

October 2024

Cardinal Allen Catholic High School



School Newsletter

Year 11 enjoy Castlerigg Manor!



Welcome new staff

Castlerigg Manor

Sports News

Poetry Competition



WELCOME TO...

The new academic year welcomes some new members of staff.

We would like to wish our new colleagues all the very best with the work that they do with our pupils



Associate Staff



Teaching Staff



Learning Support

Following the departure of several colleagues at the end of last year, we are delighted to introduce some recent additions to our staff.

From left to right we have Mrs Vincent who joins us as Exams and Data Manager, Miss Warburton joins the Finance Team as Finance Officer, Mrs Charlesworth is our new Aquinas Centre Manager, Mr Vincent who joins our English department, Mrs Sutcliffe who will be in the PE team, Mr Fiddler who joins us in the Maths Team and also takes the role of Assistant Headteacher, Mr Birkenhead who will be in the Science Department and finally, Miss Rimmer and Mrs Leigh who are our new Teaching Assistants.

Admissions 2025

Whichever High School you are applying to for admission in September 2025 please remember that the deadline for applications is

Thursday 31st October 2024!



For further details of how to apply click on this link: [Cardinal Allen](#)

Poetry Competition

Poetry Day was celebrated in school on 3rd October. Pupils in Years 7-9 were asked to write a poem on the theme of 'The Beautiful Truth'. This theme is open for interpretation, from looking at truth and lies in the media, to personal beliefs about the world around us. Pupils are invited to submit their work to the Young Writers competition to have their poems published and to be in with a chance of winning money for themselves and the school. **Entries need to be handed to the English Department by 16th October.**



Debate Club

For pupils who like to:

- ◆ Discuss thought-provoking issues
- ◆ Voice their opinions
- ◆ Challenge the views of others
- ◆ Research a wide range of topics in order to develop an informed point of view



The debate club meets after school on Thursdays in M1. Next half term's motions are:

'This house believes that, with the advancement of AI and translation tools, there is no need to learn a foreign language.' and 'This house believes that environmental targets to tackle the climate crisis should be imposed internationally'.

LIFE—Living in Fullness Everyday



As part of their LIFE learning sessions on Wednesday 25th September, Year 7 had a live Pedestrian Safety production from 'Performance in Education' called Street-wise. Pupils watched a fictional drama involving teenagers in various road safety scenarios, including walking to school. Pupils then participated in a lively question and answer session with the cast and finally a quiz to test their learning

from the session. All our Year 7 pupils listened carefully throughout & enthusiastically engaged with cast members during the Q&A session.

Art Department Reminders!



Just a reminder of our afterschool art club and GCSE catch up sessions!

Mondays: All years welcome! A great opportunity to complete your own art work or get some help with your art homework! (for an hour after school)

Wednesdays: GCSE students only - working on Portfolio work and discussing work with art/ photography teachers. (For an hour after school)

Also keep an eye on synergy messages for information about our first workshop coming up after half term, with the theme of Halloween!! Details to follow....Mrs Glaister.

Sports News



Football—We have had well over two hundred students involved in Football practices; Intra School matches and inter school matches already this year. It has been amazing to see so many young people involved in and enjoying playing school

Football. We welcome Mr Vincent to the coaching set up and look forward to seeing what his team can achieve this season. There have been many stand out individual and team performances this year, however our Y8 team made it through to the second round of the Lancashire Cup after a thriller against St Marys, Blackpool.



Netball—The Netball season has started with a bang! So many happy and smiling faces at training. Y9 and Y10 teams have been involved in tournaments and performed very well.

The Y7 and Y8 Tournaments are

coming up. So good to see our students enjoy Netball.



Sparx Maths

Cardinal Allen Catholic High School, Fleetwood

The Mathematics department wanted to say a big well done to all the students who have been working really hard on completing their Sparx homework online. There have been 120,371 questions answered correctly by our students in the two weeks since we started completing homework this year, totalling a combined 941 hours of learning. Students who are working more independently, practising key skills at home will develop greater confidence and ultimately support their progress in school.

We are delighted a large number of students have accessed additional learning beyond their homework and we actively encourage students to watch videos and practice topics they may have struggled on in class or in previous years and there will be recognition of students with the highest 'XP scores'. If anyone is struggling to complete their Sparx homework, then we are going to run a 30-minute support class in the Aquinas Centre after school each Monday and Friday night. These will be staffed by Maths teachers who will be able to support their learning if they are struggling with any particular topics/questions.

All the students hard work and support from parents is massively appreciated by us all. Keep up the hard work!

Fairtrade Fortnight 2024



At the start of September Miss Stazka and three of our Fairtrade ambassadors delivered assemblies to three of our local primary schools – St Bernadettes, St John’s and St Teresa’s. During the assembly, the children learned about how Fairtrade helps to ensure that producers, particularly in developing countries, receive fair wages and work in safe conditions. The girls explained about how buying fairtrade products can have such a positive impact on communities and

how we can all get involved, not only during Fairtrade fortnight, but throughout the whole year. So look out for the fairtrade sticker on all goods available to buy in your local supermarket.

Scholars Programme



The Scholar's programme has begun again for Years 9 and 10. Students have already had their first session with the wonderful Andy Griffith who has been inspiring them with tips on presenting and thinking deeper. They have also been lucky enough to have spent an afternoon working with our very own Mr Fernie. Mr Fernie brought his expertise in International Law to Cardinal Allen and students were encouraged to discuss, present and debate on this complicated topic. Next term will see the introduction of 25 Year 8 students to the programme.



European Day of Languages



On the 26th September, here at Cardinal Allen, we celebrated the annual event that is the European Day of Languages. Members of the MFL club helped Mr Winstanley design a "Treasure Hunt" across the school where students were encouraged to find the meaning of 14 different words in 14 different languages! A huge well done to all of the entries and prizes will be awarded for all entries.

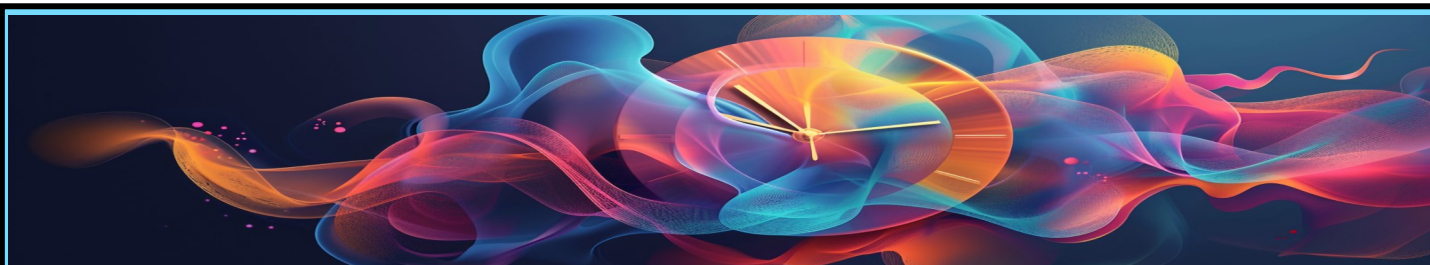


Performing Arts / BRAVO!

A huge well done for all the Year 11 pupils who took part in The Performing Arts showcase. The turn out from your family and friends was absolutely fantastic and we raised lots of money for The Performing Arts department. Thank you again for showcasing your talent - whether it was musically, performing pop / rock, acting and musical theatre. It was a wonderful night to celebrate the class of 2024.

BRAVO Announced their 2025 Musical - CHICAGO! The pupils were very excited - see photo! Good luck to all for your auditions! Miss Roberts and Mrs Mitchell.





Year 7's Fantastic Start in Science!






Our Year 7 pupils have settled into Science lessons at Cardinal Allen brilliantly, impressing their teachers with their positive attitudes to learning and excellent behaviour. They've also been busy putting their practical skills to the test, exploring a range of separation techniques including filtration, evaporation, crystallisation, distillation, and chromatography during experiments.

In addition, Year 7 have embraced using Seneca for their Science homework, achieving some fantastic scores already. A reminder that pupils have one Science homework to complete each week, set through Seneca. If your child is experiencing any issues with Seneca, please encourage them to speak to their class teacher for support.

Well done, Year 7, on an outstanding start to the year!

Join the Science Club: A Magical Journey Awaits!

Are you ready to embark on an adventure into the magical world of science? Our **Science Club** is back with a spell-binding twist! Whether you're a budding witch, wizard, or simply a science enthusiast, this club is the perfect place to explore the mysteries of the universe. This term, we're introducing a range of magical subjects that will make you feel like you've stepped into a wizarding world! Explore the science behind:

-  **Potions**
-  **Care of Magical Creatures**
-  **Herbology**
-  **Alchemy**
-  **Levitation and Apparitions**

And that's not all! By participating in Science Club, you will also have the opportunity to work towards a **CREST Discovery Award**, a nationally recognized achievement that will boost your scientific skills and creativity. Join us every **Thursday after school** in **Sc4** and let the magic of science take over! Don't miss out on the chance to make friends, have fun, and experience the wonders of the world in a new way.

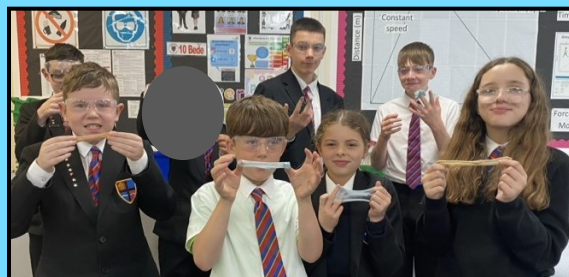
We can't wait to see you there!

Y8 Explore Species Richness

Recently, our Year 8 classes have ventured outdoors to conduct an exciting hands-on investigation into species richness using quadrats on the school field. The students worked in groups, placing quadrats randomly across different sections of the field to sample and record the variety of plant species present. Despite getting a little muddy during the process, they were fully engaged and enthusiastic about the opportunity to learn outside the classroom. The experience gave the students practical insight into ecological fieldwork, helping them understand how scientists measure biodiversity. The mud just added to the fun, making it a memorable learning adventure for everyone!

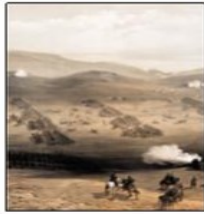
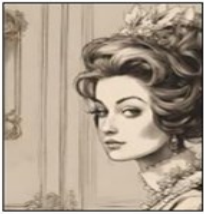
Year 9 Pupils Get Creative with Slime in Polymers Lesson!

This week, Year 9 students had a fun and hands-on experience in their science lesson, making their very own slime as part of their study on polymers. Polymers are long chains of molecules that play a crucial role in many everyday materials, from plastic to rubber – and even slime! Under the guidance of their science teachers, the students combined ingredients like pva glue, eye drops and food coloring to create the perfect slime consistency. This experiment helped them understand how polymers behave and how different ingredients can change the properties of materials.



Year 11 Revision Challenge

Can you name the poem linked to the images below?



Year 10 Challenge

DOWNLOAD THE GUARDIAN OR TELEGRAPH APP

and commit to reading **ONE ARTICLE
A WEEK**. By doing this students:



can select topics that interest them which will encourage more reading if they are enjoying it



can access reading material for **FREE**



can get that satisfaction **WEEKLY** that is attached to completing a piece of reading, hopefully sparking more of a love for it!



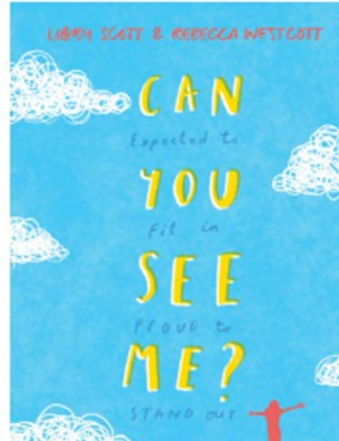
can build their vocab banks by reading broadsheet

Recommended Reads

Can You See Me? by Libby Scott & Rebecca Westcott

Follow 11-year-old Tally's journey as she navigates the challenges of school, friendship, and self-discovery, providing readers with a unique and empathetic perspective on autism. Can You See Me is an empowering read and an excellent book choice for book clubs in lower KS3.

Autobiography | Autism



KS3

Like A Girl by Rebecca Westcott

14-year-old Eden tries to avoid a nasty social media-driven clique at all costs. But her love of track running sees her targeted by the "Glossies" and thrown into a dangerous game of loyalty, initiation and peer pressure. Addressing themes of cyberbullying, social conformity, and true friendship, Like A Girl is a powerful story to help discuss the impacts of social exclusion and identity. Highly recommended.

Social Media



Nineteen Eighty-Four by George Orwell

The dystopian novel without which the world would not have Big Brother, the Ministry of Truth and the Party. Still highly relevant in the modern world of spin, media and the rise of right-wing populism.

Dystopia

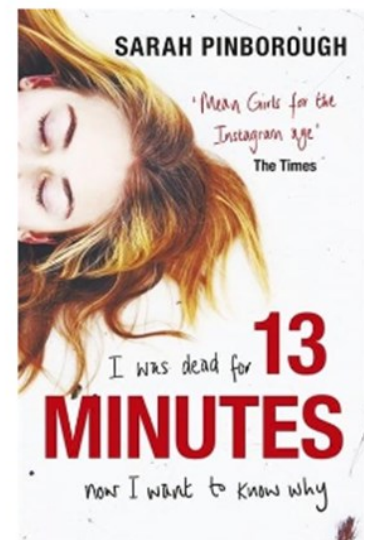
KS4



13 minutes: A Novel by Sarah Pinborough

Dead for 13 minutes, Natasha doesn't know how it happened or how she got there. But she is determined to find out. A gripping mystery page-turner set in a nasty and manipulative teenage world. A pacy read for students in Year 10.

Mystery | Thriller



Attendance Matters



Attendance at Cardinal Allen – key reminders

- All pupils must be on the school grounds by **8:35am** at the latest, where they line up on the courts (playground).
- Pupils are registered in Form Rooms at **8:40am**.
- If a pupil arrives **after 8:40am** they enter through the late door (accessed from the main car park).
- Pupils arriving to school late receive a same-day 30 minute detention.
- School finishes at **3:10pm**.



If your child is unwell and cannot attend school that day, you must phone the attendance line: 01253 872659, select 'option 1' for attendance and leave a voicemail.

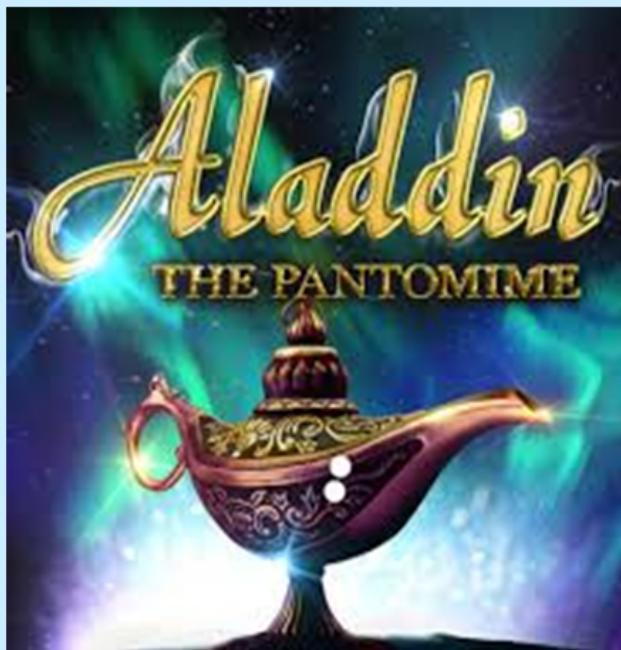
We ask that you provide medical evidence for any appointments, such as the orthodontist or hospital. Please email this to: medicalevidence@cardinalallen.co.uk

Attendance Team

Mrs Eccles – Assistant Headteacher
Mrs Imisson and **Mrs Mabela** – Attendance Improvement Officers
Mrs Carey – Pastoral Assistant Year 7
Mrs Savage – Pastoral Assistant Year 8
Mrs Buchanan – Pastoral Assistant Year 9
Mrs Holme – Pastoral Assistant Year 10
Mrs Walsh – Pastoral Assistant Year 11

Talk to us

If you and your child are experiencing difficulties with school attendance then talk to us as a first step so we can help.



Attendance and Behaviour Reward Trip

We are very excited to have launched our first Attendance and Behaviour Reward Trip of 2024-2025. We will invite all pupils with over 97% attendance between the start of term and 19th November, as long as they have had no suspensions from school this term. We are going to see the pantomime Aladdin at The Globe, Pleasure Beach on Tuesday 17th December. This was a wonderful trip last year and we can't wait to go again!

It is fantastic to reward pupils who have excellent school attendance – as we explain to the pupils, it is by being in school every day that we put ourselves in the best position to achieve well. Every year, our GCSE results show that the pupils with the best attendance go on to get the best grades.

Reminder of Changes to Education-related Penalty Notices

The Department for Education has made national changes to penalty notices issued for unauthorised absence in term time. These changes are now in effect:

- Penalty notices issued for offences that take place after 19 August 2024 will be charged at a new rate of £160 per parent per child. This can be paid at £80 if paid within 21 days.
- Any second penalty notice issued to the same parent for the same child within a rolling 3-year period will be issued at the rate of £160 to be paid within 28 days with no option for a discounted rate.
- The threshold at which a penalty notice **must** be considered is set at 10 sessions (equivalent to 5 days) of unauthorised absence within a rolling 10-school week period. This may include absences as a result of arriving late after the register closes. The 10 school weeks may span different terms or school years.
- A maximum of 2 penalty notices may be issued to a parent for the same child within a rolling 3-year period, so at the 3rd (or subsequent) offence(s) another course of action will need to be considered (such as prosecution or one of the other attendance legal interventions).
- Only penalty notices issued for absences taking place after 19 August 2024 will count towards the above thresholds.