

Cardinal Langley's

VOICE

Inspired by Faith, Education Leads to Progress



'Eggcellent' Easter Fundraising



Lent is the period of time when we prepare ourselves spiritually for the events of Holy Week and Easter. During Lent we are called to Fast, Pray & Give. Giving isn't just about money, it can be our time, our thoughts and prayers, and our effort – giving of ourselves.

However, sharing some of what we have with those in need is an important part of living our faith. This Lent, the whole school community has been involved in fundraising for Caritas and St Joseph's

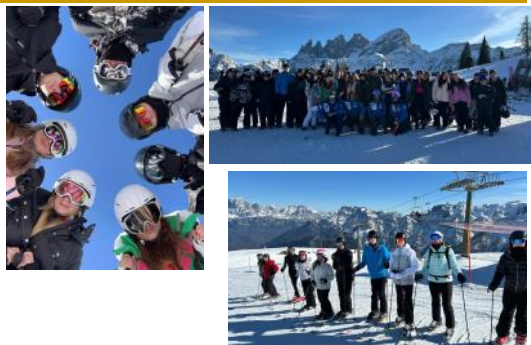
Penny. We have seen a variety of fundraising, including: quizzes, chocolate hamper raffles and cake sales! Students and staff have fully embraced our fundraising and our **total so far is £1,500!** As in previous years, we collected Easter eggs with the aim of ensuring every child in Middleton receives one this Easter. Thank you to everyone who has donated an Easter egg (**556 in total**), raised money with their form, or organised a fundraising event.

Your efforts are truly appreciated and help to make a real difference in the community.



During the February half-term, 46 students embarked on an unforgettable six-day skiing adventure in Falcade, Italy. The trip was a resounding success, with students enjoying glorious sunshine for most of the week. What made the experience even more impressive was the progress made by the students — even those who were absolute beginners managed to conquer a red run by the end of the week! Excitement is already building for next year's trip, which has been booked with 42 students eagerly anticipating another thrilling week of fun on the slopes.

Ski Experience



Falcade 2026 is set to be another incredible experience!

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A group of Year 8 pupils had a wonderful day out at the Laudato Si Centre at Wardley Hall this month. They spent the day speaking about what the Kingdom of God means to them, how they can contribute to building it up in school, their local community and the wider world. They explored the beautiful garden and forest, foraging for fallen leaves and twigs to create some unique pieces of art, as well as helping to tend the garden and its wildlife. They returned to school with some excellent ideas for how they can inspire others to take care of God's creation!



Debate Competition

In a fiercely contested second round debate at Bolton Town Hall, Cardinal Langley faced off against Bolton School Girls' Division, engaging in a spirited battle of wits and rhetoric on the contentious issue: "Musical works should not be copyrightable." As the opposition, Cardinal Langley argued vehemently against the idea of abolishing copyright protections for musical compositions, but despite their compelling performance, they narrowly missed out on securing the round 2 victory.

The debate kicked off with Cardinal Langley taking the opposing side, they argued that copyright protections are essential to safeguarding the rights of artists, ensuring they receive fair compensation for their creative efforts. By allowing copyright to exist, they contended, artists are incentivised to continue producing new and innovative work, contributing to the cultural landscape. Bolton School Girls' Division, as the proposition, stood their ground with an equally passionate rebuttal, advocating that the current framework of copyright stifles creativity and innovation in the music industry. Throughout the debate, both teams displayed impressive eloquence and tactical skill, with both Cardinal Langley and Bolton School Girls' Division delivering powerful counterargument and rebuttals. In the end, despite Cardinal Langley's stellar performance, the judges ruled in favour of Bolton School Girls' Division, granting them the win in this closely contested round. However, the narrow margin underscored the strength of the opposition's arguments, and the Bolton Town Hall audience was left in awe of the talent and passion both teams brought to the stage.



Team: First Speaker: Elliot Trenko,

Second Speaker: Conrad Pawlowski,

Summariser: Rhea Howarth

Computer Musuem

A group of Year 9 students recently had the exciting opportunity to visit the Northwest Computer Museum, where they explored the evolution of technology and honed their coding skills in a hands-on environment. The visit was a fantastic blend of history, innovation, and interactive learning, allowing students to gain a deeper appreciation for how computers have shaped the modern world.

The visit began with a coding session using the programming language BASIC on vintage PCs. For many students, this was an opportunity to enhance their experience with text-based coding, providing valuable insight into how early programmers developed software. By writing simple programs and debugging their own code, students gained fundamental programming skills that they can now apply in their computing lessons back at school. This session reinforced key computational thinking principles, such as logic, sequencing, and problem-solving—essential skills for any budding programmer.

Following the coding workshop, students embarked on a guided tour of the museum, tracing the fascinating development of computers from their earliest forms to modern innovations. The tour covered everything from the first home computers, such as the first Apple computer and ZX Spectrums, to the rise of personal computing in the 1980s and the latest advancements in virtual reality (VR). Students were particularly intrigued by the evolution of storage media, from cassette tapes and floppy disks to the cloud-based storage we rely on today. They were also fascinated by the old-style dial telephones, comparing them to the smartphones they use daily.

One of the highlights of the visit was the free time students had to explore and interact with various pieces of technology. Many took the opportunity to try out the VR equipment, immersing themselves in cutting-edge virtual experiences. Others gravitated towards the retro arcade games, enjoying a taste of the gaming culture that defined past generations. This mix of old and new technology offered students a unique perspective on how computing has evolved and the ways in which it continues to shape entertainment, communication, and industry.





This year's World Book Day was an overwhelming success, with an incredible turnout from both students and staff! Over 40 participants embraced the opportunity to dress up as their favourite book characters, bringing the magic of literature to life. The creativity on display was truly impressive, as costumes ranged from classic characters to modern favourites.

In addition to the fun of dressing up, over 20 students participated in the exciting 2 hour Readathon. The Readathon was a fantastic opportunity to promote a love of reading, with participants diving into books, exploring new stories, and challenging themselves to read more than ever before.

Another exciting highlight was the Dress the Door competition, which saw various form groups decorating their classroom doors with creative book-themed designs. Mrs. Wyke's form took home the victory with their stunning display inspired by Charlotte's Web, capturing the charm and beauty of this classic tale. Their door was a wonderful tribute to the story and a deserving winner of the competition!

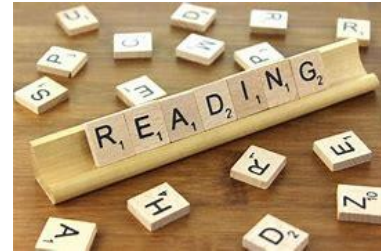
The event not only highlighted the importance of reading but also brought the school community together to celebrate the joy of books. It was wonderful to see so many students and staff getting involved, and we are already looking forward to making next year's World Book Day even bigger and better!

A big thank you to everyone who participated and helped make the day so memorable. Your enthusiasm truly made it a day to remember!

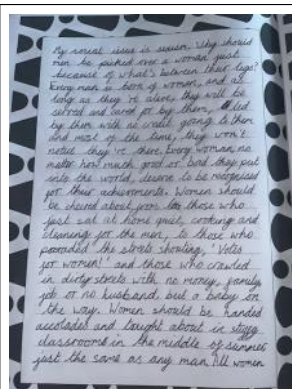


The National Literacy Trust Reading Champions Quiz was an exciting and challenging event, bringing together teams from 14 schools across Greater Manchester and Merseyside. Our team competed in a highly competitive environment, showcasing both their knowledge and enthusiasm for reading. Although we narrowly missed out on third place, the day was filled with fun, laughter, and unforgettable moments.

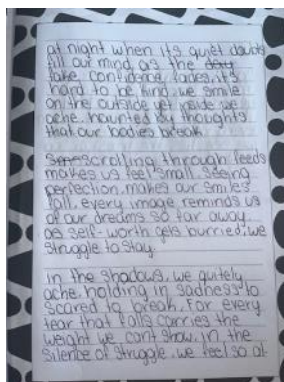
What made our participation extra special was the recognition we received for our exceptional teamwork. We were awarded the prestigious Cheerleaders Award, a prize reserved for teams that demonstrate the strongest cooperation and a positive attitude throughout the day. This recognition was a testament to the dedication and spirit our team exhibited, supporting each other and showing great enthusiasm for the event.



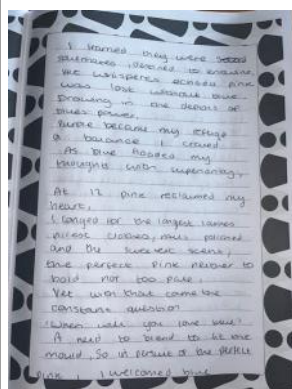
While we didn't take home the top prize, the Cheerleaders Award felt like the best prize of all, highlighting the importance of working together and enjoying the experience. It was a reminder that, sometimes, the journey and the connections made along the way are just as valuable as the results themselves. We're incredibly proud of our team's performance and the lasting memories we created.



The "Power of Voice" project ran by the National Literacy Trust offered a group of our year 9 students a unique opportunity to explore their civic identities and express themselves through writing. Based on the findings from the Children and Young People's Writing in 2023 research, which highlighted that one in seven children and young people use writing to support causes they care about, the project was developed to amplify these voices. With a focus on social action and community engagement, the project encourages students to use their personal stories and experiences to reach a wider audience and create meaningful change.



Over the course of three sessions, our brilliant year 9 students participated in dynamic classroom workshops led by an award-winning writer, poet and lyricist, Jamie Thrasivoulou. Jamie helped to engage the students in lively discussions and debates, helping them develop the skills necessary to articulate their thoughts on important social and civic issues such as global warming, gender equality and human rights. The program emphasized the importance of voice, encouraging students to write in their home languages or dialects, and select the most effective form for their written piece. This inclusive approach allowed our students to feel connected to their heritage while using writing as a powerful tool for advocacy.



The culmination of the program is the publication of a celebratory zine, featuring the students' written works. This zine serves as both a testament to their creativity and a platform to share their voices with the broader community. By participating in "The Power of Voice," our students were not only given the tools to express themselves but also encouraged to take an active role in shaping the world around them, proving that the written word can truly drive change.

Cardinal Langley's Showstopper

After 4 months of intensive rehearsals, Cardinal Langley's Creative Arts department held their 'School Showcase' on the 4th/5th Feb 2025. Around 60 students performed to hundreds of parents/carers/family members and friends on the two nights, and also held an afternoon matinee for 250 primary school children from the local area. The show consisted of highlights from 5 well known musicals (perhaps you can guess which ones from the below photos?)

What a massive success it was! Our students had the best time performing and showing the world what can be achieved with hard work and dedication. They inspired our local primary school students, who can't wait to return next year, and we will let our general public feedback speak for itself:

'Fantastic show. Everyone was superb. Thank you to everyone involved. You should all be very proud.'

'I can't believe how good it was! The children and staff have worked so hard and you can see it in the show...'

We would like to thank everyone who was involved in making the show the huge success it was.

Well done to all involved, it was a fantastic event and every year the level of talent and camaraderie gets better and better!

In the calendar for the Music department next term are:

- Year 11 Leavers Mass
- Founders Day
- Awards Evening at Middleton
- Arena
- Summer Showcase on July 10th (tickets will be available on ParentPay in June).



Artistic Creations

It's been a busy term in the Art department with lots of creative sketch-book pieces and 3D project work. Year 9 students were tasked with making a "Mandrake" prop for a future Harry Potter film. The results were fantastic. Students researched the work of the illustrator Jim Kay, before experimenting with clay, plaster and papier-mache construction techniques to make these imaginative creatures.

Each week the Art department celebrates stand-out pieces of work through our Top Banana awards. Could your artwork be a winner?!



Take a look at some of our amazing Artwork



Updates from the PE Department

Not only have Cardinal Langley students succeeded in individual fields, they have also competed as part of teams in a range of sports, including athletics, football and netball. Well done to everyone who has represented CLRCHS this term; your attitude and sporting spirit never fail to amaze us.

Staff and students have been busy in PE this term!

Here's what we have been up to...

Year 7 boys became finalists of the Catholic Schools County cup—Well done!

The Under 13's girls participated in English Schools Handball Competition for the very first time!

Year 8/9 Badminton team came 3rd in Rochdale—amazing work!

The Year 11 boys got to the quarter finals of the Greater Manchester Cup, it has been an amazing 5 years for them at CL!

Under 15's girls football team came 1st and 2nd in Rochdale Schools Tournament! What an amazing achievement.

We also enjoyed a bowling event ran by Rochdale School Games.



- Year 8 with a 4-3 win Vs Holy Family in the Rochdale Cup—well done boys!
- A tremendous performance from our Y7 boys against their toughest opponents this year!
- Year 7 with another win at Holy Family in their 2nd league play-off winning 2-0.
- Congratulations to our Y11 girls who achieved 2nd place in the Rochdale tournament !



Dance competition!

A huge well done to our amazing students who competed in Rochdale Schools Dance Competition!

They danced against other schools from across the Rochdale borough at Middleton Arena and for most it was their first time on stage. The girls handled their nerves brilliantly!



Middleton Foodbank

Middleton Foodbank is based at the Lighthouse Project: S6b/c Middleton Shopping Centre, Limetree Road, Middleton, M24 4EL.

Tel: 0161 643 1163 or visit their website: <https://middletoncentral.foodbank.org.uk/>

There are similar foodbanks in Rochdale: <https://rochdale.foodbank.org.uk/>
Tel: 01706 713701

If you need **help accessing information online**, please visit your local library where you can use their computers and get free internet access. You will need to apply for a library membership card if you do not have one already:

<http://www.rochdale.gov.uk/library-services/pages/computers-in-the-library.aspx>

Parking and Road Safety

As always, we urge parents and carers to take care when dropping off or collecting their child from school by car. Please do not park on pavements, or in bus bays or the cycle lane, or blocking neighbours' drives, or anywhere you might be causing an obstruction.

Please do not use the visitor car park as a drop off and collection point, **unless you require it for disability access**, as this is causing congestion on the school grounds and adding to the problems on Rochdale Road.

Please be aware that the Scout HQ building next to school is private property and is not part of the school grounds. Please do not park there or use it to drop off or collect your child.

If you are considering public transport as a better option for your child's journey to and from school, details of school bus services can be found on the school website: <https://www.clrchs.co.uk/parents-students/school-bus-services/>

Stop Means STOP

A respectful reminder to drivers: when you see the sign, stop in time! A raised

stick at the side of the road means 'prepare to stop' and a school crossing patrol holding their stick in the middle of the road means 'stop.' Our school crossing patrol officers do a fantastic job in all weathers. Please help make sure they're kept safe while helping children and adults cross safely. Treat the school crossing patrol like a red traffic light.



Thank you for your co-operation.

Easter Services

	Maundy Thursday 17 th April	Good Friday 18 th April	Easter Saturday 19 th April	Easter Sunday 20 th April
Our Lady of the Assumption RC Church Bowness Road, Middleton, M24 4HN	Lord's Supper 7pm	Passion & Death of Our Lord 3pm	Easter Vigil 5pm	Easter Mass 10:30am
St John Fisher RC Church Boarshaw Road, Middleton, M24 1PF		Passion & Death of Our Lord 12noon		Easter Mass 9:15am
St Peter's RC Church Taylor Street, Middleton, M24 1BQ	Lord's Supper 7pm (followed by Watching at the Altar of Repose until 10pm)	Stations of the Cross 11am	Confessions 10-10:45am Easter Vigil 8pm	Easter Mass 9:30am & 6:30pm
St Thomas More RC Church 102 Mainway, Middleton, M24 1PP		Passion of Our Lord 3pm		Easter Mass 11am

Dates for Your Diary

Bank Holidays (school closed)
Monday 5th May

Open Evening (September 2026 entry)
Thursday 26th June 2025
5:00 - 7:00pm

Summer Inset Day (school closed to students)
Friday 27th June 2025



End of Term Arrangements

School will break up for the Easter holiday at 2:30pm on Friday 4th April 2025.

Lessons will run as normal on this day and students should be wearing full school uniform.

We return to school on:
Tuesday 22nd April 2025