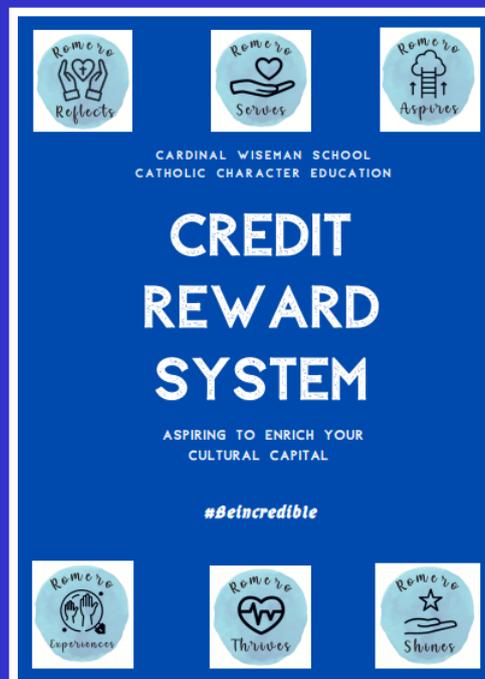
* **Attendance** - those pupils with 100% attendance and those that have made significant progress, will receive a reward in celebration assemblies each term.

* Character Education Credits -

this week the Romero Academy launched the 'Romero Child Charter' containing six strands : *Reflects, Serves, Aspires, Experiences, Thrives and Shines*.

This is to help our pupils enrich their cultural capital through activities outside of the classroom.

When pupils display being a Romero Child they are awarded a credit. These credits will then be banked towards a scale of rewards that will be awarded to recognise these achievements.



Next week will see our first celebration assemblies and we look forward to sharing these successes with you.



KEY STAGE 3 NEWS

Are you a 'librocubicularist'? (someone who reads in bed)

Year 7 Library Competition



Recommend a good book for bedtime and you could win a mini bedtime reading kit including a book, torch, mini hot water bottle and a hot chocolate sachet!

Students can either email the title of the book and a short review to Miss Gould or write and draw a review and hand it to their form tutor to bring to the library. Winners will be announced during the next half term.



KEY STAGE 4 NEWS

Year 11 Exams - Important

With the recent announcement that GCSE exams this summer will be pushed back by three weeks, we need to request that parents make sure that their child is available until 12 July. We are anticipating that the exams will end around 2 July, however we have to factor in 'contingency' days.

The exam office has asked that families do not book any holidays or events before 12 July so that we can ensure that pupils are able to sit their full suite of exams.

If you wish to discuss any concerns please contact Mrs Taylor, Head of Year 11 or Miss Greenway, Head of Key Stage 4.

Year 10 Virtual Mass

The theme for the Year 10 virtual Mass on Thursday was "Life in Christ". This theme invited students to think about how to sustain faith and keep balance in life. This is especially important as Year 10 embark on their GCSE courses and navigate the difficult and stressful times they find themselves in.

10A wrote the bidding prayers used during the service which was celebrated by Father Peter.



As part of our sixth form's Aspirations Programme, we support and encourage students in applying to the top universities in the UK. Ms Duffy met with a group of Year 12 students last week to highlight the many opportunities which would help our students stand out from the crowd.

Available opportunities include: Pathways to Law, Pathways to Banking and Finance and Pathways to Engineering at Warwick University. This is a two year programme which gives students practical advice about university and the workplace in a particular sector, with the overall aim of inspiring students and making them feel more confident about their future.

In addition, students interested in pursuing a career in medicine have the opportunity to receive mentoring from two of our ex students who are currently in their fifth and final year of degrees in Medicine. Students will be given support with their applications to medical school as well as ongoing mentoring to support their A Level studies.

Finally, Ms Duffy discussed the Sutton Trust Summer Schools Programme which enables students to experience what university life is really like.



Gold and Silver DofE Day Walk

Sixteen 6th Formers undertaking Direct Gold and eight Year 10 students finishing Bronze and starting their Silver Duke of Edinburgh Award, completed a day walk around the Berkswell area last Saturday.

They all worked extremely well as a team and even though navigation mistakes were made they figured out what had gone wrong and corrected themselves. All groups completed the walk in around five hours, with Gold students walking about 15 kilometres and Silver walking around 12.5 kilometres.

The next challenge for both groups will be a practice weekend in the spring in the Peak District.



FEATURED ARTIST GALLERY

This week's artist of the week is Year 13 Art student **Sade Kole Trujillo**.

Sade was inspired by the work of artists Henry Moore and Paul Shanghai. Sade is developing ideas for her Personal Investigation, based on the theme 'The Natural World'. She is exploring the integral role of water for all natural life.





CATERING SERVICE

Week Two				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Lincolnshire sausage and Bean Casserole Crusty Bread, Roasted new potatoes	FireCracker Meatballs Steamed veggie rice	Classic Lasagne Salad, Garlic Bread	Chicken Flatbread Salad, Spiced Bombay Potato	Battered Fish & Chips Baked Beans Or Mushy Peas
Veggie Enchilada Salsa, Apple 'Slaw, salad	Mixed Vegetable Pasta Bake	Vegetable lasagne Salad, Garlic Bread	Quorn Flatbread Salad, Spiced Bombay Potato	Cheese & Tomato Pizza Chips & beans
And There's More....				
Selected Sandwiches, Wraps, Baguettes	Selected Sandwiches, Wraps, Baguettes	Selected Sandwiches, Wraps, Baguettes	Selected Sandwiches, Wraps, Baguettes	Selected Sandwiches, Wraps, Baguettes
Assorted home-bakes & cakes,	Assorted home-bakes & cakes,	Assorted home-bakes & cakes,	Assorted home-bakes & cakes,	Assorted home-bakes & cakes,
If you have specific dietary requirements - Please ask for advice or Allergen information				

Weekly Menu



ATTENDANCE

Well done Year 7 who still have the best attendance!

- Best form group in Year 7 is 7A at 97.9%**
- Best form group in Year 8 is 8E at 95.7%**
- Best form group in Year 9 is 9B at 96.3%**
- Best form group in Year 10 is 10A at 96.4%**
- Best form group in Year 11 is 11E at 95.7%**

Please encourage all students to attend everyday as attendance is very important. It is crucial all absences are reported by 09:30am everyday. It is very important you keep school updated to ensure all absences are recorded correctly. If any COVID tests are taken in the household, please keep school updated. A copy of all results, positive or negative, must, please, be forwarded onto school via: attendance@cardinalwiseman.coventry.sch.uk

The attendance team are always available to help support families and students with their attendance, any concerns please contact us.

Attendance



Tech to Boost our Well-Being

This year's World Mental Health Day, on 10 October, has come at a time when our daily lives have changed considerably as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The past months have brought many challenges for our students, adapting to taking classes from home, with little contact with teachers and friends, and anxious about their futures; for workers whose livelihoods are threatened; for the vast number of people caught in poverty; and for people with mental health conditions, many experiencing even greater social isolation than before.

If you are concerned about your son or daughter's mental well-being then you might consider downloading one of these Apps.



MindShift™ CBT for iOS and Android uses scientifically proven strategies to help you relax and be mindful, develop effective ways of thinking, and take charge of your anxiety.



Calm Harm is an award-winning app developed for stem4 by Dr Krause. The focus is to help you learn to identify and manage your 'emotional mind' with positive impact. The app enables you to track your progress.



SuperBetter builds resilience - the ability to stay strong, motivated and optimistic even in the face of change and difficult challenges. SuperBetter unlocks your potential to overcome tough situations and achieve goals that matter the most.