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Cardinal Heenan Catholic High School

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Ms K. Smyth Headteacher

KS/LL

16th July 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

End of term letter

As we reach the end of another busy and successful academic year, I want to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support and share with you just a few of the many highlights from this term.

A special congratulations to the seventeen pupils who were awarded the Bronze, Silver or Gold Faith in Action Award this year after completing many hours of community service and reflecting on their faith and how they can help others.

Further congratulations to our Sixth Form pupils Max, Ethan, Tomas, Maram, Caitlin, Jacob who all secured a prestigious scholarship placement with BioGrad Education this year. This opportunity will give them practical work experience in real medical settings.

Meanwhile, our Key Stage 3 pupils arrived safely in Spain for an unforgettable week of watersports and adventure, whilst Year 10 travelled to Normandy to further their learning outside of the classroom, discovering more about World War II and the Normandy Landings. Our Sixth Form pupils set off on an adventure of a lifetime, visiting The Andy Star Academy in Nakuru, Kenya to support kindergarten pupils. They fundraised an incredible £1,558 to buy vital supplies for the school and built wooden tables and chairs for their classrooms.

We recognise enrichment trips as a valuable learning experience and this term pupils have visited Alder Hey Hospital and the Knowledge Quarter for career related trips, our school band developed their performance schools putting on a show at a local primary school and Year 9 pupils took part in the 'All Ears Poetry' Expo.

The recent Year 6 Induction and Transition Day was a great success, with excellent feedback from pupils and parents alike. It was wonderful to see our new students embrace the change with enthusiasm. We also celebrated our Year 11 and Year 13 leavers in true Cardinal Heenan style with beautiful Graduation Masses.

This week, you will have received your child's school report. Thank you to everyone who followed up regarding missing assessments, clearly marked with an 'X'. These conversations have highlighted the vital link between strong attendance and academic progress. We are proud that this year we've seen a significant increase in pupils achieving 100% attendance, and an even greater number with no negative behaviour points; a shared achievement we can all celebrate.



Our Year 10 and 12 students are currently out on work experience, learning the importance of punctuality, reliability, and responsibility. Many thanks to all the families who supported us in arranging these valuable placements. Several students have described their experience as 'life-changing'.

Finally, our Enrichment Week has been an incredible way to end the term. From energetic sports days to inspiring trips. We are hugely grateful to the external providers, our staff team, and of course to you, our families, for making all of this possible.

To stay up to date with all our news and celebrations, don't forget to follow us on Instagram @cardinal_heenan_liverpool, it's a fantastic way to see the breadth of opportunity available to your child here at Cardinal Heenan. We even went viral recently for our water gun video reaching 10.6K likes! It is a heartwarming video and captures how important creating special memories is to us here at Cardinal Heenan.

After an incredible **36 years of dedicated service**, we say a fond farewell to **Mr James Sanderson**, who is retiring from Cardinal Heenan Catholic High School. Throughout his time with us, James has inspired generations of pupils through his outstanding teaching, exceptional musicianship and unwavering commitment to school life. He has been at the heart of countless concerts, productions and celebrations, and his contribution to our community has been immeasurable. While we wish him a long, happy and well-earned retirement, those who know Cardinal Heenan also know that people never really leave the family! I'm sure James is looking forward to some well-deserved time away—but, whether he realizes it yet or not, we have every intention of welcoming him back to help with concerts, celebrations and the many occasions that simply wouldn't feel the same without him. Once you're part of the Cardinal Heenan family, you're always part of it!

Thank you once again for all you do. Wishing you and your family a restful, safe, and joyful summer.

Warm regards

K. Smyth

Ms K Smyth
Headteacher