

July 2021

Cardinal Allen Catholic High School



# School Newsletter



A Very Happy Retirement to  
**Mrs Witton!**

Also in this edition:

D of E Expedition News

Aquinas Centre News

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Careers News





# Thank you Mrs Witton

I am certain that most of us struggle to imagine working in the same building for 42 years, but that is exactly what Sandra has done. She has taught, guided, and, on occasion, raised her voice to thousands of young people. Her commitment to our school, and to your families, is second to none; I know that various social media platforms are full of glowing comments from pupils past and present - and of course many of our current parents, and I dare say some grandparents, were actually taught by Sandra.

Sandra has been an outstanding servant to our school community; the difference that she has made to the lives of countless pupils could never be quantified, and it was often made out of the glare of others. At times, her tough love approach, like that of a parent, wasn't always well received by the youngster concerned, but it is remarkable just how many of those youngsters remember that love, and come, in time, to thank her for it.

Sandra will be sorely missed by us all, and Mrs Lud-dite will be no more, but I am certain that you would want to join us in wishing her a long and happy retirement.



“When I joined Cardinal Allen High School in September, 1979, I never imagined that I would still be here 42 years later. Walking through the Main Entrance on that sunny September morning I didn't think about moving to other schools for promotion, different experiences, new challenges, I was just so excited that the dream I had had since I was a very young girl had now come true. Thoughts of retirement....that was for old people!!!

I cannot believe that I have spent a life time here at Cardinal Allen, and I can honestly say that I have enjoyed every minute of being part of such a wonderful school. A school which puts the child at the centre of everything that it does, encourages pupils to strive to “Be All That They Can Be”, walks the extra mile on a daily basis to help and support the students. Our school is a family and I feel honoured to be part of it.

I must pay tribute to the Head Teachers that have led the school since I started here:



Mr Cyril Rooney, the Founder Head of the school, who had faith in me and appointed me to my first teaching role; Mr John O'Brien who promoted me to Teacher for Lower School Literature, and then Head of Year 9; Mr Phillip Mooney who created the role Assistant Head of Pastoral which I was appointed to in 2007; and finally, Mr Andrew Cafferkey, our present Head, who has supported me throughout my tenure as Deputy Head.

Did I think as a “rookie” teacher in 1979 that I would become the Deputy Head of Cardinal Allen – absolutely not. Am I glad that I accepted the challenge? An unresounding yes – I am very privileged and honoured to be chosen as Deputy Head of the school that I attended as a pupil, and regularly tell the pupils how proud I am of Cardie as.... it is “my” school.

I will shed a tear or two on Friday when I leave and it will be very difficult to walk away from the school that I love, but I know that with Andrew Cafferkey at the helm, the school will continue to flourish and take very good care of the pupils entrusted to it by their parents.”

# We also say goodbye, good luck, and thank you to:



## Mrs Tong

Jo joined the Science team at Cardinal Allen in 2016. Over the course of her five years she has been very popular with both pupils and colleagues. During that time she has been very keen to develop her teaching of Physics and completed a demanding course through the Catholic Teaching Alliance. Sadly for us, Jo has decided to embark on a new career in veterinary nursing, and so we all wish her well and thank her for all that she has done at our school.

## Mrs Jenkinson

I know from the many comments from the children just how lucky we have been in having Deborah with us this year following the very sad passing of Mrs Grimshaw last summer. Deborah's absolute professionalism has supported both pupils and colleagues at a very sensitive time. She has, throughout, been an incredibly positive presence in school, pupils have enjoyed her lessons, and she has demonstrated her love of our children's wellbeing by always going out of her way to make a difference. We wish Deborah and her family all the very best as they move to leafy Cheshire. Bon voyage!



## Miss Davids

Amy has worked with us at Cardinal Allen for the last two years in the role of Assistant School Games Organiser. In that time she will have come into contact with hundreds of children from the primary schools, everyone of which will have been bowled over by her passion and enthusiasm for sport. Like Mrs Witton, Amy is also a former pupil of Cardinal Allen—albeit not in the same year! - and we wish her well for the future.

## Mrs Green

Amy has been with the Finance Team for less than 2 years, so hasn't really had the chance to see Cardinal Allen during normal times! She has, however, quietly and efficiently dealt with everything we have thrown at her and will be greatly missed. We wish Amy and her family well in their new ventures.





# Duke of Edinburgh

## Duke Of Edinburgh Award pupils back up and running

It's been great to see our Duke of Edinburgh Award candidates back on expedition.

Our Bronze Award candidates have successfully completed their expeditions in the Silverdale area, setting off from Warton, camping at Silverhelme Campsite, and ending at Arnside.

Our Year 11 Silver Award candidates are walking one of the country's iconic walks, the Ribble Way. They will be following the River Ribble to its source from Preston to Gavel Gap above Hawes in the Yorkshire Dales. A fantastic way to complete their time at Cardinal Allen and a lifetime experience!



A big thank you to all the staff who are helping the students on their expeditions, particularly in these challenging times.



# Finance Assistant Vacancy

The Governors of this very successful Catholic High School wish to appoint a 'Finance Assistant' as part of our Administration team. We are looking for an exceptional candidate who will be excited to take a supporting role within the team. This is a fantastic opportunity for an enthusiastic candidate of the highest calibre to make a positive difference to the lives of our brilliant pupils. This role will offer the successful candidate exciting challenges that will be both rewarding and fulfilling.

The job will be paid at Grade 5 and is term time only. i.e. 190 working days, 5 days per week. The hours are negotiable, between 25 and 37 hours per week.

Application forms and further details are available via the school website or by contacting the school. Candidates are more than welcome to call Jane Abra, the Business Manager, for an informal discussion or to visit the school prior to application.

Applications, addressed to the Business Manager, should be sent to [j.abra@cardinalallen.co.uk](mailto:j.abra@cardinalallen.co.uk) by 9.00am on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2021 with interviews w/c 26<sup>th</sup> July 2021.



# English News

## Creativity in the Department

The English Department have really enjoyed seeing some of the creative ways our students have responded to topics such as 'Romeo and Juliet' and 'Titanic'. Their personalised masks for the Capulet Ball and Titanic Collages can be seen here.

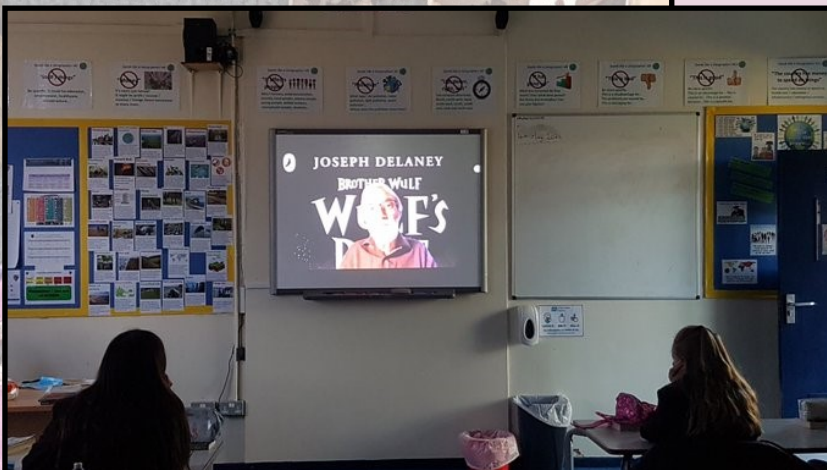
Well done Year 8!



## Creativity Year 7 Virtual Author Visits

We have been lucky to enjoy some virtual author visits this year with local author Joseph Delaney, who shared his writing process and inspiration for the 'Spooks' series. We also met Charlie Higson, author of 'Worst. Holiday. Ever', who revealed some laugh-out-loud tales from his own holidays, both as a youngster and father himself. He also talked about his own childhood shyness and how he overcame this.

Enjoyable experiences for Year 7!





# Key Stage 3 English News

Year 7 are hard at work on the Zoo Project as part of their animal themed non-fiction unit. They are working together to design a new attraction or enclosure for Blackpool Zoo. Monkey Madness, Penguin Pleasure and an entirely new zoo based in Fleetwood are among the proposals being marketed, modelled and designed by different groups, who compete against each other within their own form group to progress to the inter-group final, which will take place before the end of term.

The Year 8 focus this term is 'tragedy'. Pupils have been writing fiction and non-fiction work based on the Titanic. Tyler imagined that he was a first-class passenger on the Titanic and wrote, 'I exited my vehicle and was flooded with all sorts of aromas and colours. I was dumbfounded. The porter took my luggage. I was fixated on how gigantic the vessel was. Boarding the Titanic I instantly I froze in astonishment. I admired my luxurious suite and then returned to give my friends and family a final farewell.'

The Year 9 focus this term is 'identity' and pupils have been writing speeches on a variety of controversial, moral and ethical topics. Ilaria and Jade are writing their speech on feminism. They said, 'We'll include how women should be treated the same and how feminism has developed and why it's needed. We'll discuss the problems of how misogyny is deeply rooted within society and how pronouns should be respected. It will also include how misogyny is normalised and internalised as well as the male gaze and how attitudes around women have changed over the years.' Alessio and Avinash said 'We will be summarising COVID-19 and its underlying issues. This is about the problems that arose due to it. For example, the anti-Chinese sentiment, which was hatred towards Chinese people as the first cases of COVID, were founded in Wuhan, China. In addition, we will be discussing mental health due to the multiple lockdowns and the problems families' in poverty faced. We chose these topics as it is a current worldwide phenomenon, and it shows how different communities were affected in different ways'.

# Key Stage 4 English News

In September, pupils will have the opportunity to buy revision guides and flashcards to support their studies. Meanwhile, here are some ways pupils can keep on top of their English GCSEs over the summer holidays:

- Use your CGP revision guides to make mind maps and flashcards about key characters, key events and key themes and include important quotations.
- Use 'Seneca' regularly to help you revise the set texts.
- Download the 'Gojimo' App and 'My Learning' App through the AppStore or Google Play for resources for English Language and Literature.

There are also lots of revision resources available in Moodle including the LitCharts > English > Years 10 and 11 > English Literature.

Useful sites:

- 1.AQA Past Papers <https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/gcse>
- 2.GCSE ENGLISH BBC BITESIZE <https://www.bbc.com/bitesize/examspecs/zcbchv4>
- 3.Mr. Bruff's Website <https://mrbruff.com/>
- 4.Mr. Bruff's Playlists <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCM2vdqz-7e4HAuzhpFuRY8w>

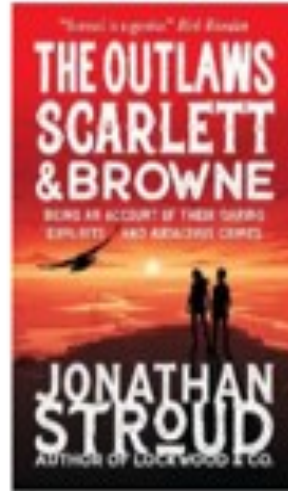
There are also lots of example responses and other revision resources available in Moodle > English > Years 10 and 11 > Revision Tips.

**FOLLOW US ON TWITTER FOR DAILY TIPS @CACHSEnglish**



# Recommended Summer Reads

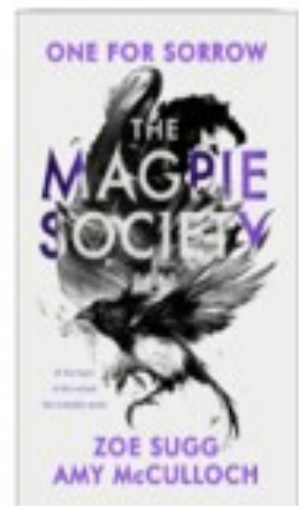
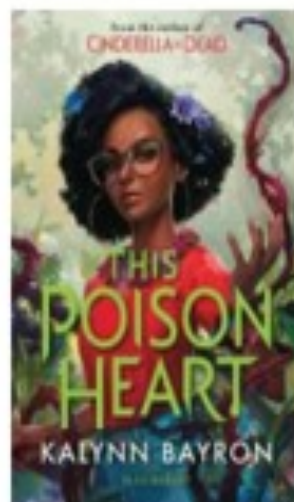
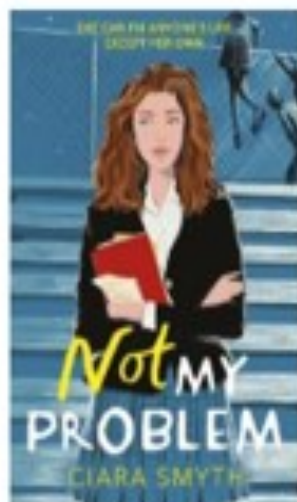
## 11+ Fiction



## 13+ Fiction



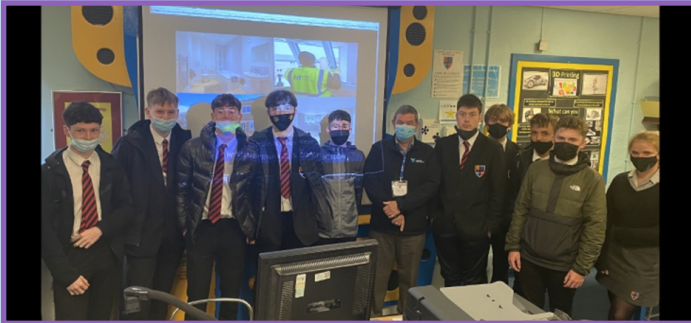
## Young Adult Fiction



# Careers News

There are always activities and events taking place in school, in all departments that link directly into careers and to help our pupils to consider the paths they would like to follow and the opportunities available to them. One of our priorities for the next academic year is to embed careers into the curriculum and link subjects direct to career paths. We already have a programme in place across the curriculum areas but if you think you might be able to assist our teachers by talking about a particular career and how it links into the world of work, we would love to hear from you. Maybe you studied a particular subject and now use it in your job every day, or you use a subject that might not automatically be linked to a career. Our pupils find it interesting and useful to listen to peoples stories and it certainly helps to inspire our pupils and raise aspirations. Please contact our Careers Advisor direct [j.sumner@cardinalallen.co.uk](mailto:j.sumner@cardinalallen.co.uk)

We have been fortunate enough over the last half term to be able to invite guests back into school and talk to our pupils about careers. Our Key Stage 4 Food pupils received a visit from Jordan Kehoe – Hospitality and Catering Lecturer from Blackpool & Fylde College, Jordan gave the pupils an insight into the catering and hospitality industry as well as discussing the impact of Covid on the industry. The pupils found the session really interesting and hope to make a visit to the college to experience the facilities in the new school year.



M&Y Maintenance and Construction were kind enough to come into school to talk to the Year 11 Construction class about careers in the industry. Kevin and Gavin told the pupils about their personal career journey and how they got to where they are today. It certainly opened up our eyes the range of opportunities and how through hard work you can achieve anything.

## Year 10 Futures Week

Unfortunately due to the Covid restrictions, our Year 10 pupils have not been able to take part in the usual visits and taster sessions to local colleges and universities. So rather than miss out we have managed to put together a week of activities in school. St Marys Sixth Form and Myerscough College are delivering assemblies in school along with Blackpool Sixth Form and Blackpool and The Fylde College delivering virtual presentations on the fabulous opportunities available to school leavers. This will be first time our Year 10s have the opportunity to hear for themselves the range of school leavers options available.

As part of Futures Week, we are hosting an 'Employer Panel'. This is a chance to experience an employer encounter for our Year 10s. Thank you to Wyre Council, Fleetwood Town Community Trust, British Army and BAE Systems and their staff for giving up their time to talk to our pupils about their role and organisation.



## National Citizen Service

National Citizen Service is a fantastic personal development opportunity for school leavers. Over the past half term we have hosted assemblies and lunchtime drop ins so that our Year 11 leavers have had the opportunity to apply for a place on this fantastic programme. Aimed at developing life skills and personal skills, the programme includes a residential in the Lakes, work placement and volunteering opportunities as well as the chance to enhance your CV, build confidence and make amazing memories. Good Luck to all our leavers who are taking part! I'm sure you'll have the best time!



**BAE SYSTEMS**

**wyre**  
council





# Aquinas Centre News

## ACCELERATED READER MILLIONAIRES

We are delighted to announce our newest Word Millionaires! How do you become a Millionaire? Read one million words! CACHS students who have read over a million words this school year belong to a select group of Accelerated Reader Millionaires. A word count is generated each time a student reads a book and then takes a reading practice quiz online using our Accelerated Reader software.

We are keen to share reading success so congratulations to the following students:

Elliot – 7AD – 1,473,860 words, 22 books read and quizzed on

Katy – 7GR – 1,224,161 words, 27 books read and quizzed on

Blossom – 7GR – 1,222,847 words, 28 books read and quizzed on

Caitlyn – 7BE – 1,052,862,22 books read and quizzed on

Samuel – 7AM – 1,045,878,10 books read and quizzed on

A recent study showed that students who read for pleasure do better in all their subjects at school, not just in English. They have trained their brains to access printed information, so they find all subjects easier to follow. To encourage reading for pleasure we introduced the Accelerated Reader programme back in September 2014 and the programme currently runs in Years 7 and 8.

Students met with our Headteacher, Mr Cafferkey who awarded them with certificates and badges. Well done Year 7!



## SUMMER READING CHALLENGE

Libraries are great places for children to discover reading for pleasure and there is no better time to do this than during the long summer holidays. This year's theme is Wild World Heroes.



Join the Wild World Heroes and discover how you can make a difference to the environment too. This year the Reading Agency are teaming up with WWF for a very special nature-themed challenge that will inspire you to stand up for the planet!

Wild World Heroes will feature amazing books, rewards and plenty of ideas for taking care of our environment.

### How does the Summer Reading Challenge work?

The Summer Reading Challenge takes place every year during the summer holidays. You can sign up at your local library, and then read six library books of your choice to complete the Challenge. There are exclusive rewards to collect along the way, and it is FREE to take part!

The Summer Reading Challenge website helps you keep track of your reading all year round: find new books to read, take part in competitions and mini challenges and play games. More information can be found here:

<https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/>

A polite reminder to all students, especially Years 9 and 10 to remember to return or renew your overdue library books. **Following the recent lockdown, we currently have over 300 books still missing or overdue from our library stock!**

Many books are often found under beds or in cupboards at home and every overdue book found helps. Students in Years 7, 8 and 9 can also check the Reading Cloud to determine if their book is overdue.

Overdue reminders are sent regularly in school and parents are emailed on a scheduled weekly basis via the Reading Cloud and individually on Class Charts. Please can I ask parents to help their child look for any missing books? Some of these books have been missing for over a year. If a student has 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 children's fiction books, in good condition, we would be very happy to accept them. Please ask your child to drop off at the entrance to the Aquinas Centre.

# Aquinas Centre News

## School Council News

Your school council has a job to do which is to listen, represent, consult and co-operate, inform and investigate!!

Due to the recent COVID pandemic and lockdowns, we have been unable to hold our regular termly meetings. However, we did manage to hold two recent meetings whilst observing the social distancing rules. Thank you to our nominated School Council Representatives for attending these meetings and informing students of what is happening in our school.

Working with the Eco group at school, we continue to tackle the ongoing issue of litter, which is a huge problem in and around school. Always bin your litter!

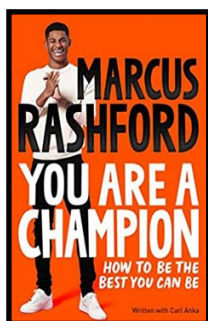
Some of the topics we have managed to consult on include school uniform, litter, new cycle racks, fund-raising and the most important issue – food!

As we go to print, we look forward to a meeting with our local Labour MP for Lancaster and Fleetwood, Cat Smith, kindly arranged by Mr Harding.

We are open to any suggestions and try our hardest to make your school a better place.



# Recommended Reads from Aquinas

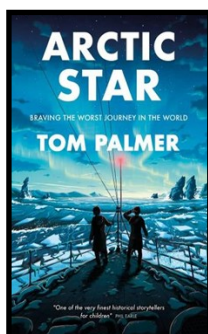


Marcus Rashford MBE is famous worldwide for his skills both on and off the pitch – but before he was a Manchester United and England footballer, and long before he started his inspiring campaign to end child food poverty, he was just an average kid from Wythenshawe, South Manchester. Now the nation's favourite footballer wants to show YOU how to achieve your dreams, in this positive and inspiring guide for life.

Written with journalist Carl Anka, *You Are a Champion* is packed full of stories from Marcus's own life, brilliant advice and top-tips from performance psychologist Katie Warriner. It will show you how to be the very BEST that you can be.



Twitch is in Year 7, where he is the victim of vicious bullying. Not surprisingly, he would prefer the company of birds to anyone at his school. His plan for the summer holidays, when he finally finishes the first year of secondary, is to spend his time bird watching and also train his pigeons to home. However, his plans are thwarted when a dangerous convict, in prison for murder, escapes. The police believe the escapee will be returning to the area where Twitch is planning to spend his summer – Aves Wood. There are also millions of pounds involved that have yet to be received. Twitch makes some unlikely allies and together they end up trying to track down the prisoner and find the lost millions. But with so much at stake, this becomes a highly hazardous pastime.



Multi-award-winning author Tom Palmer returns with a thrilling naval adventure inspired by the incredible history of the Second World War Arctic convoys.

Winter 1943. Teenagers Frank, Joseph and Stephen are Royal Navy recruits on their first mission at sea during the Second World War. Their ship is part of an Arctic Convoy sailing to Russia to deliver supplies to the Soviets. The convoys have to navigate treacherous waters, sailing through a narrow channel between the Arctic ice pack and German bases on the Norwegian coast. Faced with terrifying enemy attacks from both air and sea, as well as life-threatening cold and storms, will all three boys make it home again?



# Well done Gracie!



## Henrietta Branford Writing Competition

We are a happy bunch of teachers in the English department, celebrating the creativity of all Year Groups who entered the Henrietta Branford Writing Competition because we sent off some fantastic, original narratives that profiled the talents of students at Cardinal Allen.

This is not all. We are delighted to announce that Gracie in Year 10, is one of the six winners. Picked from hundreds of entries, she is pictured here with her certificate and prize that should have been presented at an event in London that was, sadly, cancelled due to Covid restrictions. However, she will be invited to an online presentation of the Branford Boase Award ceremony on July 15th 2021.

Anne Marley, the competition organiser, sent Gracie's entry to last year's Branford Boase Award winner, Liz Hyder, and this was her reply: '...INCREDIBLE! ... genuinely terrifyingly creepy, M.R. James would be proud...outstanding.'

We are delighted for Gracie and hope that she achieves future success in her writing career.

# Art Department News



It has been another busy half term in the Art department and we are delighted to have some of our Year 10 photography student's work being exhibited in the "Inside out Exhibition" at Fleetwood Hospital! The exhibition consists of a range of different art media from local people. The exhibition is on 3 days per week, Monday, Thursday and Saturday.

