Here at Cardinal Newman we like to do lots of fundraising events. One that is very special to us and to a member of our own staff Mr. Batt is the Big Tiny Steps Appeal.

The appeal is for the Liverpool Women's Hospital new NICU and aims to raise £250,000.

The doctors and nurses at this hospital saved the life of Mr. Batt's daughter Betty who was born extremely prematurely and weighed less than a bag of sugar. To raise funds for this special appeal, we held a 'Go Neon' day here at Cardinal Newman where everyone was asked to make a £1 donation in exchange for wearing a neon item of clothing.

A cake sale was also held during break and we would like to thank all of those who donated cakes. A total of £1,070 was raised on the day.

This is what Mr. Batt had to say about the event, “On behalf of my family, I would like to say a massive "THANK YOU!" to everyone who donated money to the Big Tiny Steps Appeal! You are all amazing people and should be proud of yourselves!”

Neonatal Intensive Care nurses Debbie Massy and Emma Beaumont came into school to accept the cheque which was presented by Mr. Batt and his family and two of the pupils from Cardinal Newman.
On Thursday 13th June 2019, pupils from both Year 8 and 9 embarked on a journey to ‘a whole new world’ as we left a wet and miserable Warrington for the captivating capital city.

Our magical mystery tour took us via Warner Bros studios for an exploration of the mysterious and magical Harry Potter World. A truly memorable experience was enjoyed by all as we entered the wonderful wizardry of Hogwarts, Platform 9 ¾ and Gringott’s Bank.

Our adventures did not stop there; when arriving in the capital city we embarked on our first of two theatre trips, this time for an evening performance of ‘School of Rock’, and what a performance it was. The children on stage played all of their own instruments and certainly knew how to ‘Rock’. The performance was not only enjoyable - it was exhilarating!

Friday’s visits offered further magic and mystery as pupils visited Shakespeare’s Globe, engaged in a Shakespearean style workshop and meandered along the South Bank. Our tour of London’s Dungeons was a haunting affair; both pupils and staff screamed with delight and despair. We were then taken on a journey to the sky as we circulated the city via the London Eye. Our evening concluded under a very different sky; this time an Arabian sky, where we experienced another exhilarating theatre performance - Aladdin.

Our exploration came to a star-studded finale as students had the opportunity to rub shoulders with the rich and famous at Madame Tussauds. Royalty, pop stars and sporting legends were all in attendance as pupils mingled with the biggest names in the business. Our tour of this great capital city ended with a long journey back to a very wet and windy Warrington. However, we made some wonderful memories along the way!

On Friday 14th and 21st June, pupils took part in two workshops for the Rivers of the World Programme, as announced in our last newsletter.

The first session was for 2 hours and the children were given the task of working in charcoal and pen and of coming up with ideas for the full workshop which was to follow.

The theme was ‘Resourceful River’ and is based around the River Mersey and Manchester Ship Canal, telling the story of industry and the use of boats, ships, cranes and containers.

Local artist Kirsty Rae came into school to look at the fantastic work that the pupils had done. She has taken all the work home and she will construct boxes and take photos of them. She will then bring all the students together to digitally edit the work.

This will then be produced into a banner panel format, which will be on display in the Pyramid in Warrington, at the River Thames in London and then in Ethiopia.
D of E award scheme

Back in September 28 Year 9 students embarked on a journey which would change their lives; they signed up for the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme.

They began by committing to completing three sections; a volunteering section, a physical section and a skills section, all which had to be completed before June so that they could do their expedition. Some got involved in working in local charity shops, some rowing in school, some included their work with local teams, some even getting involved at Walton Gardens, working with animals. All 28 students were signed off for this, which meant they could take part in the final expedition.

On Wednesday 19th June, the first day of our expedition to Bala, after a final bag check in the morning, we set off by mini-bus to Bala. The students had planned their route in the morning and we dropped them off four miles from their campsite; their mission, to find us and pitch their tents. They all arrived safely, pitched their tents and then cooked an evening meal, all of which was being assessed. In the evening we planned our route for the expedition the next day and then had some activities before bed.

Morning came, all students cooked breakfast and we did a check of bags before commencing our journey. Students set off in small groups, with the coordinates they needed to find their way back to camp, and with checkpoints they had to stop at along the way. The weather was kind to us and the students persevered well to finish in exceptional time. In the evening, we celebrated with chips and sausage from the local Bala chip shop, and marshmallows around the campfire.

Mr Mercer has passed all 28 students, and Mr Darbyshire said “I am extremely proud of the students that took part; they have done extremely well. Students have really pushed themselves on this expedition.”

We are now looking for current Year 8 students going into Year 9 next year and we will be coming to speak to you in assembly with more details, or you can speak to Mr Darbyshire in the Library.

We were taken to the magical Land of Oz for our annual summer show this year at Cardinal Newman Catholic High School.

The acting was truly superb as we were taken on a wondrous journey with Dorothy, Toto, The Tin Man, The Cowardly Lion and Scarecrow. We met some interesting characters along the way, like the Wicked Witch of the West, the Munchkins, the Good Witch and the Wizard himself. We are so proud of our pupils and staff who rehearsed every lunchtime for this fantastic performance. Well done to you all for your professionalism and dedication.

Wizard of a show
On Thursday 27th June we said goodbye to our Year 11 students. After weeks of studying and taking their GCSE exams, they were able to let their hair down and enjoy a fantastic night of celebration at the Year 11 prom.

They enjoyed a 3 course meal at the Hallmark Hotel, Warrington followed by a night of dancing.

The boys looked very smart and dapper in their suits and the girls looked amazing in their fabulous dresses.

We are sad to see them go but wish them all the very best for the future and hope they are all now ready for the next stage in their education. Good luck to you all!

On your marks...

The weather decided to shine for us for our annual sports day on Wednesday 26th June here at Cardinal Newman. Team spirit was alive and well as the pupils took on the challenge of several sports events including track events, javelin and shotput.

The winning forms on the day were 7F, 8H, 9A and 10H. A Spirit of Sports Day award for the form that embraces sports day the most and shows that competitive yet sportsman like attitude, was also given to 10B.