

## SYNTAX PPE MOCK EXAMINATION



30th October 2017 ~ 8th November 2017

A parent letter together with a time table, has been sent home for all Syntax pupils. They will be sitting their first set of mock examinations straight after half term. We wish your son daughter a successful mock examination.

Mr D Duffy  
Assistant Headteacher



House	6.10.2017	29.9.2017
Allen	94.3%	95.6%
Hinsley	96.5%	95.5%
Manning	93.4%	92.8%
Newman	93.4%	91.8%
Vaughan	94.8%	93.9%
Wiseman	94.4%	93.8%
<b>Whole School</b>	<b>94.5%</b>	<b>93.9%</b>



# THE GRIFFIN

## Cardinal Griffin Catholic College

*Ad majorem Dei gloriam*

Issue 119  
12 October 2017  
Michaelmas Term  
Week 5

### COLLEGE PRAYERS FOR THE WEEK

#### Morning Prayer

Lord, teach me to be generous:  
to serve you as you deserve;  
to give and not to count the  
cost;  
to fight and not to heed the  
wounds;  
to toil and not to seek to rest;  
to labour and to ask for any  
reward  
save that of knowing I do your  
will.  
Amen

#### Evening Prayer

May the Lord support us  
all the day long,  
till the shadows lengthen,  
and the evening comes,  
and the busy world is hushed,  
and the fever of life is over,  
and our work is done.  
Then, in his mercy,  
may he give us  
a safe lodging,  
a holy rest,  
and peace at last.  
Amen

#### Weekly Prayer

Our Father, who art in  
heaven,  
hallowed be thy name.  
Thy kingdom come, thy will  
be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily  
bread,  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who  
trespass against us,  
and lead us not into  
temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
Amen.



### THIS WEEK'S STAR READERS

#### Congratulations!!!

We have some AMAZING readers in  
**Rudiments**

Well Done to Annalise Simcox who has  
passed 3 quizzes already and read 120,785  
words.

Summer has also read an amazing 101,564  
words this week.

Well Done to Dawid Selta who has also read  
3 books so far this term and passed 3  
quizzes.

Rudiments are enthusiastic readers I look  
forward to sharing more STAR readers very  
soon.

### PERFORMING ARTS NOTICES

Over the past few weeks Miss Blewitt has been  
working hard with her group of dancers to  
create some exciting new dance pieces for an  
upcoming event. Miss Blewitt and her dancers  
have been invited to perform at Bloxwich  
Memorial Hall as part of a fundraising event for  
the Liam Keeling Charity. There will be a whole  
host of performances to entertain the audience,  
whilst joining together to raise some money for a  
good cause. The event will take place on Friday  
the 20<sup>th</sup> October will meet at 18.30; they can get  
a permission slip from Miss Blewitt or Mrs Davies  
next week with further details on. It is important  
that slips are filled in and returned. If you would  
like to join the Dance Department at this special  
event please come along on the night, ticket  
information can be gained via Miss Blewitt.

In the meantime, the cast of 'Oh Happy Day'  
had a chance to perform some of the musical  
numbers for the first time at Opening Evening.  
Students were all very keen and willing, given  
that they had only just been given their scripts!  
The parents at Open Evening seemed to enjoy  
seeing and hearing a snippet of what's to come.

### CHURCH CALENDAR

<b>Sunday 15th October 2017</b>	<b>28th Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>
<b>Monday 16th October 2017</b>	St Richard Gwyn, schoolmaster, Martyr (W)
<b>Tuesday 17th October 2017</b>	St Ignatius of Antioch, Bishop, Martyr
<b>Wednesday 18th October 2017</b>	St Luke, Evangelist
<b>Thursday 19th October 2017</b>	St Paul of the Cross, Priest
<b>Friday 20th October 2017</b>	Weekday in Ordinary Time
<b>Saturday 21st October 2017</b>	Weekday in Ordinary Time

### LAY CHAPLAIN'S MESSAGE

AmDg

7th October 2017 is the feast day of Our Lady of the Rosary. It began as the feast of Our Lady of Victory, instituted in 1571 after a Christian military victory in the Battle of Lepanto. In 1573, this feast day was renamed Our Lady of the Rosary by Pope Gregory XIII and in 1716, Our Lady of the Rosary was celebrated as a feast of the universal Church for the first time. For the rest of October please say the Hail Mary in your prayers and ask for Mary, the Mother of Christ, to pray with us and for us.

The last day of the Michaelmas Term, Friday 20th October 2017, has been set aside as a non-uniform day for the pupils, students and staff. The cost for wearing no uniform on the day is £1. The monies raised will go towards CAFOD (the **Catholic Agency For Overseas Development**) and Jesuit Missions. There will in addition be bucket collections for both charities.

LDS

### OUR PARISH CHURCHES

#### St Mary's & St Thomas More

Rev Fr Peter Weatherby  
<http://www.cannockcatholic.org>  
07766 335591

#### Our Lady of Lourdes

Rev Fr Jeremy Howard  
<http://www.ourladyhednesford.com>  
01543 422576

#### St Joseph's, Burntwood

Rev Fr Paul Haines  
<http://www.stjosburntwood.co.uk/>  
01543 686266

#### St Joseph & St Etheldreda, Rugeley

Rev Fr Peter Stonier  
<http://www.rugeleycatholicchurch.co.uk/>  
01889 802531

**PARENT SURVEYS**

Many thanks to all the parents who leave questions on the parent surveys following Parent Evening or the Parent Teacher Learning Partnership (PTLP) meetings. I'd like to take the opportunity to respond some of the questions, These are questions that maybe many parents would like to ask and I hope that you find the answers informative and useful.

**How are reports written?**

Each pupil receives a report for the year. Generally, the reports for Rudiments, Figures and Lower Grammar are written towards the end of the year taking into account the work completed during the year. Each subject completes a report

and there is a report from the House Tutor and the Head of House. There should always be a personal element within each report.

**Why is it important for children to have the correct equipment?**

Having the correct equipment for learning enables a pupil to engage in the task set by the teacher and it re-enforces the importance of preparation. There is a famous saying "If you fail to prepare, prepare to fail". There is an unwritten rule in business management and it is that 96% of the time is spent on 4% of the person, it is very true of school. Pupils who have the incorrect dress code are more likely to not have the correct equipment and they are most likely to make the least progress.

**How does the school communicate with parents?**

There are three main forms of communication with parents - The weekly Griffin which is always published on the college website, college text and letters. In addition, we will use the day book and occasionally telephone calls in an emergency. We are looking to develop Facebook and Twitter as these are popular forms of communication today. We are finally upgrading our web page to make it more parent and pupil friendly.

**Is information given out on time?**

We try to give parents as much notice as possible please check the calendar on the website. For up and coming events there is a section called college calendar on the newsletter. We will occasionally use the Griffin to flag updates as well. If we do give late notice, I do apologies. It is never our intention.

**How can we check the contact details?**

The college asks pupils to check contact details three times in the year. In future we will notify parents when these checks take place. If you do change your details, can you please contact Pupil Services?

COLLEGE CALENDAR		COLLEGE SPORTS FIXTURES	
<b>19th October 2017</b>	Awards Evening	<b>17th October 2017</b>	Rudiments v Chase High (A)
<b>20th October 2017</b>	Syntax Retreat	<b>18th October 2017</b>	Syntax v Cheslyn Hay (A)
		<b>18th October 2017</b>	Figures v Cheslyn Hay (H)
		<b>18th October 2017</b>	Upper Grammar v EDA (A)
<b>30th October 2017</b>	Syntax Mock Exams	<b>19th October 2017</b>	U15's Girls v Deferrers (A)
		<b>Netball</b>	
		<b>17th October 2017</b>	Upper Grammar Tournament (A)
		<b>Rugby</b>	
		<b>19th October 2017</b>	Upper Grammar v Kingsmead (H)
		<b>20th October 2017</b>	Figures Tournament (A)

**CONTACT DETAILS**

Cardinal Way, Stafford Road, Cannock, Staffordshire, WS11 4AW

Tel: 01543 502215

E-mail: [office@cardinalgriffin.staffs.sch.uk](mailto:office@cardinalgriffin.staffs.sch.uk) Website : [www.cardinalgriffin.org.uk](http://www.cardinalgriffin.org.uk)

**How much homework should my child receive?**

There is no hard and fast rule for homework each week however, your child should receive the following amounts per night for 4 nights per week: Rudiments 45 minutes, Figures 60 minutes; Lower Grammar 60 minutes; Upper Grammar 70 minutes; and Syntax 90 minutes. At times of exams these amounts will rise. Always check **Show my Homework**. If you have concerns please contact the Raising Standards Leader for the Year.

**If I leave a voicemail for staff how long should I expect wait for a response?**

You should have a response with 24-48 hours, earlier if possible. Most teachers have a full teaching timetable and therefore contacting them between 08:30hrs – 15:00hrs can be difficult. Pupils Services is staffed from 08:15hrs to 30 minutes after college every day and they will take messages from parents and pass messages to staff.

**What do the abbreviations, for example PTPL meeting mean?**

PTLP stands for Parent Teacher Learning Partnership. These meetings take place at the beginning of the college year and they are designed to set out the curriculum for the year ahead and provide parents with an opportunity to ask questions of the staff present. Parents are welcome to come into college at any time of the year, this can be facilitated with an appointment.

**Why does the college spend money on statues?**

The college has two sources of income, monies received from the government via the local authority and income that the college is able to generate through the lease of its facilities. The largest pot comes from the government and it is this that which pays for the salaries of the staff who work at the college, the learning resources provided for the pupils and the day to day maintenance costs. The second source of income (leasing) goes to the governing body and it is from this income that the college may purchase religious items. Each year the governors put aside between £10,000-£15,000 into a fund to refurbish the Artificial Turf Pitch (ATP), this was a precondition when we were awarded the ATP. In addition, the governors have to pay for all of the associate costs of the ATP – maintenance, electricity, staffing etc.

**What are pupil targets and how do they work?**

Pupils receive two targets. The published target is the one on their exercise book and it is always challenging. The target is set using a national data base on the assumption that the pupil is performing at the top 5% nationally of their ability cohort. For many students they will not reach this target. However the college also has access to their benchmark which is the grade a pupil should achieve, traditionally this will be about one to one and a half grades below the target

**LOWER GRAMMAR OPTIONS EVENING**

The College will be hosting an Options Evening for Y9 Lower Grammar pupils on Tuesday, 7<sup>th</sup> November 2017. The evening will begin at 18:30hrs with a short overview from Mr Mullen-Furness before pupils and parents have the opportunity to meet with teaching staff. This will allow pupils and parents to explore the content of the qualifications being offered for study in September 2018. Pupils will then be asked to complete a declaration of interest form, which will be used by the College to construct option blocks. Using these blocks pupils will then be asked to choose their preferred options in early December.

Parents unable to attend the evening are requested to contact Mr Mullen-Furness:

[t.furness@cardinalgriffin.staffs.sch.uk](mailto:t.furness@cardinalgriffin.staffs.sch.uk).

LDS

**PUPIL SERVICES**

Dear Parents / Carers

As always, since the start of the new college year we have accumulated a collection of lost property. Please ensure that your child's clothing/bags have their name in so we can ensure it gets returned to them.

Currently we have lunch boxes, PE kits, pencil cases, coats all with no names in.

If your child is missing any items, please, get them to check with the Pupil Services.

We have received a couple of public complaints with regards to Cardinal Griffin pupils cycling on the pavement on Stafford Road. The section from Tesco to Cardinal Way is for pedestrians only and cyclists should dismount.