



‘Cardinal Pole Catholic School is a community of **service** guiding young people on a path to **opportunity, aspiration, and reward**, founded on Catholic values.’

## HEAD OF SCHOOL ONLINE PARENT FORUM Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2025 -1.30pm

Welcome back to the Spring term.

As you may be aware, Cardinal Pole won the “School of the Year Award” at the end of last year, the news went out locally and nationally and we have been running assemblies with the students to remind them of all the great things we have done at Cardinal Pole.

We have also introduced new language for the classroom, we already have Ready to Learn, One Voice and Work Hard but we have also introduced warning language which includes Chance, Choice, Consequence where student names are added onto the board and sanctions applied. This is to ensure clear expectations for students. This started officially this term.

Our school meal price increased to £3.00 from 1<sup>st</sup> January the pricing prior to this has remained in place since April 2023 but due to inflation the school is unable to sustain this rate any longer. We are also exploring different menus currently and will be meeting with the caterers tomorrow to discuss new ideas.

Parents’ Evening season has begun. Reports for Years 8-13 will be going out today. These reports carry the information from API, Year 7 have had their reports last week when they had Parents’ Evening. If they were unable to attend this Parents’ Evening, you are invited to have some subject meetings on 23<sup>rd</sup> January alongside our Year 10 Evening. Letters went out yesterday for the Year 10 Parents’ Evening, please make every effort to attend.

Term dates for 2025/26 have been published and are on the website when booking holidays.

Uniform reminder: School coats are available from the uniform supplier, plain black jackets please not designer and students are only allowed silver and gold plain stud earrings.

Year 11 & 13: There are 56 days until the main exams begin. Crucial time for revision, there is an afterschool timetable for Year 11 which runs until 4.15pm. Targeted students have been informed of these sessions. There are also additional classes for Tuesday/Wednesday/Thursday mornings please ensure your child arrives to school on time.

Saturday School has begun for Years 11 & 13, letters will go out every week to the targeted students. Year 13 supervised study is going ahead after school, this is all in preparation for the mock exams for Years 11 & 13 which begin week commencing 10<sup>th</sup> February, the week before half term and then there is a second week of exams after half term. All qualifications are now exam based not many are coursework related. Easter is later this year and therefore the exams commencing almost straight after Easter. There is not much time for revision post Easter.

Year 12 API.5 exams are also taking place during week commencing 10<sup>th</sup> February for those students who were two grades away from their targets during API or had E or U grades.

Next Parent Forum will take place 28<sup>th</sup> January 2025.

### **Parent Points/Questions:**

School meals – what happens if a student is short of money on their account will they be allowed to have lunch? AOD: We never turn anyone away; the canteen staff are instructed to direct the student to me or a member of senior staff and they will get ticked off a list and be given an

overdraft. Children can be too shy to mention it but we will never turn students away from having food.

There are some issues with incorrect charging for items. Any concerns about being overcharged please email [enquiries@cardinalpole.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@cardinalpole.co.uk) and this will be rectified via the Year Team and Finance Department.

Year 7 API reports not on Bromcom. Clarification to be given.

Clarification on the Sixth Form application process? AOD: Year 11 students have been completing these applications online with their year groups and the last groups are being completed this week. Internal interviews for students just after half term.

Booking for extra-curricular clubs the link has gone out, no clubs running tonight. New extra-curricular timetable was issued on Monday.

Yours in service,



Mr A O'Donoghue  
**HEAD OF SCHOOL**