

March 2023

Cardinal Allen Catholic High School



School Newsletter

Happy & Holy Easter

from Cardinal Allen



Also in this edition:

- Well done Bravo!
- Year 11 Theatre Trip
- Extra-Curricular news
- Department news
- Sports News

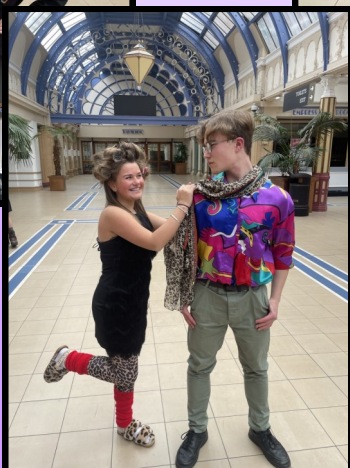


Well done Bravo!

A massive well done to everyone at BRAVO! performing *the Matilda Medley* at The Celebration of Music event at the Winter Gardens. You were all absolutely fantastic! You should be incredibly proud of yourselves!

Now here's to a lot of hard work and commitment ready for the full show on 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th July. Tickets will go on sale next month and will be available to purchase on ScoPay.

A massive thanks to Ms Ronson, Miss Marsden and Mr Johnson for helping on the trip! - Miss Roberts



Developing a Lifelong Love of Reading



5 Ways to Encourage Children to Read

1. **Make it enjoyable.** Whatever you plan to do, the most important thing is that reading doesn't become a grind or, even worse, a punishment. Children become readers when they find a book they enjoy and once books make them happy, they're hooked for life. Allow them to make their own choices supported by your guidance.
2. **Keep it varied.** Whether it's a novel or a poem, a history book or a science guide, a travelogue or a comic, diaries or jokes, a biography or a picture book, variety is the spice of reading life. Pop into the Aquinas Centre or use the Reading Cloud and see what you can find.
3. **Read out loud.** Consider sharing in the reading with your child and read some sections of a book they are particularly enjoying out loud to them. Try to include plenty of emotion into your reading and don't go too fast. This is a great way to share a story together.
4. **Discuss the books.** Chatting about books is a huge part of the reading experience and enjoyable for both you and your child. Ask questions to make them think about what they're reading and follow this up to check in.
5. **Audiobooks.** People learn in different ways and enjoy stories in different ways too so consider the use of audiobooks to get your child back into reading.

Finally...read yourself! Not only is that great for you, if your child sees you reading then they are much more likely to follow your lead.

Books on the Beach!

For World Book Day this year, classes immersed themselves in a castaway scenario evaluating texts which were important to them and explaining their reasoning. For our final activity, pupils came up with a quotation about the importance of reading for their 'message in a bottle'.

We had a reading relay and 'The Man With the Yellow Face' by Anthony Horowitz was read by our pupils and this was shared across the day in instalments.

WORLD
**BOOK
DAY**
2 MARCH 2023





Talking About Communication at Cardinal Allen



Expert trainers from **Talk The Talk** came into school on **Friday, 24th March** to work with students in **Year 7**.

Talk The Talk’s mission is to develop students’ oracy skills and their communication confidence to support positive interaction in all life situations and improved social outcomes.

Talk The Talk has trained over 115,000 students to be confident communicators across England and Wales since they began in 2013.

The **Talk About Communication** workshop is an exciting and engaging master class developing speaking and listening skills within a creative learning environment. The workshop provided numerous speaking opportunities and students were coached and supported throughout the day to deliver a structured two minute presentation, on a topic for which they have a genuine passion, to their peers.

‘We demonstrate that speaking out should be an experience that we CAN do – and one that is nowhere near as daunting as we might think. One of the keys to the success of the Talk The Talk programme is creating an environment of mutual respect with a supportive ethos so that when students stand up and voice their opinions, share their thoughts and present their ideas – their skill and confidence grows’

To learn more about Talk The Talk’s work, visit them at: www.talkthetalkuk.org

Why is building vocabulary so important?

MIND THE WORD GAP

The “Word Gap” is the **difference** between the extent of a child’s vocabulary when entering education and the expected vocabulary for their age. Research shows that it is not limited to those entering primary school, but continues into secondary education and beyond.

The word gap affects 49% of Year 1 and 43% of Year 7 pupils and it’s getting bigger



Percentage of teachers who say that Year 1 and Year 7 pupils have a limited vocabulary to the extent that it affects their learning (OUP)

The word gap is caused by a lack of reading and words learnt at home

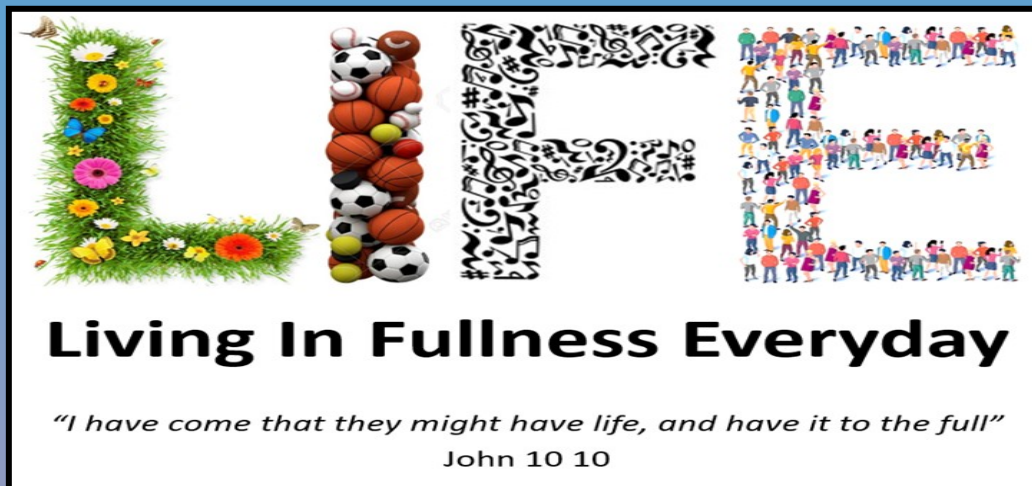
Year 11 Trip

The Year 11s visited the Liverpool Empire theatre to watch 'An Inspector Calls'. The performance was excellent and we all enjoyed seeing a GCSE set text performed.

The pupils' behaviour was exemplary and they were a credit to the school.

Thank you to Miss Marsden, Miss Roberts and Mr Johnson for supporting the visit.

Mrs Swift



This academic year, all of our Personal Development activities at Cardinal Allen have been brought together as our 'LIFE Strategy'.

Pupils in all years now study LIFE Learning which covers all of PSCHEE, and we retain our drop-down PSCHEE enrichment days alongside these lessons, but these are now our LIFE Enhancing Days. Year 11 have already enjoyed their LIFE Enhancing Day this year, and Year 10 have an exciting careers-focused day planned for the end of March. All year groups have one day a year which is themed to support an area of Personal Development and involves guest speakers who bring so much to our pupils to provide exciting and deep learning experiences.

Cardinal Allen has always prided itself on the variety of opportunities afforded to pupils beyond the classroom, from residential and day trips, to clubs and activities, there is always so much going on. As part of the LIFE strategy, we are referring to this side of school life as LIFE Enriching activities. We are pleased to share with you our new extra-curricular timetable of activities which we hope pupils will continue to embrace as we enter the summer term.

Get involved ... at Cardinal Allen

Extra-curricular timetable



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Jigsaw Club 12:20-1:50pm LRC Darts Club Lunchtime in the Community Room D of E Skills Club 3-4pm Rm 2 Eco Club 2:50-4pm Community Room Kindness Club 2:50-3:45pm LRC Year 7 Latin 3:05 – 3:35pm M1 Music GCSE Sessions 3:05-4:30pm Music Music Theory Club 3:05-4pm Music Slot Car Racing Club 2:50-4:30pm Rm 1 Homework Club 2:50-3:45pm M1 Year 7 Sports 3:05-4pm Sports Hall/Outside	Jigsaw Club 12:20-1:50pm LRC Darts Club Lunchtime in the Community Room D of E Award 2:50-4pm in the LRC Homework Club 2:50-3:45pm M1 Year 10 Bands 3:05-4pm Music	Year 7 Choir 8:30-9am in Music Wellbeing Wednesday Lunch and break LRC Petanque Lunch in Community Room Jigsaw Club 12:20-1:50pm LRC Bravo! 3:05-4:30pm Drama Studio Debate Club 2:50-3:30pm Rm 4 D of E Award 2:50-4pm in the LRC DT Club (food/materials) 3-4pm Rm 2 and 17 Product Design GCSE 3:05-4:05pm Rm 1 Homework Club 2:50-3:45pm M1 Year 8 Latin 2:50-3:20pm Rm 26 Year 9 and 10 Latin 2:50-3:30pm M1 Maths Games Club 3:05-4:05pm M6 Music GCSE Sessions 3:05-4:30pm Music Sign Language Club 3:05-3:45pm Rm25 Science Club (alternate weeks) 3:05-3:50pm Sc2 Year 8/9 Sports 2:50-4pm Sp Hall/Outside	GCSE Choir 8:30-9am in Music Jigsaw Club 12:20-1:50pm LRC Art/Photography GCSE Sessions 3-4pm in Art 1 and 2 Bravo! 3:05-4:30pm in the Drama Studio Year 7 Comic Club 3:05-3:45pm Rm 14 Eco – Interact/garden 2:50-4pm Meet in Chaplaincy Garden Dome Fitness Club – gym 2:50-4pm Product Design GCSE 3:05-4:05pm Rm 1 Homework Club 2:50-3:45pm M1 MFL Club 3:00-3:30pm 25 Music GCSE Sessions 3:05-4:30pm Music Sign Language Club 3:05-3:45pm Sc4 Indoor Sports 2:50-4pm Sports Hall	Year 8/9 Choir 8:30-9am in Music Jigsaw Club 12:20-1:50pm LRC Homework Club 2:50-3:45pm M1 Music GCSE Sessions 3:05-4:30pm Music

Computing News

3D Modelling in Year 7 Creative Computing

As part of the Creative Computing curriculum, Year 7 students have been learning how to use a 3D CAD program called Tinkercad. The software is based around building up a design by using 3D shapes from the library and combining them (by adding or subtracting shapes) to build a model. Over the course students created 3D models of houses, cars and playgrounds. They also designed a Minion which was then sent away to be 3D printed - some students even painted their Minion models before taking them home.



Scholars News

The Scholars have been very busy this term. We have had two visits from Andy Griffith; the Year 8 & 9's are working on revision and motivational skills, the Year 10's are currently working towards their final presentation, which will be held in the summer term (all Scholars and parents will be invited).

We have had visitors from Manchester Metropolitan University who have introduced Philosophy to the Year 9 and 10's; they planned their ideal society (with some unusual and surprising ideas!)

Lancaster University introduced the study of Economics to all scholars; they looked at government spending and tried to come up with their own ideas on how the government should financially run the country (I think we may have some future Chancellors of the Exchequer right here at Cardinal Allen!).

Both of the university professors expressed how impressed they were with our students and how their ideas were on par with their undergraduates, well done Scholars!

On a crisp February morning we all arrived early for school and jumped on a coach to Liverpool. We

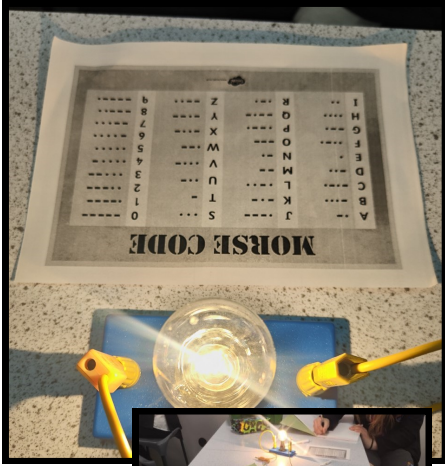


visited Liverpool Hope University; where we had a tour of their beautiful campus, learnt about life at university and had a session on memory skills (with some interesting attempts at drawing the statue of liberty from memory!).

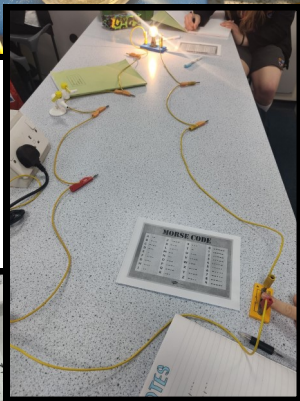
We then made the short journey to Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral. The pupils conducted themselves impeccably during the tours and asked very insightful questions. We were all amazed by the beautiful stained glass inside the Cathedral.

And finally, in this jam-packed term, the Year 8 & 9's made the bracing walk down the sea front to the VUE cinema to watch a live performance of the National Theatre's *Othello* by William Shakespeare.

Science News



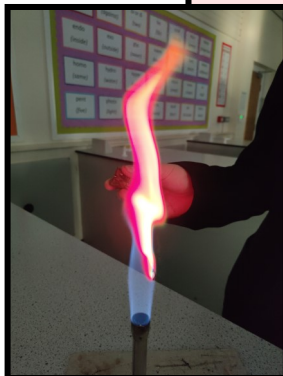
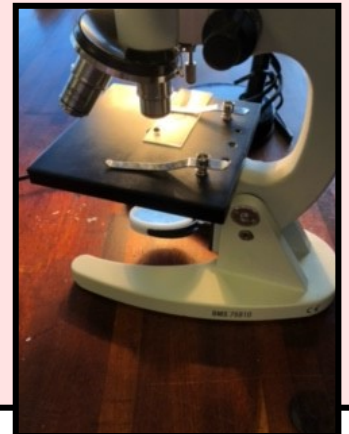
We have recently been celebrating British Science Week; within this week pupils were invited to take part in a quiz about all things Science, there was also a poster competition for pupils to become involved in. The theme of this year's Science week was "connections", so one of the lessons that some pupils took part in was a lesson all about Morse Code. The pupils thoroughly enjoyed the activities planned. The pupils also enjoyed a home learning task all about sustainable fishing and our connection with the living ocean.



Recently pupils in Science club have enjoyed looking at the anatomy of bees; including their wings, antennae, 5 eyes and legs! The pupils also looked at honeycomb and learnt how bees build it from their own wax secretions! Pictures show pupils doing bee dissection and flame testing in the club.

As we approach the upcoming Year 11 GCSE exams we would like to take this opportunity to remind pupils in year 11 and in fact year 10 also, about the self-quiz section on the Educake homework platform we use in Science, the PearsonRevise app to download and the many past exam papers

available for the pupils to access and download directly from our school Moodle. Year 11 revision runs every other Wednesday after school and pupils in Year 11 are encouraged to come along where their teachers will be available to support them.



Geography News

In January, Sociology and Criminology Tutor, Alex Burgess, from Blackpool Sixth Form, joined our Year 10 and 11 GCSE Geography pupils. During this taster session, pupils were enlightened on aspects of Sociology and Criminology available to study at the College. They also heard about other aspects which complement our GCSE Geography syllabus such as family diversity and changing trends in marriage/divorce, birth and deaths rates and ageing populations. Pupils also had the opportunity to learn a little more about what the Blackpool Sixth Form can offer to our pupils as they progress into the next stage of their academic careers, particularly progression paths for our GCSE Geography cohort.



Aquinas Centre News



A huge thank you to everyone involved in our World Book Day events. On the 2nd March 2023, pupils took part in some fun activities arranged by Mr Johnson and the English department. Our Year 8 book debate was a great success as you can see. Jimmy gave a strong case for why 'The Chronicles of Narnia' is the best book.

Our reading relay arranged by Mrs Snelling was also a great success. A big thank you to the following pupils for recording an extract.

Emily (Y10), Benjamin (Y10), Francesca (Y10), Emily (Y8), Lucie (Y8)



Nathan Parker visited us on the 24th March 2023. Nathan Parker is an independent author and spoken artist from Blackpool. Proud of his northern roots, Nathan is a keen champion of northern voices, committed to enabling people of all ages to engage with words, stories and conversations.



We cannot wait to have him in again.



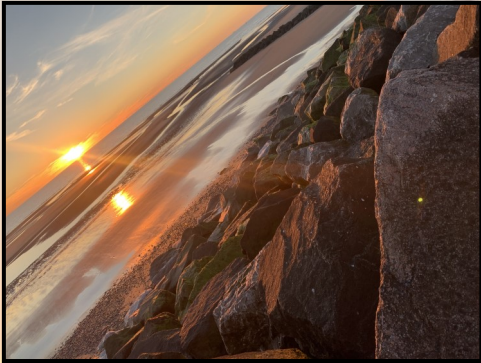
If you are stuck for something to read over the Easter holidays why not try these recommended reads. Our student librarians have selected these. You can find book reviews for them on the Reading Cloud.

Have a lovely Easter and we look forward to seeing you back in the Aquinas Centre soon!

Hello from the Art Department!

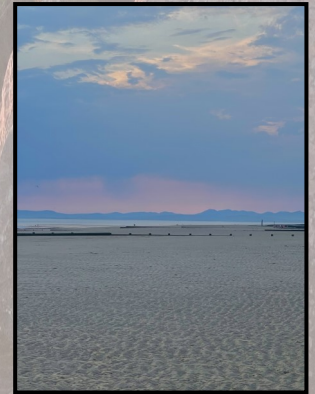
It has certainly been another busy half term of lessons and activities!

Our Year 11 Art and Photography students are busy and underway with their GCSE exam and we are already witnessing some fantastic prep work! I will showcase in the next newsletter, the final outcomes following their 10 hour exam in April!



Year 10

Jacob and Liliana's work has been selected as school winners for the Young Seaside's Exhibition for their excellent photography work! Well done!

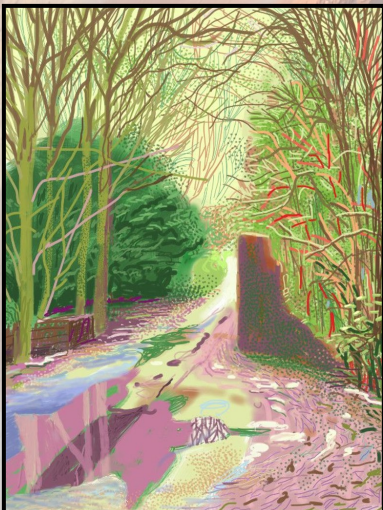


Year 9

The Year 9's are currently working on a new programme of learning this term and they are really enjoying it! They are channelling their illustration skills and are designing a children's character and writing a short extract of a story aimed at Year 1 students. We definitely have some budding Illustrators and Authors in our midst! Beatrix Potter is our source of inspiration for this topic.

Year 8

The Year 8's are working hard on their insect pen drawings and are recalling all their drawing techniques to create some hyperrealistic drawings inspired by our artist in focus, Kim Young-Sung!



Year 7

The year 7's are enjoying putting into practise all of the colour theory they have learnt and are working on some beautiful A3 tree paintings inspired by the work of David Hockney!

On completion of these projects I will showcase some of the final pieces in the next newsletter!

Mrs. Glaister

Sports News



Cardy Sports Stars

Louise in Year 11 competed in the IGA Sports Acrobatics and Tumbling Competition in North Wales on the 29th January. Louise took part in two performances and won silver for both. Louise is now going to compete at the National Finals in Milton Keynes on Sunday 2nd April. Good luck Louise!

Cross Country

We had one runner from Cardinal Allen Catholic High School represent Wyre at the Lancashire Cross Country Championships in Blackburn. Abigail C ran beautifully and was the first Wyre and Fylde athlete over the line. Well done!



Sports Hall Athletics

Our Year 7 and Year 8 students entered the Wyre and Fylde Sportshall Athletics competition this term. They have been training very hard in PE lessons and afterschool. All four teams performed incredibly well and were a credit to our school. The Y8 Boys team won their event. This is an amazing achievement and are representing Wyre and Fylde at the County event next week. Good luck!



Dance Competition

Our Dancers have done it again! They took part in the Wyre and Fylde Dance competition at the Tower ballroom. The group worked extremely hard to get the dance ready and took home the bronze medal. A fantastic achievement, well done! A big thank you to Mrs Orwin and Freya Sandiforth for all their hard work and commitment.



Whats next?

Basketball Competitions
Football Cup Competition
Girls Football Competitions
Athletics

Key dates 2023

Jubilee Day

Thursday 30th March

School closes for pupils

Thursday 30th March at 12.20

School re-opens

Monday 17th April

May Day Closure

Monday 1st May

Bank Holiday Closure

Monday 8th May for Coronation of King Charles

Mid Term Closure

Monday 29th May—Friday 2nd June

School closes for Summer

Friday 21st July at 12.20

Cardinal Allen 1963—2023

As you will be aware, this term marks 60 years since our official opening by Bishop Foley (click on the newspaper cutting). This week, to celebrate our anniversary, and to give thanks for the service that the school has provided to our community, Bishop Swarbrick joined us to celebrate Mass, and also to dedicate and bless our Chapel Window and our new tabernacle.



Easter Wishes

We would like to wish all associated with our school a very Holy and restful Easter. At Easter, Christians celebrate the salvation won for us by the Lord Jesus through His suffering, death and resurrection. I hope this season is a time of spiritual renewal for all and that you are filled with the peace of the Lord.

