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THE LAST DAY OF  
AUTUMN TERM  
FOR  
PUPILS WILL BE  
THURSDAY  
20 DECEMBER 2012

\* \* \* \* \*

PUPILS RETURN TO  
SCHOOL AFTER THE  
CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS  
ON MONDAY 7  
JANUARY  
2013

\* \* \* \* \*



# Trinity School Newsletter December 2012



## *Dear Parents*

Despite the continuing gloom which seems to surround the funding of public services, at Trinity we continue to be supported in our work with the children and young people. The After School and Saturday morning clubs continue to thrive and are an important part of our provision for disabled people. However demand is considerable and the organisers are keen to ensure that all pupils who wish to attend get the opportunity to take part. Needless to say that not all the pupils can attend all the time and so there are occasions that if demand exceeds places, then children will have to take turns for some activities. I'm sure that you will understand.

In addition, the Local Authority has secured a grant from the Government of £920,000 to enable the Further Education Centre to expand both premises and the number of pupils they can admit. The School Governors have 'topped up' the cost of the project with some additional money and therefore I am delighted to inform you that the building works have started and will be finished by the start of the Summer term. This is a major development as the new building will be able to accommodate all our post 16 pupils and offer a much needed new dining area for Upper School and a community café which the FEC students will eventually run.

As you know it remains our intention to do our utmost this year to keep the school open again in the event of poor weather.

However I urge parents to visit the Trinity School or Barking and Dagenham Council websites and follow the instructions for checking if the school is open or closed during severe weather conditions. I assure you that Trinity School will only close when all options to remain open have been exhausted.

I would like to remind all parents who bring their child to school by car or public transport that in the event of snow the roads in and around the school grounds could be icy. Drivers must show great caution and pedestrians must wear the appropriate footwear and take extra care when dropping off or picking up pupils.

This term we have again seen the arrival of many new pupils and staff and I am sure that you will join me in offering them a warm welcome to the school.

As I have mentioned on several occasions Trinity School remains a popular school and we now have about 275 children and young people on our roll. This has put some pressure on the available sports facilities. However we are actively planning for the future and I remain positive that the school will continue to offer a first class service to you.

Finally I offer my thanks to you all for all your kindness and support that you have given to me and my staff over the term. I do hope that you have a peaceful and enjoyable Christmas holiday.

*Peter McPartland*  
*Headteacher*





## *Upper School*

Another busy term comes to an end. Some of the highlights for us have been:

Welcoming Year 9 students into the Upper Phase. They have already made a vast contribution to the phase with their enthusiasm and keenness. A few other students have joined us in Key Stage 4 and in the FEC and they have settled in really well.

A number of Key Stage 4 students belong to the school choir and perform for us at various times. This is an excellent choir who really enjoy singing and performing. One student has achieved Grade 1 with distinction in playing the euphonium.

The students have been working hard in all subject areas towards their accreditation courses. These courses start at Year 9 and work through to Year 11 when the work is accredited, and then in the FEC the students continue to follow other units for completion at Year 14.

We have initiated some new work related learning projects. Some students have participated in jewellery making and stained glass making. These were very successful and will therefore be continued in the future. In January we will have an art workshop facilitated by an artist from Barleylands in Essex.

Year 11 students have begun work experience placements. The YMCA in Romford is a new placement this year and has proven to be very successful. Other Year 11 and Year 14 students will be going out in the following months. The students in the Year 9 PMLD group are going on a work related learning trip to a retail park.

In November we hosted our presentation afternoon, when students returned to receive their certificates in recognition of their accredited work completed in the Summer.

It was an excellent afternoon when parents, friends and staff were able to celebrate with the students on their achievements.

Various enterprise schemes have taken place throughout the term, from selling prepared food, to the 2013 calendar. All these ventures have continued to be popular and successful.

The FEC again hosted a Christmas lunch for a small group of senior citizens. A vast amount of organisation by students and staff ensured that this was a successful and much enjoyed event.

Many of the Upper Phase students attend after school clubs and really enjoy the opportunities that are offered to them. Two discos have taken place this term, the Halloween 'scary' disco and of course the Christmas disco.

Six students in Key Stage 4 have been attending mainstream links. One Year 10 student is following an ASDAN accredited course.

In assemblies we cover a wide range of topics including religious celebrations and special event days. This term we had a visitor who presented a programme on road safety.

During the last few days of this term, we shall celebrate Christmas in different ways. The FEC are going to the Moby Dick for a Christmas meal, and Key Stage 4 will have a special buffet. After this we will have a disco. On the final day of term, Ken Payne is organising a Trinity X Factor. The students really enjoy taking part in this event.

From all the students and staff in the Upper Phase, we wish you a very Happy Christmas and a peaceful new year.

*Sandra Burns*  
*Assistant Headteacher*



*I would like to help lunchtime with the Midday Assistants outside in the playground with the younger students.*

*Michelle Donnelly*

### ***Living & Learning Centre***

The period since September has been very productive but challenging. Our pupils continued to make good progress and parents were full of praise for the outstanding work being done by the team. An internal appraisal or audit of the centre by our assigned Deputy Headteacher highlighted the effective and efficient systems in place in the department. Pupils continue to receive input from the SALT Team, School Nurses, Educational Psychologist, Music Therapist and other agencies within a multidiscipline framework. The LLC continued to work with parents to generalise skills being learnt at School within the home setting and also support them to liaise with other services required to holistically meet pupils' needs.

Miss Keeley Brian (Key worker) is on maternity leave after successfully giving birth to a baby boy and Mr Westley Calvery (Keyworker) has recently resigned his post. We wish them all the best!

Staff continued to show understanding and competence in the delivery of the new Years 1 to 9 curriculum. A number of our staff have recently enrolled on NVQ 3(Diploma, Children and Young

People Work Force) and staff undertook training in emergency First Aid at work as well as Food Safety in Catering Level 2, during the LLC training week in October.

We wish all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Kind regards

***Rolland Dankwa***  
***Trinity LLC Manager***

*Swimming...Gala.....  
I won a gold medal for back.....  
STROKE in a swimming gala at...  
Hackney...The Trinity school.....  
swimming team came third overall  
I got a bronze medal I want to be  
in the Paralympics and win a gold  
medal for Great Britain.....*

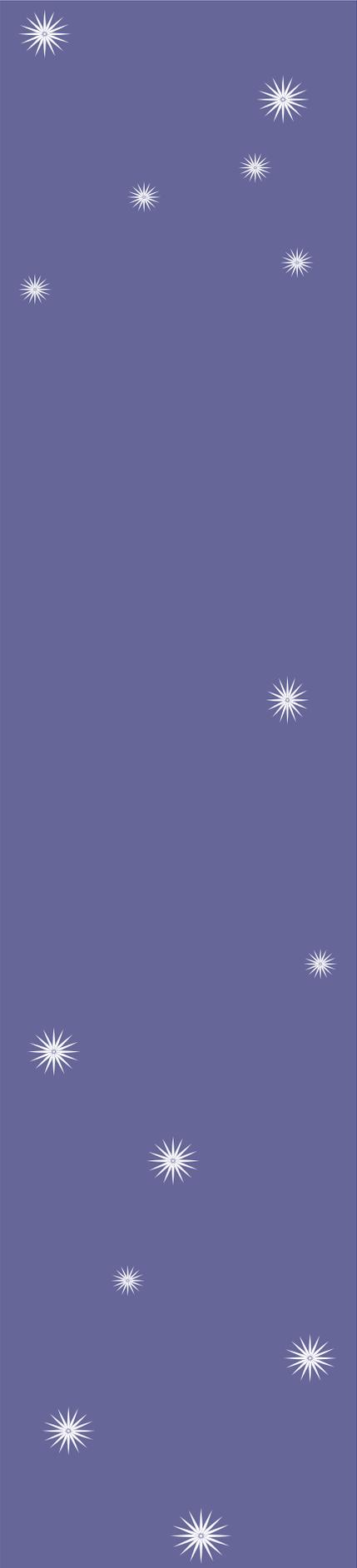
*James Cole*

### ***To All Our Families***

I am really enjoying my first term as the new Deputy Headteacher for Curriculum and meeting most of you at each of the pupils' Annual Reviews. These provide a really important opportunity for us to further support your child's progress.

This work also ties in with our Pupil Progress Meetings held each term in which we develop ways to promote pupils' progress and overcome any barriers to their learning. This is a really important feature of the school's approach to achievement as the meetings bring together teachers, managers and speech and language therapists. They give the teachers time to reflect on their planning for the pupils. For some children we may write a plan, or Provision Map. This will focus on any achievement data from the previous year in school.

We have been sending home parent overviews for you to help keep you informed about your child's learning each half term and I hope you are finding them useful.



Look out for the Spring updates coming to you in the children's diaries by January 2013.

We are fortunate here to work with your children from the early years up to young adulthood. We have been updating ourselves as to good practice in supporting our pupils' Emotional and Sexual Development across the whole school, having had a day's consultation with an expert in the field. Our School Governors welcome this new initiative and we are hoping to consult with them and parents in the Spring and Summer term.

I look forward to meeting with more of you in the coming term. If you have any queries about the work mentioned above, please do not hesitate to contact me through the main school office.

Wishing you a peaceful Christmas holiday.

*Sue Ball*  
*Deputy Headteacher*  
*Curriculum*