



### Oscar Romero 100th Birthday Celebrations

On Friday 22nd September 2017, children from all our schools joined together at St Patricks Catholic Church for a thanksgiving mass to celebrate the 100th birthday anniversary of Oscar Romero

## Message from the Chair

Welcome to our Romero MAC Christmas Newsletter. This term has seen another raft of changes and improvements across our schools, all of which are geared towards improving school environments and creating better outcomes for our young people. There is now a range of school to school support in place across the MAC which is resulting in notable school improvement, especially in Maths and in special needs provision. You can read about some of these improvements on page 2.

November saw the first inset day involving all of the staff in our MAC, sharing a training day at Cardinal Wiseman. There were some truly inspiring sessions and the day ended with our parish priests leading us in a mass. Our staff are vitally important in terms of ensuring we can deliver the standard of education to help us meet our vision of becoming a Beacon of Excellence for Catholic Education.

We've had construction works completed at a number of our schools and with the appointment of our Facilities Manager we're looking to better manage our estate. Through effective management of these projects, we're able to make our capital expenditure reach further than in previous years and hence offer an increased benefit across the MAC.

The new leadership at Cardinal Wiseman continue to work hard to help the school's sustained improvements, which has included closer liaison with our Primary schools as the continued work to support effective transition from KS2 to KS3 is prioritised to ensure our Romero children's development into their secondary phase is as seamless as possible.

We've also again celebrated a MAC-wide Mass at St Patrick's, which, as previous ones were, was a happy and humbling occasion, with representatives from all of our schools.

In the New Year we have a number of key plans that we will be looking to progress, all with the intention of improving outcomes for our young people and working effectively with our staff and wider communities for the greater good across all of our schools and parishes.

I'd like to thank our staff, parents, parishes, volunteers and indeed our young people for all of their efforts in this calendar year and I'd like to congratulate the staff and students of Good Shepherd who secured "Good" in their recent Section 48 inspection. I hope that the hard work that continues to take place across our MAC is reflected in outcomes and achievement later in the academic year.

Finally, let me take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy and holy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Dean Kavanagh, Chair of The Board



# Working Smarter Together

The items highlighted below are examples of our strength working collaboratively as a MAC.

## Website Launch

We are delighted to share our redesigned websites across the MAC which are all aligned in a Romero style. We thank all the staff across the schools who worked hard to ensure all the information on the new website is up to date and compliant. This completes our ten new websites and we will look at our Google Analytics activity in January to assess which areas of the sites are most visited.

## Office Efficiencies

Our schools have transferred a number of manual processes onto more effective ICT systems over the past three months. ParentMail and BioStore now handle our parental communications and cashless catering. This implementation has helped us to remove outdated payment processes and make things easier for parents. The ParentMail app has enhanced our parental communications and the management of our parents evenings.

## Romero Minibuses

We are pleased to announce that we will be able to provide our children with an enhanced level of transport to school based activities from February 2018. We have reviewed our current transport costs and our ability to engage in school based activities. Based on these findings we have procured 8 branded minibuses that will reduce our previous costs and improve the opportunities for our children to attend more events. Our schools will work together in the sharing of their minibuses to maximise their use.

## Facilities Manager - Nigel Bellamy

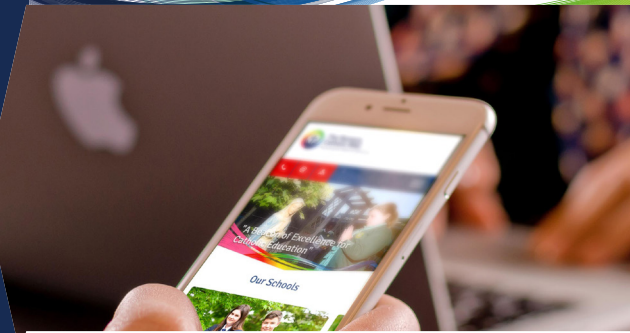
"I started in August 2017, and I am excited to be making a difference for our children. I have been working with our schools and contractors on improving the facilities the children and the staff work in. These include two new roofing projects at St John Fisher and Corpus Christi, Site Service Officer support work at Good Shepherd, remodelling the Sixth Form area at Cardinal Wiseman and project management of new nurseries at Sacred Heart and St Gregory's. I will also be looking at efficiencies and developing best practice facilities management processes across the Academy."

## PE & Wellbeing Co-ordinator - Rhye Parry

"Being appointed P.E & Wellness Co-ordinator gives me a fantastic opportunity to build on the current provision within all schools. My aim is to provide all pupils with an enjoyable and high level of physical education and for them to reach their full potential in all sports. Another aim is to create a comprehensive structure to participation to help build self-esteem and character and help our children to maintain a lifelong participation in sport. I will work alongside PE leads and partner agencies to address some of the social, health and educational challenges that impact the wellbeing of our pupils to aid them in their journey through The Romero Academy."

## Lead Practitioner - Megan Scullion

"The role of Leading Practitioner has allowed me to be at the forefront of education, here at Romero, and is a role that I am thoroughly enjoying. A large majority of my time is spent working alongside Year 6 staff to ensure that outcomes in reading, writing and maths are the highest that they can possibly be. I have also been supporting those staff who are new to working in Year 6 and am now looking forward to developing new initiatives that allow the staff across the academy to plan collaboratively. This will ensure that our curriculum coverage and content is of the highest standard and allows our children to reach their full potential."





# Romero Event News

## Romero Mass

Children from across our academy joined together on Friday 22nd September for a Thanksgiving Mass to celebrate the 100th birthday anniversary of Oscar Romero. Children from Cardinal Wiseman, Year 5 and Year 6, staff, Board Members, members of our Local Academy Committees and parishioners filled the church for the special occasion. The mass culminated with a performance of the new Romero Academy Mission Song, which includes the mission statements of each of the eight schools and the academy. Four children from each school worked with Mr Paul Madia, Principal at Sacred Heart, to write the song. A huge thank you to Father George Bennett, Father Bob Wright and Father Tony Norton who led an inspiring service and to all the children and staff involved.



## Romero Connects

We held our first Romero day for all of our staff on the 3rd November at Cardinal Wiseman. The day involved a number of motivational and wellbeing speakers and an opportunity for our staff to come together. Inspirational speaker, Ashley John Baptiste showed how we can all achieve our dreams irrespective of our starting place in life. We were also delighted to have Cannon David Oakley who gave an inspiring spiritual session in the afternoon. Steve Taylor from Robin Hood Academy addressed work-life balance and Dr Toby Smith followed with a session on helping staff to understand the developing subject of mindfulness. Thank you to Caterlink who provided the food and refreshments free of charge on the day.



## Children in Need

Children at Sacred Heart and St Patricks were extremely lucky this year as Pudsey bear made an early appearance to meet pupils ahead of BBC Children in Need on Friday 17th November. St Patrick's Catholic Primary School had Pudsey join in to launch a one-mile sponsored walk and raised over £350.

Pudsey bear also joined Key Stage 1 and 2 children at Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School for a one-mile run. The children at Sacred Heart run their fitness mile every day and they thoroughly enjoyed having Pudsey bear join them and raise awareness for BBC Children in Need.

A huge thank you to Lloyds bank who arranged the visits on behalf of the Academy.



## Cardinal Wiseman Sixth Form Open Evening

Over 200 families attended our sixth form evening on the 28th November in our new sixth form building. We were delighted to welcome Kevin Rogers, an ex Cardinal Wiseman student and now CEO of West Mercia Housing. Kevin presented on the night and highlighted the benefits of post 16 education in enhancing career opportunities. The new Head of School, Tom Leverage, shared the new curriculum which will include a sports academy from September 2018. This is a very exciting time for our students and our improved post 16 offer will create lots of opportunities as they progress through the school.



Cardinal Wiseman  
Catholic Sixth Form Centre



**The Romero Catholic MAC**  
Nurturing the Talent of Tomorrow



# News from our schools

## Football Academy

In September 2018, Cardinal Wiseman will launch its new Football Academy. It will offer students the opportunity to gain hands-on experience in coaching with a view to developing a career in the sports industry.



## CCFC Players Visit Year 5

Year 5 were lucky enough to have Coventry City Football Club players come and visit them on 28th November. They even got to play a short game!



## Year 4 Visit to Lunt Fort

On 14th November, Year 4 at Good Shepherd visited the Lunt Fort, where they learnt all about the Romans and took part in battle drills for the 20th legion. What a great day!



## Christmas Movie Night Fundraiser

St John Fisher held a Christmas movie night fundraiser in the school to help raise money for the homeless in Coventry. The total money raised will be announced soon.



## Getting Creative at SSPP

Children at SSPP were using their creativity this term to create their mission peice. Thank you to Lesley Whelan for working with the children on this brilliant piece of art!



## Wyken Court Visit

Pupils from St Gregory's paid a special visit to residents at Wyken Court after learning about World War I and II. They wanted to find out more from those who could share their experiences. The children baked cookies and shared poems with the residents. Geraldine Marshall, Principal of St Gregory's Catholic Primary School, said that all of the children found this experience invaluable in helping them understand more about World War I and II.



## Advent Art Day

Sacred Heart pupils and staff all dressed up in their amazing Christmas jumpers or outfits and took part in a fabulous Advent Art Day. There was lots of glitter, sparkles and glue!



## Rise Theatre Productions

This year, St Patricks children were extremely lucky to be allowed to turn on the Christmas lights at the Belgrade Plaza, with a little help from Rudolph. What a magical evening.



## Andrew Robinson Young People's Trust

Some children within the academy had the opportunity to take part in the Andrew Robinsons Young People's Trust Christmas Weekend at Alton Castle. The children had a fabulous weekend, trekking, learning survival skills and taking part in an adventure course. Thank you to ARYPT and Alton Castle for a wonderful weekend.



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**Starters**

Welcome to all our new starters. We are excited for you to join us on our journey to reach our vision as a 'Beacon of Excellence for Catholic Education'

Cardinal Wiseman	<b>Mr M Lambert</b>
Cardinal Wiseman	<b>Mr R Adigun</b>
Cardinal Wiseman	<b>Miss A Ali</b>
Cardinal Wiseman	<b>Mrs E Davis</b>
Cardinal Wiseman	<b>Miss R Lehl</b>
Cardinal Wiseman	<b>Mrs J Kertesz-Gruber</b>
Cardinal Wiseman	<b>Miss S Floze</b>
Cardinal Wiseman	<b>Mrs J Batchelder</b>
Cardinal Wiseman	<b>Miss T Bharadwa</b>
Cardinal Wiseman	<b>Mrs J Murphy</b>
Cardinal Wiseman	<b>Mr C McGrath</b>
Cardinal Wiseman	<b>Mr D Stockton</b>
Cardinal Wiseman	<b>Mrs E Wolenska</b>
Corpus Christi	<b>Miss A Nishimwe</b>
Corpus Christi	<b>Miss S Rees</b>
Corpus Christi	<b>Miss K Donohoe</b>
Corpus Christi	<b>Miss J Kilcoyne</b>
Corpus Christi	<b>Mrs G Tiron</b>
Corpus Christi	<b>Miss A O'Sullivan</b>
Good Shepherd	<b>Mrs E Williams</b>
Good Shepherd	<b>Mrs K Baker</b>
Good Shepherd	<b>Mrs S West</b>
Good Shepherd	<b>Miss K Shaylor</b>
Good Shepherd	<b>Mrs A Hanif</b>
Sacred Heart	<b>Mr L Spencer</b>
Sacred Heart	<b>Miss A Tew</b>
Sacred Heart	<b>Mr JP Maguire</b>
St Gregorys	<b>Miss R Lynch</b>
St Gregorys	<b>Mrs K McCormick</b>
St Gregorys	<b>Miss L Bolton</b>
St Patricks	<b>Mrs I Krata</b>
St Patricks	<b>Mrs J Bozkiewicz</b>
St Patricks	<b>Mrs A Norton</b>
St Patricks	<b>Mrs R Chand</b>
St Patricks	<b>Miss R Mendes</b>
Romero	<b>Mrs M Scullion</b>
Romero	<b>Mr R Parry</b>

**Leavers**

Farewell to all our staff leaving or have left for pastures new. We thank you for your support within the academy and wish you all the best for the future.

St Patricks	<b>Mrs S Adams</b>
St Patricks	<b>Mrs H Bell</b>
St Gregory's	<b>Mrs J Eyden</b>
Sacred Heart	<b>Mrs L Rae</b>
Sacred Heart	<b>Miss K Le Put</b>
Cardinal Wiseman	<b>Mrs J Dhillon</b>
Cardinal Wiseman	<b>Mrs A Swales</b>
Cardinal Wiseman	<b>Miss J Delaney</b>
Cardinal Wiseman	<b>Mr A Hammond</b>
Cardinal Wiseman	<b>Mrs K Thomas</b>
Cardinal Wiseman	<b>Mrs DMT Nardiello</b>
Cardinal Wiseman	<b>Mr TW Lewis</b>
Good Shepherd	<b>Mrs K Towey</b>
Good Shepherd	<b>Mrs A Bakewell</b>

For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future..

**Jeremiah**

