



Cardinal Newman Catholic High School

A Specialist School for Maths and Computing

Maths Challenge

UKMT Intermediate Results
(in order of achievement)

Year	Name	Award
11	Meghan Brooks	Best In School Gold Award
11	Ryan Barker	Gold Award
11	Joe Murphy	Silver Award
11	Louisa Daniel	Silver Award
11	Chloe Gerrard	Silver Award
11	Chris Stubbs	Silver Award
11	Greg O'Hara	Silver Award
9	Jared Eacre	Silver Award
10	Shaun Richardson	Silver Award
11	Alex Puddicombe	Bronze Award
11	Natalie Norton	Bronze Award
9	Catherine D'Anza	Bronze Award
10	Joely Cox	Bronze Award
10	Dale Wharton	Bronze Award
10	Piotr Szostak	Bronze Award
11	Jack Routledge-Wrench	Bronze Award
11	Sophie Dutton	Bronze Award
11	Amy White	Bronze Award
11	Hayley Northey	Bronze Award
10	Emily Moore	Bronze Award
10	Hannah Morris	Bronze Award
10	Shelby Leith	Bronze Award
11	Jessica Baxter	Bronze Award
10	Andrew Roe	Bronze Award
10	Colum Taylor	Bronze Award
10	Isabella Rudge	Bronze Award

Success in GCSE English Comes Early

The English Department entered Year 11 pupils for their GCSE English examination in November and it has been a 'nail biting' wait for the results to be posted. This is the first time the department have entered pupils early for the examination and it appears to have paid dividends: 72% of the pupils entered achieved grades A*-C and the number of A* and A grades increased significantly. The objective now is to replicate the success in English Literature in May. Come on Year 11 – you can do it!

'How do you solve a problem like GCSE poetry?'

65 year 11 pupils attended a poetry workshop at Manchester University earlier this term. The aim of 'How do you solve a problem like GCSE poetry?' was to bring the GCSE English Literature poems to life. This was done in the style of a TV talent contest – X Factor, eat your heart out! The pupils participated enthusiastically and immersed themselves fully in the spirit of the activity – many of them would have given Simon Cowell a run for his money! However, the dramatic performances of key poems helped to develop pupils' understanding of the themes and ideas and if that wasn't enough – an English advisor was also on hand to offer exam busting tips!

Anyone for Shakespeare?

A magnificent enactment of Shakespeare's Scottish play ('Macbeth') proved to be the highlight of the year for Mrs Dolan's Year 11 English group recently. A star-studded cast at the Royal Exchange Theatre, Manchester, gave a thought-provoking performance, based on contemporary experiences of war.

Eighteen pupils, eager to widen their understanding of pre-twentieth century literature, enjoyed an extra-curricular visit to one of the country's most prestigious theatres, where they were transfixed, as soldiers in combats sent messages via text and e-mail and planned strategies on the big screen.

Despite this modernistic interpretation of the play, the essence of the original was maintained and the visit was felt, by all who attended, to be a very worthwhile experience.

'How the West Was Warped'

Once again the pupils and staff produced an excellent production that was humorous and entertaining. This was the first production in the Auditorium, the wonderful facilities helped to make it run smoothly.



Headteacher's Message

March 2009



I wrote in the previous newsletter that I had now been Headteacher of this school since it began eighteen years ago. In fact I have been the only Headteacher of this school. I have been responsible for its establishment and development from the very beginning and I now wish to pass on the responsibility for the leadership of this school from next September.

As you are aware, we have been working very closely with St Gregory's to develop a partnership for the benefit of both schools which we have called a Federation.

I am now very pleased to be able to tell you that Mr Clarke, at present the Headteacher of St Gregory's High School will become the Executive Headteacher for the new Federation between ourselves and St Gregory's. In practical terms Mr Clarke will have overall responsibility for both schools.

To assist him in this task each school will have its own Head of School.

I am delighted to tell you that the Governors of this school have appointed Mrs J Warburton as Head of School for Cardinal Newman. Mrs N Fawkes has been appointed as Head of School for St Gregory's.

These are excellent appointments which will ensure a smooth transition and the future success of both schools.

Wishing you all a Happy Easter.

HEADTEACHER

Dates for your Diary, April – May

Date	Event
20 – 25 April	Year 8 Exams
21 April	Primary Maths Challenge
22 April	Year 9 pupils Aimhigher
23 April	Year 11 GCSE History visit
27 April – 1 May	Year 7 Exams
28 April	Year 11 Mock Interviews
29 April, evening	Primary Dance Festival
30 April, evening	Primary Dance Festival
1 – 3 May	Dance Visit to London
5 May	Diverse Arts 'Changing Faces' Year 8 & 9
6 May	Year 3 Multi-skills Festival
8 May	Year 4 Multi-skills Festival
13 May	Creative Writing Taster Day Year 9
14 May	Year 8 Parents' Evening



Newsletter – Spring 2009

UKMT Intermediate Challenge

Over 90 pupils in Years 9, 10 and 11 took part in the annual UKMT Intermediate maths challenge. All pupils have one hour to complete a 25 question multiple choice paper. 26 pupils from across the three years achieved scores high enough to merit a certificate and Meghan Brooks in Year 11 qualified for the Pink Kangaroo which is a follow on round.

UKMT Team Final

Four pupils from Year 8 travelled to the University of Manchester to take part in the UKMT Team Final. They competed against teams from across the north-west in four different challenging rounds which included a cross-number puzzle and a relay-race.



Gifted and Talented Workshops

Year 7 – Number Systems

A group of gifted year 7 pupils spent three lessons working on different number systems used both nowadays and in earlier times. They had to work in groups to produce a powerpoint presentation that they later showed to the rest of their maths class.

Year 8 – Pascal's Triangle and Binomial Expansion

Some year 8 gifted mathematicians spent two lessons working on discovering Pascal's Triangle leading onto complex binomial expansion problems. The workshop is challenging as it leads on to a topic studied in AS Level maths.

Enterprise Events

Year 9 – Learn to Earn

Year 9 took part in their first ever Enterprise Day run in school by Young Enterprise. They worked in their forms for the day, looking at what they wanted to do in their future including future earnings and qualifications needed. They were given the opportunity to play interviewer and interviewee in a role playing activity.

Gifted Mathematicians

The department have visited St Peter's, Our Lady's and St Bridget's primary schools to work with pupils in years 4 to 6 who are gifted at maths for two one hour workshops. Some pupils took part in the circle workshops where pupils discover the link between the area and radius of a circle and circumference and diameter. Other pupils have participated in a new workshop on coordinates and straight line graphs. Other primary schools will be taking part after the Easter break.

MFL Department

On Tuesday 27 January pupils in 9P visited the Pyramid Centre to watch a performance in German. "Nichts zum anziehen" was performed by native speakers and focused on two teenagers getting ready for a night out. Having practiced key vocabulary and studied Act 1 prior to the visit pupils were able to follow the performance brilliantly. Pupils' responses included: "It was really funny" George Davidson 9C, "The actors were great" Tom Everson 9C, "it was quite easy to work out what was going on" Lauren Bush 9C.

Liverpool Mathematical Society Maths Challenge

Louisa Daniel in Year 11 was successful in her entry to the LMS Maths Challenge to receive an invitation to an evening of awards and maths challenges at the University of Liverpool.

Primary Schools Year 5 Tasters

Year 5 pupils from St Monica's, Our Lady's, St Peter's and St Augustine's primary schools have all visited Cardinal Newman for taster sessions in ICT and Maths. They spend the first session in ICT using fireworks to animate their initials. The second session is spent in the maths department investigating the average number of Smarties in a box and how much packaging is used to make different shaped boxes. Year 7 and 8 pupils from Cardinal Newman have helped out with the sessions. Hopefully more schools will be visiting us after Easter to take part in the sessions.

Year 11 – We're in Business

Year 11 took part in their third and final Enterprise Day run by a representative from MoneySense (Royal Bank of Scotland and Natwest). They spent the day in the sports hall working in groups to plan and cost an event with a theme of a country. They had to research food and entertainment, amongst other things whilst making sure their bid was realistic and could compete with the other groups. They then had to 2 minutes to present their ideas to try to secure the contract. The task encouraged them to be creative and innovative and develop their communication and teamwork skills.

Masterclasses

Year 9 students from Cardinal Newman and other Warrington high schools have taken part in a series of four Saturday morning maths masterclasses aimed at gifted mathematicians. The four sessions are run by outside speakers including lecturers from University's of Liverpool and Manchester. The sessions are challenging and stimulating and cover topics not on the Key Stage 3 or 4 curriculum.



Newsletter – Spring 2009



EAL Department

The launch of the adult English Skills for Life course on Thursday 19 March proved very successful. More than 20 parents, for whom English is not their first language, attended the evening class. The course which is run in partnership with Warrington Collegiate aims to enhance parents' language skills in order to support their children's learning in school.

Year 10 – Work Experience, May 11 – 22

Year 10 are busily preparing for their two week placement in May.

Work experience is one of the most effective tools for preparing young people for their adult working life. For most, it offers then a valuable insight into the world of work and for some this placement helps them decide on their future career.

BSC Entry Level Awareness in Workforce Hazard Awareness

Certificates were handed out during the Year 11 assembly for all those who completed the portfolio of evidence covering a range of topics such as hazards, safety signs, personal protective equipment and fire. This has been a very positive development to ensure the safety of the students in the workplace and with Year 10 ready to embark on their two week work placement this has benefited them enormously.

Year 8 Trip – January 09 Pantomime – Aladdin St Helens Theatre Royal

Year 8 had a fantastic time and thoroughly enjoyed 'Aladdin'. The screams of "it's behind you" and "Oh yes it is" were so loud that on the way home the pupils complained they had lost their voices. One pupil, Jamie Matthewman said "it was funny and enjoyable, the policeman made us laugh the most and we loved it when 'Schnorbitz' the dog came on.

Year 11 – Skillcity Careers Fayre

A small group of Year 11's enjoyed a morning at the Reebok Stadium in Bolton visiting the wide variety of employer stands. The pupils were involved in making bags, nail design, aircraft simulation and even tried their hand at wall climbing. The pupils gained a great amount of information to help them make decisions about their choice of career. The pupils commented on how good the information was on hand and enjoyed making some products.

ICT

Y9 students enjoyed a trip to Manchester Airport to investigate how ICT is used throughout the airport. Students were accommodated in DC 10 plane which had been converted to a classroom. The students participated in a workshop looking at how



ICT is used for checking in, flight information systems, baggage handling, security and passport control. Following the workshop students were shown around the flight deck and had a tour around Concord.

