

Trinity School
Heathway
Dagenham
Essex
RM10 7SJ

Tel: 020 8270 1601
Fax: 020 8270 4969

Email:
office@trinity.bardagelea.org.uk

Website:
www.trinityschooldagenham.org.uk

Headteacher:
Mr Peter McPartland

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THE LAST DAY OF
SPRING TERM
FOR
PUPILS WILL BE
THURSDAY
28 MARCH 2013

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PUPILS RETURN TO
SCHOOL AFTER THE
EASTER HOLIDAYS
ON MONDAY 15 APRIL
2013

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Trinity School Newsletter March 2013

Dear Parents

As we arrive at the end of another very busy term at Trinity, my staff have taken some time to reflect on the work which has been undertaken by the pupils at the school. I hope that you enjoy reading about just a few of the activities that have been undertaken.

This term we have been joined by three new teachers, Romy Phillips, Kim Case and Pooja Rami. I offer them a warm welcome to the school.

We also say goodbye to Mrs Lynne Kelly our Assistant Headteacher for the Middle School who is retiring after a long and inspirational career. On behalf of the whole school community I offer her our thanks for the many years of outstanding service that she has given to Trinity and our very best wishes for the future.

Trinity remains a popular school and we are planning for 287 children and young people being on our roll by September. Whilst this has put some pressure on the available sports facilities we are actively planning for the building of a new covered sports area to be completed early in the Autumn.

Each year we spend considerable time ensuring that we identify and record the progress that each pupil makes however small. Results from the end of last year show the following information about the school.

- Currently most pupils achieve better than expected progress across the school in most curriculum areas.

- All pupils eligible for Free School meals achieve expected or better than expected progress.
- All Pupils who are in Local Authority care achieve better than expected progress.
- 95% of girls achieve expected or better than expected progress.
- 92% of boys achieve expected or better than expected progress.

It is our intention to improve on these figures and teachers have been very busy looking carefully at each pupil's individual targets at our regular pupil progress meetings in preparation for the Summer reports.

I am delighted to inform you that the first phase of building works to enlarge the Further Education Centre is nearing completion. This will leave us to install the interior kitchens and the translucent canopies over the entrances. 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 community café which the FEC students will eventually run. The new buildings look splendid with both staff and students looking forward to moving in.

Parents of pupils in Upper and Middle School should remember that this year's School Prizegiving Evening will take place at the Castle Green Centre in the Boothroyd Hall on Tuesday 7 May 2013. This is a new venue caused by the closure of the Goresbrook Leisure Centre.



SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

Easter Holiday 2013

Friday 29 March (Bank Holiday) -
Friday 12 April (Inclusive)

May Day 2013

Monday 6 May 2013

Summer Half-Term 2013

Monday 27 May (Bank Holiday) -
Friday 31 May (Inclusive)

**PUPILS RETURN
TO SCHOOL AFTER
THE SUMMER
HOLIDAYS ON
MONDAY
9 SEPTEMBER 2013**

NOTE TO PARENTS

**IF YOUR CHILD IS
ABSENT YOU MUST
LET THE SCHOOL
KNOW ON THE
FIRST DAY OF
ABSENCE (BEFORE
9.15 AM) GIVING
THE REASON E.G.
ILLNESS,
APPOINTMENT
ETC.**

**ALL ABSENCES
WITHOUT A
KNOWN REASON
WILL BE
FOLLOWED UP
WITH A
TELEPHONE CALL
BY THE SCHOOL
OFFICE.**

Finally may I again say on behalf of all the staff of Trinity our sincere thanks for your continuing support for the school. I wish you a happy Easter.

Peter McPartland
Headteacher

Lower School

Lower School pupils and staff have had another busy term with some very exciting activities taking place. We have also welcomed Romy Philips to our teaching staff and said farewell to two co-educators, June Morgan and Diane Roast, after having served Trinity for nearly 60 years between them.

Subject Managers have been spending time re-organising their resource storage whilst also creating new topic boxes more suitably matched to the needs of our pupils. Also, following a recent ICT audit, all classrooms now have equipment boxes containing switches and power links to help pupils develop their communication skills and to access activities.

Work on our new Early Years / PMLD playground took place this term - designed by managers this now provides pupils with a safe and exciting area to play and explore different environments. It also offers shelter for our bikes and scooters and will soon also include shade and seating for pupils.

During our topic work last half-term, pupils explored a variety of forms of transport and one of our Year 1&2 classes has been exploring their local environment by foot, bus, tube and train. This has been both successful and enjoyable for the pupils and we hope to extend these opportunities in the future to include other groups within the phase. On Tuesday 12th February, we also held a topic assembly where pupils shared the work they had completed during this "Transport" topic.

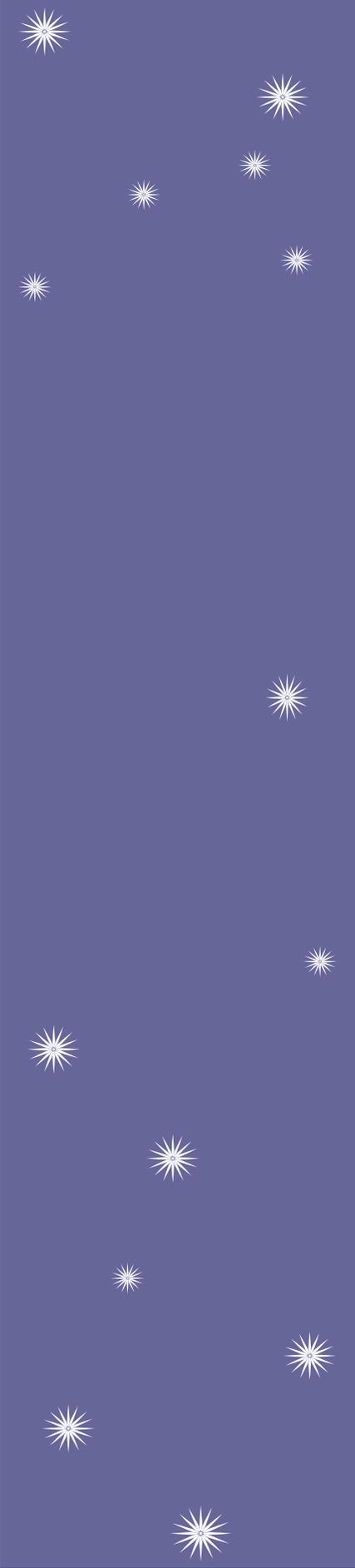
On Thursday 14th February, a group of six Lower School pupils travelled to Cumberland School to take part in a Panathlon Sports event - where they tried a range of adapted games including Boccia, Table Cricket and New Age Curling. All the pupils had a very enjoyable time and were very keen to tell everyone back in school about what they had done.

Following the success of our phase sensory experiences last term, we held another on Friday 1st February. This time the theme was Chinese New Year and the experience started with pupils having their passports checked before "flying" to China! Once they had landed they were free to explore a range of activities - including tasting Chinese food, using chopsticks, wearing traditional costumes, playing with dragon puppets, listening to Chinese music and playing traditional drums. All the pupils had a lovely time and we are due to run a similar event on Tuesday 26th March to celebrate spring time. During this event, pupils will take part in an Easter Egg hunt around school leading them to a room filled with sensory experiences - finding chicks hidden in straw, counting eggs into boxes, sponge art and cutting Easter shapes out of dough, before going outside to play with balloons and parachutes. We hope the weather will be kind to us!

Abby Town
Assistant Headteacher

Middle School

This term has just flown by and once again we have all been really busy. We have had some great assemblies where we have celebrated such events as Chinese New Year, Valentine's Day and Pancake day. We had a great themed week around these festivals with lots of different activities such as sensory stories, dressing up, cooking and exploring different aspects of other cultures happening around the phase.



This was on top of the exciting topics about Africa, exploring healthy foods, finding our way about the school and exploring what's in the locality around us. The topics have kept us really busy and interested and there has been a lot of great learning going on. It's been really great to see so many different children earning 'Star of the Week' status for lots of different reasons this term. We are very proud of all of our 'Stars'.

As well as working hard in class, some of our students have represented the school in a recent swimming gala and been part of the school's pentathlon team competing against other schools in a variety of sports.

We are currently working hard to prepare for our Easter assembly which I hope many of you have seen and enjoyed.

I'd just like to take this opportunity to say goodbye to those of you who know me as I am retiring this week after oh, so many years here at Trinity and at Faircross School in Barking before that. It has been a real privilege to work with your amazing children over the years. Thank you too for all your support. I know I am going to miss all of you!

*Lynne Kelly, Assistant Headteacher,
Middle School.*

Upper School

The Upper phase has continued to be very busy this term. The Year 11 and Year 14 students are working hard to complete all their accreditation work in a variety of subjects. These include English Maths, Science, ICT, DT, FT, Catering, Home Management, Horticulture and PHSE.

The students in Years 10, 11 and 14 have continued to complete work experience placements at a variety of venues. This is a very successful part of the Upper phase curriculum as the students experience the world of work. Placements have included Wellgate Farm, Charity Shop, YMCA and Boots.

Some students in Year 9 have enjoyed trips to the British Museum, the Ragged School Museum and a visit to a Salvation Army Church. These visits have supported the work in Humanities.

Also, the Year 9 students attended a careers workshop where they experienced a variety of activities related to different jobs/careers.

The Year 9 PMLD group attended a fitness class at the local YMCA. The Year 13 students in the FEC, have participated in a six week link course in the Catering Department at Barking College. They have produced some delicious breads, cakes and pastries. This has been a very beneficial experience for them. One Year 11 student has experienced a taster day at the same college before she commences a one day a week placement next term.

Some of our Upper phase students have represented the school at sporting events i.e. Panathlon and Swimming Gala. They have been very successful at these events.

The KS4 garden is beginning to take shape once again. We look forward to seeing the garden flourish with flowers, plants and vegetables as we head towards Summer.

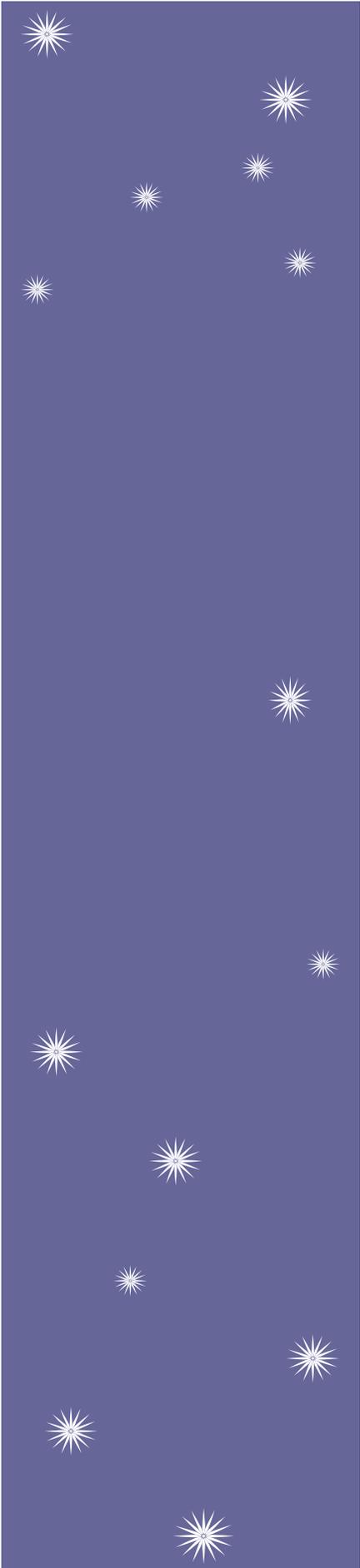
Many students enjoyed our Easter Disco. The competition was hot for the best Easter bonnet!

We hope you have a good Easter break.

*Sandra Burns & The Upper Phase
Management Team*

Living & Learning Centre

This term has been very productive for our pupils. Many of them continue to make progress and are on course to achieve their annual personal learning objectives or targets.



Virtually all pupils in the Living and Learning Centre have made tremendous improvement with the use of structured TEACCH and PECS within highly structured settings.

Two of our pupils in the Recovery Group have now been admitted into the LLC 48 week provision based on their holistic assessed needs. Three new staff have been recruited into the team, who will be joining us in April.

A number of home interventions were undertaken during the Spring term and skills learnt in school are being generalised in the home setting by some of our pupils. This has been down to close partnership between the Centre and respective parents.

One of our students is now attending a local nursery once a week as a volunteer worker, watering and potting plants or seedlings. This is one of numerous schemes being looked at as a possible post - LLC work placement provision.

During the LLC training week in February, staff had the opportunity of undertaking Level 2 courses in Health and Safety as well as healthy diet with emphasis on people with autism.

Other training included understanding of 'Keywords' in relation to Speaking and Listening and eating/feeding issues by Nicky from the SALT team. The team also had the opportunity to review pupils risk assessment, produce new curriculum tasks, update personal learning objectives, evidence, summative recording and were engaged in assessment moderation among others.

A number of the LLC staff currently undertaking their NVQ 3 (Diploma, Children and Young People Work Force) have completed over 70% of their course work and will be completing the course in the Summer term.

We wish all a Happy Easter Vacation.
Kind regards,

Rolland Dankwa
Trinity LLC Manager

This term the school has offered training for parents in the use of structure in the home setting. This course was provided by the Home Intervention team and by the Manager of our Speech and Language Therapy team. Parents found the training extremely useful and there will be a follow up day at the beginning of next term.

Many of our classroom assistants have embarked upon NVQ training. We wish them every success and will keep you informed of their progress.

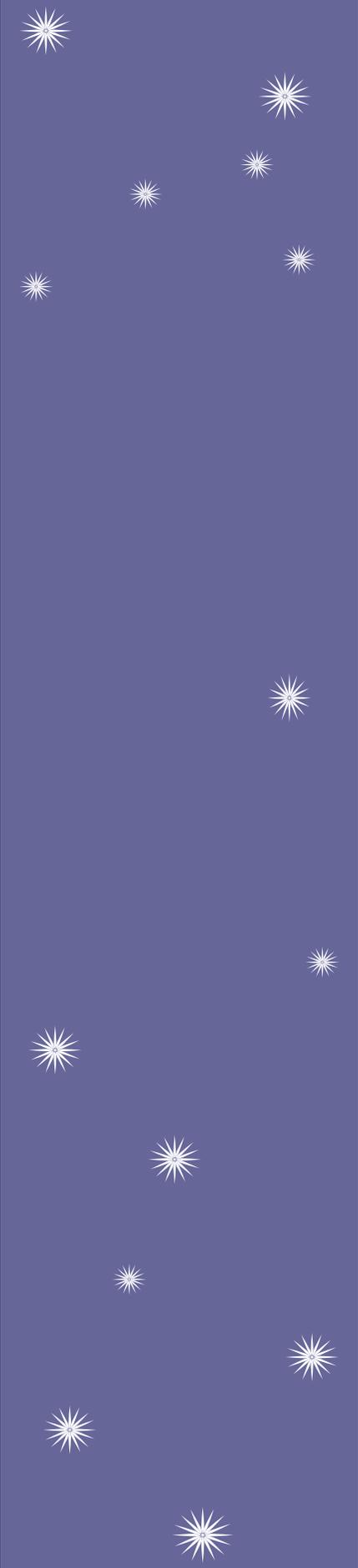
Sue Mather
Deputy Headteacher

Curriculum Update

To all our families, I would like to share with you developments this term for the Curriculum that you may be interested to know about.

Firstly, our Pupil Progress Meetings for this term have just finished - your child's teacher will have met with a Manager and a Speech and Language Therapist in order to check in on achievements and plan to support any particular difficulties your child is having. As always, the Speech and Language Therapy advice is so useful to us all and enables us to tailor the programmes to the pupils' communication levels. I hope you also find consultation useful with them at your child's Annual Review where I also meet with many of you. I have been pleased to hear how School makes a difference for your child and look forward to meeting with more of you to ensure we are meeting your child's needs in the next few months.

We remain committed to delivering an inspiring curriculum that is well-matched to our children's needs. To this end, I have recently hosted a Moderation meeting for local Schools in which teachers explore assessment judgements on children's work at early levels of development and with complex learning needs. This helps teachers plan for next steps in learning and ensure the curriculum is matched to needs.



We also hold termly Moderation for our own staff which this term has enabled Subject Managers to look more closely at assessment in their own subjects.

We continue to send home your child's overview of learning opportunities for the half term. I hope you find them useful. You will find next half term's overview in your home -school diary very soon. I hope that you might find ideas in the overview that will support you in helping your child at home. In the coming term, I am planning to trial some parent curriculum workshops to help further with learning at home. If these are successful we look forward to developing this further with more of you in the new academic year.

Emotional and Sexual Development continues as a focus and staff will be receiving some further training in this area in the Summer term in their Phases.

Perhaps the most exciting development for our children this year is the development of our old-style library into an inclusive Discovery Room that will be equipped with state-of the-art, large-scale touch-screen computers, including one at floor level and others that rise, fall and tilt to suit the young person's preferred position. Book stock will be more focused on current learning themes for different ages in the School and presented in a very attractive environment. We look forward to the completion of the project sometime in the Summer term. Wishing you a Happy Easter break,

Sue Ball
Deputy Headteacher
Curriculum