

April 2020

Cardinal Allen Catholic High School



School Newsletter



Cardinal Allen visits HMS Prince of Wales

Also in this edition:

World Book Day

Careers News

Drama News

Community News

Science Week

News from the Aquinas Centre

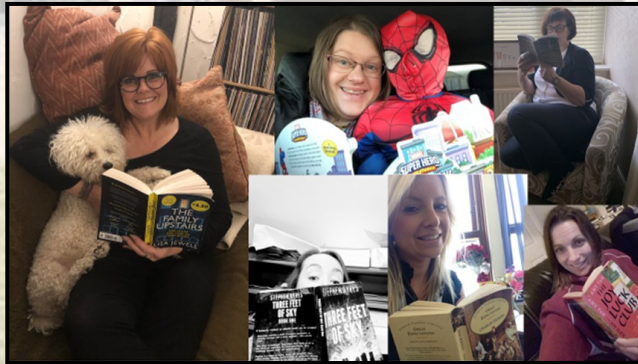


WORLD BOOK DAY

5TH MARCH 2020

A theme of this year's World Book Day celebrations was 'get caught reading'. Mrs Mayhew ran a competition amongst pupils and staff to send in imaginative photos of them engrossed in their books.

Here are a few of the entries from the teachers. Congratulations to Mrs Hoy and 'Spiderman' who won the staff competition!



"If you are going to get anywhere in life you have to read a lot of books." – Roald Dahl

Here at Cardinal Allen we continue to work hard to share a lifelong love of reading from Year 7 through to Year 11 and we celebrated World Book Day this year by sharing some of our favourite stories! We also celebrated by entering the National Book Tokens competitions and with class quizzes all about books and reading. Why not go onto the Reading Cloud and review your favourite book?

After all, "The more that you read, the more things you will know, the more that you learn, the more places you'll go" ~ Dr. Seuss.



YOUNG WRITERS' COMPETITION

*Heart racing... sweaty palms... dilated pupils... hairs on the back of your neck stand up...
Hunted: Outrun. Outlast. Outwit.*

Earlier in the year, KS3 pupils were given the opportunity to enter a national writing competition. They were challenged to write a story of up to 100 words linked to the idea of someone or something being hunted. We were delighted to hear that many pupils' entries were successful. Their parents have been contacted asking for permission for the stories to be published. We look forward to seeing many of our pupils' names in print when the book is released later in the year!

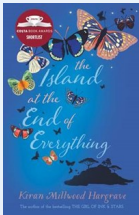
Top Ten Books

Why not trade an Easter egg for a book this year? These are the 'Top Ten' books all young people should read according to the National Book Tokens 'Writes of Passage' World Book Day list:



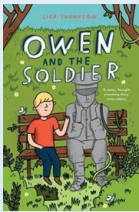
Grab a book this Easter!

The Island at the End of Everything



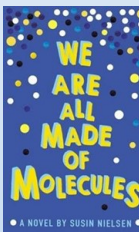
Amihan lives on the secluded island of Culion with her sick mum, who has leprosy. But when the government decides the island must be quarantined, Ami and all the children who don't have the disease are forced to leave – while her mum must stay behind, along with everything Ami has ever known. Separated from everything she loves, Ami embarks on a daring journey to find a way back home. When she discovers an abandoned boat, she sets out to fix it. But is she brave enough to take it across the fierce waves and back to Culion? Across the fierce water and through the forest, Ami faces many challenges, but the hardest one of all is waiting for her at home.

Owen and the Soldier



Owen lost his dad a while ago and his mum hasn't been herself since. He holds her when she's upset and does most of the household chores. At school, Mr Jennings picks Owen to recite a poem at an upcoming event but Owen gets anxious speaking in public. He finds solace in the park, where a crumbling statue of a soldier sits. Owen finds companionship with the soldier and shows him stunt moves and shares his worries.

We are All Made of Molecules



Stewart loves maths and doing Lego without instructions. He loves his family: himself, mum, dad. They're an equilateral triangle - although, ideally, a sister would square the triangle. Then his Mum dies. Their triangle collapses. Ashley loves clothes, reality TV. Their utterly distinctive and compelling voices alternate as they negotiate painful, difficult relationships in this intelligent, moving novel about two imploded families forging themselves a new shape

Careers News

We were very lucky to be invited to Liverpool to visit HMS PRINCE OF WALES, Britain's biggest warship, younger sister ship of HMS QUEEN ELIZABETH. We took 14 very keen and enthusiastic Year 9 students who were thrilled to be given this opportunity.

The visit was exciting and informative and gave our students the opportunity to understand the role of the Royal Navy and Royal Marines and also have a bespoke, unique tour of this aircraft carrier.



Our Year 7 pupils had the fantastic opportunity to take part in their careers day on Friday 7th February. The aim of the day was to introduce our youngest students to a range of vocations in order for them to start thinking about their future and the career they might be interested in. We had fun, it was very interactive and we were thrilled to welcome our guest speakers:

PDSA, Blackpool & Fylde College, Blackpool Sixth Form, Lancashire Fire and Rescue, NHS, Fleetwood Nautical College and Castlerigg Manor.

Pupils took part in a variety of activities to develop their knowledge of careers within different organisations as well as taking part in a number of practical activities such as animal first aid, crime scene investigation, a chance to use VR kit as well as using their team work and communication.

Year 11 Mock Interviews

On January 9th, our Year 11 pupils each had an interview with a professional from an outside agency to gain experience of what to expect when applying for a job. Part of the process was to complete an application form and learn how to 'sell' themselves by demonstrating their skills and strengths both on the application and during the interview. Many pupils were nervous and apprehensive about the experience but after it had taken place, they said they actually enjoyed it!

Lots of smiles and positive feedback are always good for a confidence boost! We were host to over 30 local businesses and organisations who helped to make the event possible – thank you for giving up your time to support our pupils and giving them this experience.

Community News

National Eco School of the Year!

Cardinal Allen Catholic High School has been selected to be the National Secondary Eco School of the Year at the first National Eco Schools Awards ceremony.

We were selected for our work in making our grounds one of the most biodiverse areas on the Fylde Coast. This year alone we have planted a hedgerow, seeded a 1 acre meadow, introduced bees into the school and driven the replacement of the walking snake sculpture at Beacon Fell Country Park. This is in addition to developing further our environmental corridor, woodland, orchard, allotment, bug hotels, hedgehog nests and bird/ bat boxes. Our Eco Group also support local Primary Schools with energy, waste and Fairtrade campaigns.

Mr Harding says that "It is a real honour for the school to be selected from 19000 other Eco Schools and demonstrates how hard our students have worked to make Fleetwood a better place". Holly from Year 10 stated that "the world is in a bad place at the moment and I am proud that our efforts to help save our planet have been recognised."



Cardinal Allen High School recently hosted Headteachers Surina Gurung and Birangana Maharajan from Galaxy High School and Suresha High School Kathmandu, Nepal. This visit was part of the Clusters British Council Connecting Classrooms Programme that aims to foster an international dimension in the curriculum so that young people gain the knowledge, transferable skills and attitudes they need to thrive in an increasingly interconnected world.

During the visit our guests enjoyed presentations, assemblies and classes to gain an understanding of how schools deliver the curriculum in the UK. This was reciprocated by instruction in the cooking of Chatamari (Nepali Pizza) which went down very well with the students.

Fairtrade

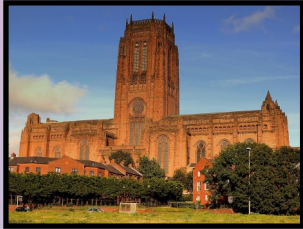
Following a series of assemblies and workshops delivered around local schools our Eco Group have recently hosted our Eco Clusters second Eco Conference. Following presentations from St Wulstans, Flakefleet, Cardinal Allen and Shakespeare about how Fairtrade products help communities around the world, our guests participated in tasting workshops and a quiz. The day ended with schools producing Fairtrade banners made from recycled material and Fairtrade packaging. A great day was had by all!

Following a discussion with the Duke of Sussex our school's Bee Club is gearing up to market our honey! A big thank you to the Queens Commonwealth Trust, for helping us set up this project. This is also going international with our partner schools in Tanzania and Nepal joining us and sharing our business experiences.



Extra-Curricular

Mrs Bateman and Mr Harding took some Year 10 students to Liverpool for the day where they immersed themselves in the culture visiting museums, the Tate Gallery and 2 wonderful Cathedrals.



Our School Interact Group recently held a disco to raise funds for the Koalas injured during the Bush fires in Australia. £90 was raised which will be spent on getting some of our world's most precious animals back into the Australian bush



Members of Year 7 have enjoyed planting 200 trees in the front of school as part of our commitment to help our local wildlife and combat climate change. A big thank you to the Woodland Trust!



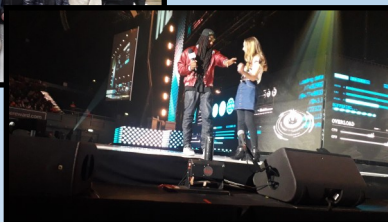
A team from our Eco Group recently supported our Primary School Clusters' Annual Eco Fashion show hosted by Shakespeare Primary School. Our costume used plastic bottles collected from around school as a way of highlighting our fight against single use plastic.

Please send your child to school with a refillable water bottle. It saves you money and our planets future.



A group of our school's top volunteers recently enjoyed this year's WE Day following a visit to the Natural History Museum and an overnight stay in London.

The WE Organisation is a Youth Empowerment Organisation and Mr Harding is proud to say that our WE Group are considered as one of the most proactive of the 14500 WE Schools in the Country. The WE Day is an event held to say thank you to youth activists around the Country. The show is delivered in front of 12000 students at the Wembley Arena, London. This year's highlight was to see one of our pupils, Charlotte, on stage helping with the show and later having a dance off with Rhianna, really setting the stadium alight. This year's show was hosted by singer Leona Lewis with empowering contributions from actor Idris Elba, F1 driver Lewis Hamilton, Chef Jamie Oliver and singer Calum Scott. The best part of the show, apart from seeing our students on stage, was the Glow Show LED drummers. Well done to all our WE Group for all their work this year! Hope you enjoyed the trip as much as Mr Harding & Mrs Stone!



Drama News



It's been a busy term for Drama with lots of rehearsals and activity in the Studio. Firstly, the Year 9 class were successful in gaining a Distinction in their LAMDA Musical Theatre Grade 3 Exam. We are very proud of their achievement and they are the inaugural group of pupils to participate in a LAMDA exam through CAHS—Well done!

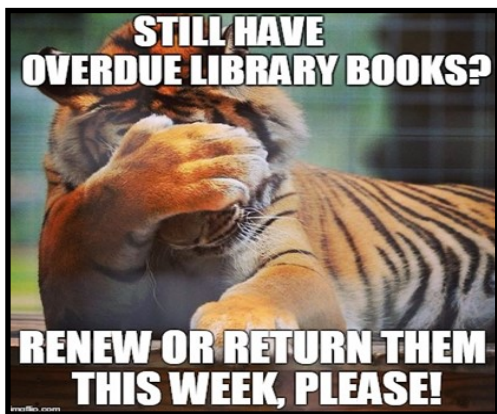
BRAVO! continues to meet weekly and pupils have been working on a musical medley through the decades in preparation for the Festival of Music at the Winter Gardens. Unfortunately, current events have forced cancellation of the show but our students have enjoyed the rehearsals and improved their vocal skills.

Our Year 11 PA class performed their final showcase pieces. This truly was the epitome of a fantastic year of work. Re-scheduled and moved forward 6 days put students on edge and understandably nervous but they needn't have worried. Two groups produced splendid performances; some of the best work I have witnessed, and I am extremely proud of all of them. In spite of missing out on their GCSEs, I'm sure the pupils will be satisfied that their interpretations of Alice in Wonderland were a fitting finale of their Drama studies.

Congratulations to all involved!



Aquinas Centre News



A polite reminder to all students, especially Years 10 and 11 to remember to return or renew your overdue library books. **We have approximately 300 books missing or overdue from our library stock!** Many books are often found under beds or in cupboards at home and every overdue book returned helps! Overdue notices are sent regularly around form and also emailed to parents on a weekly basis. Students in Years 7, 8 and 9 can check the Reading Cloud to determine if their book is overdue.

Can parents please help their child look for any missing books? Should a student have lost their book or damaged it, we ask that it is replaced with the same book or any other book suitable for the Year Group. If any parents/students would like to donate used books in a good condition to the library we would be very happy to accept them. Please ask your child to drop off in the LRC or at reception. Thank you!

Following the success of two completed 1000 piece Christmas jigsaw puzzles in December, the Jigsaw Club recently embarked on completing another 1000 piece jigsaw puzzle.

Known for the addictive affect they have on those who try to complete them, once you start, you simply can't stop! The varying colours, shapes and sizes of the pieces hold the attention of even the most impatient of people.

This term we completed a delightful country scene and pictured are some students with the finished product. Jigsaw puzzles are hard to complete so once again, well done to all students involved who only get break and lunch times to work the puzzle out!

If any members of our school community would like to donate any puzzles, we would be most grateful.



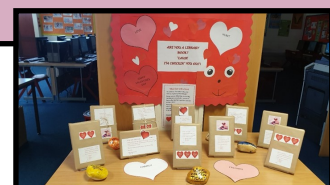
In a bid to encourage students to widen their reading selection and to celebrate Valentine's Day, a Blind Date with a Book Event took place in the Aquinas Centre.

With the aim of encouraging children to explore new genres and authors in an exciting, engaging way, a selection of books were wrapped in brown paper with a few bullet points giving hints about what the book was about. Students were encouraged, particularly during library lessons, to select a book based on this information only as they were unable to see the cover or read the "blurb". No blurb, no cover, no judgement!

Immediately, this built intrigue around what to choose but it also made the reader ask themselves some important questions: "What do I look for when choosing a book? What genres do I prefer?" There was a real buzz in the library and the display table ran out of books on the first day! Thank you to our lovely librarians who worked hard to replenish stock!

All books were listed on the Accelerated Reader scheme so once read, they could also be quizzed on.

It was fantastic to watch so many students excited about their book and talking about it with their friends.



Aquinas Centre News

Once again the Aquinas Centre was a hub of activity as we celebrated World Book Day on Thursday, 5th March! A celebration of authors, illustrators, books and (most importantly) a celebration of reading.

The main aim of World Book Day is to encourage children to explore the wonderful world of reading by providing them with the opportunity to have a book of their own. KS3 students received a special £1.00 World Book Day token which could be exchanged for any of the specially produced £1.00 World Book Day books at various book shops and supermarkets or used to save £1.00 off any book or audio book costing £2.99 or more.

The Aquinas Centre was a hub of activity as a number of students took part in various competitions throughout the day. All staff were asked to wear printed book titles on their lanyards with students collecting as many book titles as they could and submitting their entry form by the end of the day. Winners of the title quest competition were Phoebe, 7AD, Adriyan, 7AG and Lewis, 7AM.

Further information on World Book Day is available at www.worldbookday.com

A reminder that if you have a valid Lancashire postcode and are a member of your local library, you can download digital eBooks and eAudiobooks using the BorrowBox app on your Tablet/Smartphone devices. You will need your library card, PIN number and an email address to get you started. All you have to do is go to your device's App Store, search for BorrowBox and install the App. You then log in with your borrower library number and pin and register to use the service. This will take you to your Book Shelf where you will be able to see your loans, reservations and loan history. You now have access to over 11,000 audio and ebooks and it's FREE! Further information can be found at: <https://www.borrowbox.com/>

Accelerated Reader is a reading programme that helps us to monitor and manage children's independent reading practice.

Many parents have enquired regarding suitable books for their child to read and there is an easy online search tool from Renaissance Learning which can help with this. AR BookFind is an online search tool where you can search for interesting and appropriate books for your child, quickly and easily, in the knowledge that there is an Accelerated Reader quiz available for each book. There are currently more than 35,000 quizzes to ensure comprehension of books read.

To assist your child by guiding them to books appropriate for their age, interest and ability, we encourage you to visit www.arbookfind.co.uk. To view the books we have available in our own school library, including various recommended reading lists such as football books and dyslexia friendly books, you will also need the school Keycode, which is **IF875127**. These lists are regularly updated with new stock.



ART News



We are very proud of the achievements of Year 10 in the recent mock examinations. Both the Art & Design and Photography students conducted themselves brilliantly and produced some excellent work! All of this development will contribute towards their ongoing portfolios.

Well done from The Art Department!



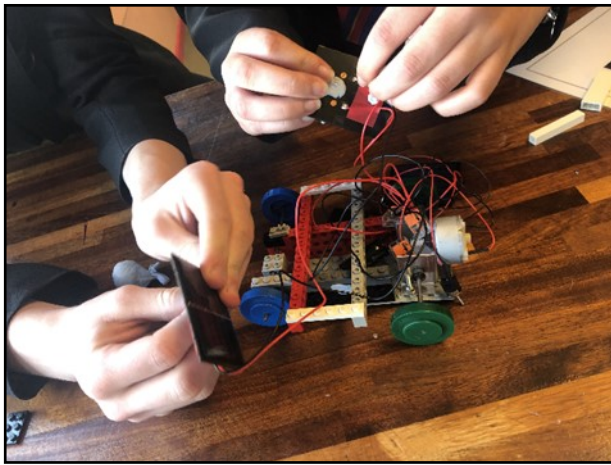
Key Skills Trips

Thank you to our Learning Support Team who took some of our children out on some fabulous Key Skills Trips which included Ice Skating, Farmer Pairs and Bowling—well done to all the pupils involved for showing real perseverance and determination!



Science Week

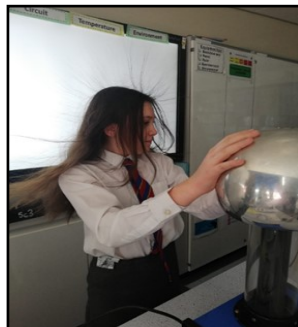
Pupils from Y10 and Y11 thoroughly enjoyed taking part in a Physics/Electronics workshop run by Mhairi Mitchison (Physics teacher at Blackpool Sixth Form), which involved pupils working in teams to design and build solar powered buggies. Their finished models then competed in a 2m 'dash'. There were a diverse range of models constructed, most of which managed to make it to the finish line!



Pupils in 7W and Mrs Brindle raised funds to adopt an animal by holding a cake sale. Special thanks to Myles, Emily, Lexie and Natalia for all of the delicious creations they baked themselves. These, along with plenty of doughnuts, were all snapped up within 10 minutes and raised a whopping £72 - enough to adopt not one but two endangered animals. All of the customers were able to vote for which animal they would like the money to go towards protecting – the winners were a turtle and a dolphin!



After looking at the diversity of Science careers, Y7-9 pupils explored some of the experiments that UK European Space Agency (ESA) astronaut Tim Peake completed onboard the ISS and even had a go at one themselves. They used highly advanced equipment (CD, blu-tak, bottle caps and balloons!) to create hovercrafts!



Pupils in Y7-9 also explored the diversity among people – in particular the diversity of our fingerprints. They discovered how to lift their own fingerprints and examined them to find out if they were a loop, arch or whorl. Did you know that no two people (not even twins), ever have had or ever will have identical fingerprints?!



Many thanks to Mrs Tong for running a Science cinema, which was enjoyed by Y7 pupils and to Miss Winkley for hosting a particularly hair-raising Physics show!

In order to increase the biodiversity within the school grounds, Mrs Crooke's Y7 class joined forces with Mr Harding to plant numerous trees.