

Our Ref: RS / CB
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Date: 25/06/2025



Education and Families
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Dear Parents and Carers,

The school closes for Summer Holidays on Wednesday 25 June at 1.00pm and resumes for pupils on Thursday 14 August at 8.55am.

SQA results

Young people will receive their SQA results on Tuesday 5 August. Staff will be in school on Wednesday 6 August from 10.00am till 2.00pm to meet young people and discuss any changes to S5/6 curriculum based on SQA results received. Young people who wish to speak to their pupil support teacher or their year head should report to school reception from 10.00am.

Further information on SQA Appeals Service 2025 can be found using the following link:

<https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/79049.html>

Link to school website:

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/nl/CardinalNewmanWebsite/>

School Uniform

Ensuring all our young people come to school each day in full uniform is a key part of the AABOUT Programme; and we rely on parents and carers to support us. Again, I would like to thank you for your support with the uniform policy this session. Almost all young people are now wearing full school uniform – we hope to do even better next session with your help.

School uniform consists of:

- white shirt
- school tie
- black trousers/skirt or plain black tailored shorts (not PE shorts)
- plain black jumper/cardigan (no logos)
- plain black shoes/trainers (no white sole)

School uniform does not include:

- leggings
- jeans

Please do not allow your child to wear black and white converse boots to school. Please do not allow your child to wear branded clothing.

If you require assistance with any items of uniform, please contact the school. We can provide any items of school uniform and footwear. We will contact you if your child comes to school out of uniform and we will work with you to agree next steps.

New S1 Pupils

We ask that all S1 pupils remain in school at lunchtime. Please encourage your child to remain in school when they begin with us in August. Please use the app when ordering lunch from the canteen. This is the same system you used in primary school. We will also provide spaces for young people to have their packed lunch. If remaining in school for lunch presents any specific difficulty for any of our new pupils – please contact their year head or pupil support teacher to discuss.

Parents Portal

We use parents portal for all communications from school to parents and carers. It is the same log in details you use if you have primary school children. If you would like any help on how to register, please contact the school office.

<https://parentsportal.scot/pportal/>

S6 Pupils – School Leadership Roles – well done and congratulations

We carried out interviews for these important leadership roles over the past three weeks.

We rely on all young people in S6 to be good role models for younger pupils. We have spoken to them about our high expectations of them and I know they will respond positively and enthusiastically. They are all looking forward to assuming their leadership roles in August.

School Captains

Harris Crossey

Matthew Hunter

Callum Brennan

Vice Captains

Olivia O'Hare

Ninian House Captains

Safa Fajar

Rebecca Kinney

Jack Forrester

Andrew House Captains

Luisa Mooney

Emily Field

Kentigern House Captains

Amina Ahmed

Aime Bonnar

Columba House Captains

Jamie Shields

Laila Murphy

EMA Allowance

An Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) provides additional financial support for 16 to 19 year olds who attend school full time. Please visit NLC website for more information on eligibility and how to apply. You need to apply each year for EMA allowance.

<https://www.northlanarkshire.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/additional-support-families-and-children/education-maintenance-allowance>

School Transport

If you are eligible for school transport and wish to apply for a place, please visit these links:

Link to the NLC page:

<https://www.northlanarkshire.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/school-transport/free-school-transport>

Link to school transport application form:

https://www.northlanarkshire.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2020-12/CC_2020_00211%20Free%20School%20Transport%20Application%20Form%20A4%20.pdf

Free School Meals and Clothing Grants

<https://www.northlanarkshire.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/school-meals/free-school-meals-and-clothing-grants>

The application portal for FME and CG is now live. Parents can apply through the council website. For session 2024-2025 the clothing grant is: £155 for primary school pupils £180 for secondary pupils. Payment will be made by BACS payment directly into your bank/building society account. If you would like any help to apply, please contact the school.

June 2025

Some information on just some of the things we have been doing in June:

June has been a busy month in school. SQA examinations finished, and the new school timetable began on Monday 2 June. All young people now have their new timetables for the new session and we are looking forward to welcoming our 155 new first year pupils in August.

S6 Caritas Pupils received their Caritas Award at a beautiful ceremony in the Clyde Auditorium on 5 June.

I want to thank all our pupils who helped at the Garden Fete last Friday and Saturday at the Sisters of St Peter Claver Convent in Bellshill. They all did an excellent job and everyone was very happy to see them and commented on how helpful they were throughout the day, including Bishop Toal. It was a great day and the pupils who attended were a credit to the school. Some lovely pictures of the event and our volunteers in action can be found on the school's X (twitter) page.

New S6 pupils took part in a series of religious retreats during the month of June.

Our School Show next session is Matilda. Over the past two weeks we have been auditioning for cast, crew and production staff. There is a lot of excitement about the production and we will keep you informed as we progress to production and performance.

S6 Prom took place in the Bellshill Hilton on Thursday 12 June. It was a great evening and the young people were all in their best new clothes! They all looked amazing. They had a great time and their behaviour was, as always, a credit to themselves and to you.

Lourdes Pilgrimage

A huge thank you to our school chaplain and staff for organising and accompanying 38 of our young people on our Lourdes Pilgrimage. For some of our young people this was their second pilgrimage which is testament to them. They were asked by the sanctuary staff in Lourdes to take on roles during the various religious ceremonies and processions. This is a rare occurrence even if it happens once. Our young people were asked to help on 5 different occasions which is unheard of and is a reflection on them and the high regard in which they were held by the sanctuary.

I have included a link to the Eucharistic Procession on 20 June where you can see our young people taking part.

<https://www.youtube.com/live/XGaUsi7GtZ0?si=NczYPJvxsnTHswvK>

Blackpool Trip

3 coaches left for Blackpool on Monday 23 June. The young people, and staff, had a great day. Thanks to everyone who was involved in organising the trip and to the teachers who accompanied the young people on the trip.

School Chaplain

A massive thanks to our school chaplain Fr. Stuart Parkes. He is instrumental in helping us in our mission that Cardinal Newman High School continues to be a place of faith based learning. Father supports the school and all our young people on a daily basis and celebrates the Sacraments here every week. On our last day of term Father Parkes led the whole school community in mass before we all left for the summer break.

Thanks to our staff

I have thanked all of our teachers and school staff for their hard work and dedication over the past year. I know you will want to join me in thanking them for everything they do for our young people.

Me – retiral

I want to let you know that I will be retiring after the summer holidays. My last day in school will be Friday 29 August. I will be able to say goodbye to everyone after the summer holidays although that process has already started and our young people know.

The local authority and the school will keep you informed as the process to appoint a new headteacher progresses.

I will be taking part in our Newman week celebrations in October so I will have further opportunities to speak to parents and young people and take part in our patronal feast day mass.

I will write to you again at the end of August.

Finally, I want to thank you our amazing parents and carers for your unfailing support and encouragement over the past session. I know we can count on your continued support in the new school year.

As always if there is anything we can do to support you please do not hesitate to contact us. The school office is open over the holidays if you need to contact us for any reason.

I wish you and your families a very happy and relaxing summer break.

Every best wish

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Robert Smith'.

Robert Smith
Headteacher