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Headteacher:
Mr Peter McPartland

DATES FOR DIARY TERMS

Autumn Term 2008

Thursday 4 September -
Friday 19 December

Spring Term 2009

Monday 5 January -
Friday 3 April

Summer Term 2009

Monday 20 April -
Thursday 16 July.

CURRICULUM DAYS

Please note:

There will be no school for
pupils/students on the
following days:

Friday 17 July 2009

Monday 20 July 2009



Dear Parents/Carers

As we arrive at the end of another busy term I would like to take this opportunity to share with you two very special occasions which have taken place during the last few days. Matthew Sandford a Year 3 pupil in Miss Moreland's class has won the annual Christmas card design competition. Thousands of children from Barking and Dagenham have submitted designs for the official Christmas card for Margaret Hodge the Barking MP. Matthew was the overall winner. Matthew won a bicycle which was presented to him in the Town Hall council chamber. We are all very proud of him and send our congratulations to him and his family. Secondly, I was immensely proud of our pupils from Ms Long and Mrs Nichols classes who recently took part in a musical event at Harmony House. The pupils had worked with a professional musician and sang several songs alongside children from St Peters School to an invited audience of parents and guests. This was a wonderful occasion.

I would like to take this opportunity to remind parents that we have moved Upper School Prizegiving from a dark cold night in February to a much warmer and brighter evening in May. We shall send details nearer the time.

Finally may I wish you all a peaceful Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Peter McPartland
Headteacher

Trinity School Newsletter

December 2008

Lower School

By the time you read this, the Lower School Christmas Concert will have taken place. I hope those of you who were able to join us had a lovely time. We also celebrated by sharing a Christmas Dinner and throwing our energetic Christmas parties! Santa Claus came to visit with a gift for everyone. Thank you to all the people involved in helping to celebrate this special time of year with the children.

At the beginning of December, you may have been surprised to see that your children were already receiving their first Bronze Award this term. These recognise all their achievements so far this year. The Award Scheme is designed to encourage children in their learning and overcoming their difficulties. It helps us to support their development in a positive way and we look forward to some Silver Awards next term!

Our Summer house has now been built in the playground and we just need some furniture. In the meantime, the children are enjoying their new den.

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

Christmas Holidays 2008

Monday 22 December -
Friday 2 January 2009
(Inclusive)

Spring Half Term 2009

Monday 16 February -
Friday 20 February (Inclusive)

Easter Holidays 2009

Monday 6 April -
Friday 17 April (Inclusive)

May Bank Holiday 2009

Monday 4 May

Summer Half Term 2009

Monday 25 May -
Friday 29 May (inclusive)

PLEASE NOTE THAT
THE LAST DAY OF
SCHOOL FOR PUPILS
WILL BE FRIDAY 19
DECEMBER 2008

TRINITY SCHOOL
RE-OPENS FOR PUPILS
ON MONDAY 5
JANUARY 2009

The children have really enjoyed their learning through our topic 'Night and Day' this term. Books used were 'Can't you Sleep Little Bear?' by Martin Waddell and Barbara Firth, 'Whatever Next!' by Jill Murphy, and 'Ten in the Bed' by Penny Dale. If your children are at the stage where they enjoy books, why not see if you can find copies in the library for them to share at home.

We all continue to enjoy our visits to the sensory room with Erna and her Speech & Language Team. We had a beautiful Christmas journey to round off the year which was very popular and Erna displayed photos of your children enjoying the Christmas Concert.

We wish you a peaceful New Year and look forward to seeing the children in January.

Sue Ball
Assistant Headteacher for Lower School

Class Y1/2GJ

Since joining Trinity School in September we have had lots of good times. We are learning how to work our schedules and are getting to know our way around the school. We love Swimming and have enjoyed Music Therapy. We have now started to practice for our Christmas activities and we look forward to receiving lots of presents.

We would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year.

Gill, Dawn, Linda
Maison, Mari, Malik, Desmond, Callum,
Charlie & Bobby

Class Y1/2VJ

We were all very proud when Nathan won the Trinity prize for the Margaret Hodge MP's 2008 Christmas Card Competition. Nathan was very good at the Award Ceremony on the 12 December. We also would like to say well done to Matthew who won the

overall competition from over 4,000 entries.

We have all enjoyed our topic about 'Day and Night' and our book 'Whatever Next'. We love going in our space rockets and visiting the moon.

We would like to wish everyone a Happy Christmas and New Year.

Nathan, Kanika, Daniel, Jessica, Charlie,
Jemimah, Veronica, Sue, Michele, Jackie &
Jan

Class Y5/8LS

We have had a great first term, the children settled down to work very quickly. We have been recycling in our class and have buried rubbish in the garden to see what happens to it. We are interested to see if the metal can, plastic bag, paper and orange disappear. We are all looking forward to 2009 and wish you all a Happy Christmas and New Year.

PJ, Michael, Sam, Tilley, Alaina, Fay,
Jessica, Fatima, Lorri, Marie & Lesley

Class Y6/7VT

This term went so quickly. It was very eventful. We settled back into school and into the new class and we are doing very well.

Over this term we have had a few events which we have really enjoyed. We always look forward to our weekly assemblies and events as they are filled with fun and laughter. We always try our best to prepare items and make nice things so we can participate in assemblies or show them off in our weekly 'Show and Tell' slots.

Now that the first term has gone so quickly and successfully, we look forward to spending the rest of the year together as a class group and learning even more exciting things.

Victor, Sue, Kate, Rachel, Amy, Antuan,
Hamilton, Dean, Muktar & Joel



The Upper Phase

It is hard to believe that we are already at the end of the Autumn Term! Perhaps it has gone so fast because we have all been so very busy. As a team of students and staff we have worked hard and enjoyed our term.

We have had a few events which need to be mentioned. In November we held our presentation afternoon, where we invited back last year's leavers with their parents and some present students to receive their Accreditation Certificates in recognition of their hard work. It was a brilliant afternoon. Ms Mather presented the certificates and some of the leavers shared how they are getting on in their new environment at college. They are all well and enjoying their new experiences.

The assemblies in the Upper Phase give students the opportunity to take part and share something about themselves, what they have done, or show a piece of good work. Many of our students now take part and this makes for interesting assemblies. We try to have 'Thought for the Week' as part of our reflection time. This term we have also invited different people to come and take part. We plan to have a special Christmas Assembly before the end of term.

The Upper Phase garden is continuing to take shape. We are very grateful to a team in the FEC who, with Mike Lamb, worked on an area of the garden to get the weeds under control! That area now has some ground cover and bark on top. We have purchased the overalls and boots that we needed, and will buy some more tools, so that we are well prepared for the Spring. We shall plant bulbs, shrubs and vegetables again to continue the development.

Christmas activities are in full swing. The Upper Phase have their Christmas buffet on 17 December followed by a disco which Mr Payne will organise.

On 19 December we shall hold our traditional Karaoke, again led by Mr Payne.

It remains for me to wish you a very Happy and Peaceful Christmas and New Year.

Sandra Burns
Acting Assistant Headteacher

FEC4

FEC4 have been working hard in the Autumn Term of their final year in the FEC. All of our students had a productive and positive Review Meeting this term and the students are now having a big input in deciding where they go from here.

It has been an exciting and busy build up to the Christmas holiday with a trip to a Pantomime organised by Maggie Northedge and a meal out at Abridge in the evening. The Panto was enjoyed by all and we met the actors for a question and answer session after the performance. The meal was delicious and we all ate too much!

We would like to wish you all a peaceful Christmas and a happy, healthy & successful 2009.

Wayne, Rachel, Ben,, Esther, Rebecca, Alex, Andrew, Gemma, Claire, Christine, Christine and Sue.

Upper Phase *Enterprise Scheme*

In September this year the delivery of the Mini Enterprise Scheme for the Upper Phase of the school was passed onto me - Mr Payne. Having had a successful first year, my initial task was to ensure that our students were going to be given the same opportunities in order to create fantastic items similar to those sold last year.

We started the enterprise by asking all our pupils and students to produce artwork that we could use for our 2009

School Calendar. The response was terrific and I was inundated with work. My next task was to select the image to use for each month of the calendar (this was not easy as there were so many fantastic pictures to choose from.

Having eventually finalised the selection, our Year 10 & 11 students began to put the calendar into production. To date we have taken orders for over one hundred calendars, the production line is working overtime to get as many orders completed by Christmas. Once again all the money we raise will enable us to buy equipment and resources for our students and will allow us to develop other projects within the mini enterprise for the coming year.

Next year we hope to incorporate our Upper Phase garden into the enterprise scheme. Once again, the green tomato chutney we made from our home grown produce sold so fast that we were unable to keep up with the demand, so next year we will be planting twice as many tomatoes. Don't forget that you can still order the school calendar - they make fantastic stocking fillers, and at only £3.50 are a real bargain!

Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Mr Ken Payne
Mini Enterprise Co-ordinator

Careers Year 9

Our Year 9 students will be embarking on their first Careers interview. These take place from 12 January 2009. If parents/Carers are unable to attend, could they telephone Jackie Walsh on: 020 8591 9999 to rearrange their appointment.

Work Experience

This continues to be very successful. At present our Year 11 are at placements. In the New Year we will see our Year 10 students having their

first taste of work. We wish them every success.

International Day of Disabled People

Eight students and two members of staff spent an afternoon in December at Dagenham & Redbridge Football Club representing Trinity. The students released thirty balloons into the air to mark the day. They saw the ex Paralympic racer showing a powerpoint presentation of his Winter Olympics.

Seen & Heard Conference Your Health Your Choice

On 2 March 2009 approximately fifty students will be taking part in the 'Seen and Heard conference'. This conference has been arranged for Trinity students. The topics will be: Healthy Eating, Futures, Oral Care, Anti Bullying and Relationships. A fun packed day for all.

*Heather Trundle - School Co-ordinator of
Careers/ Citizenship/PHSE*

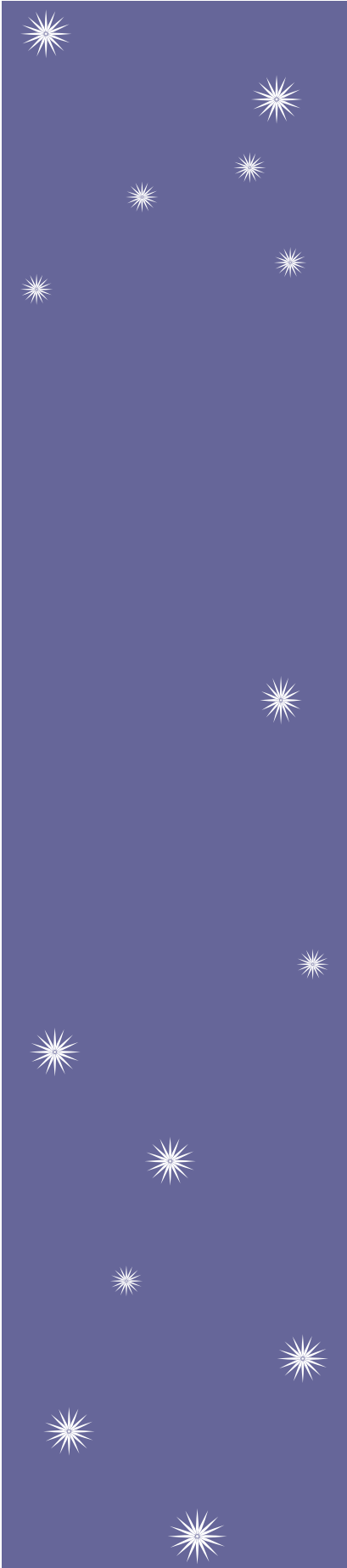
Speech & Language Therapy Department

Time flies! It feels as if Christmas was only a few months ago and yet we are approaching Christmas again.

The SALT team has been very busy developing and amongst our other duties, we developed and programmed sensory journeys and differentiated curriculum resources for all students in the school. We worked in close collaboration with Lynne Kelly to develop sensory journeys.

This term all Lower School students had one session access to a very exciting journey to the moon in the Play and Language Room, followed by two even more spectacular sensory journeys in the Multi sensory Theatre. They had the opportunity to find a rocket (box with vibrating cushion) and a helmet (colander) and off they went on their journey to the moon!

Middle and Upper School students experienced a poignant 'Titanic' sensory



journey. They had the opportunity to help build the ship, experienced the launching of the Titanic and then experienced the journey. Students were all involved in role play and acted out the final scenes when the Titanic hit the iceberg and the people waited to be rescued in the water.

As the grand finale ... all students in the school, from the very little ones to the oldest students had a wonderful Christmas experience in the Multi Sensory Theatre. We only had positive feedback about this journey and it definitely contributed to the Christmas spirit.

A special Thank You to all the parents who support us in what we are doing. We are honoured to be part of your child's education.

We wish you a Happy Festive Season with your families. Who knows, we could have a white Christmas.

*Speech & Language Therapy Team –
Erna O'Neil, Alison Mitchell,
Heather Rushton, & Katy Wraight*

Home Intervention

Please look at the leaflets at the back of this newsletter about the Children's Centres. These offer lots of support and advice to parents. The following centres have links with Trinity School and will support you even if you do not live locally - John Perry Centre and William Bellamy Centre. At least one centre will be open on the following days over the Christmas Holidays 22, 23, 24, 29, 30 and 31 December. Please contact these centres if you are having difficulties and need advice at any time.

Thank you to the parents who attended our first Autism Discussion Group Meeting on the 10 December. We shared difficulties and ideas to help ease those issues. At our next meeting in February we will talk about sleep and personal hygiene. Please look out for the letter in the New Year.

*Veronica Jackson
Home Intervention Manager*

Inclusion

At present we have a total of ten students from across the school attending a variety of mainstream links, ranging from PE to ASDAN Certificate of Personal Effectiveness. All of the students that attend links have been welcomed by the mainstream schools and many have made friends within the mainstream settings.

At the end of November one of our students that previously attended links transferred full time to Warren Comprehensive School, and we shall wish him a very happy and successful future.

Recently many of our link students have enjoyed taking part in the end of term festivities at mainstream link schools. These have included parties and a visit to The London Aquarium. Hopefully next term we will be able to extend links for some of our students and where possible increase the number of students attending links.

*Yvonne Johnson
Inclusion*

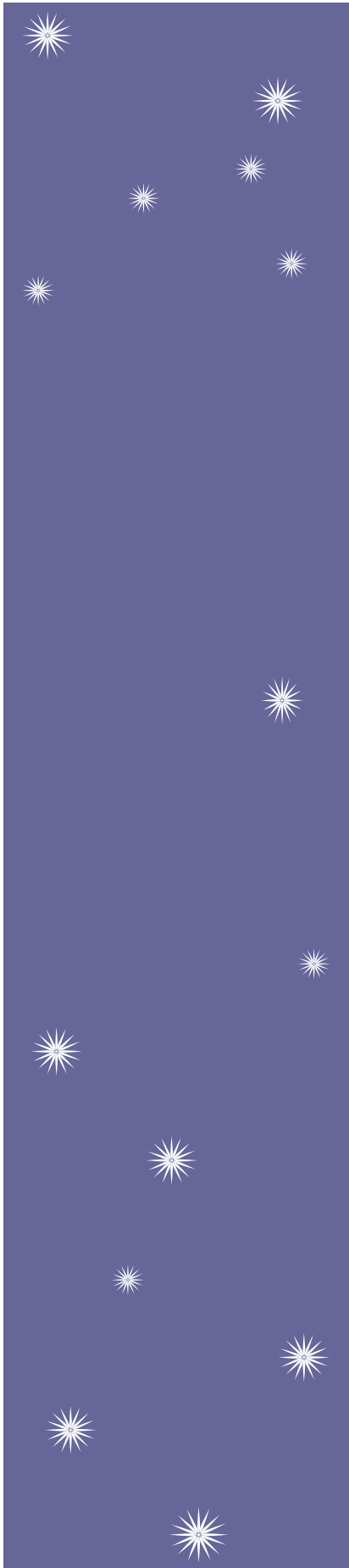
Jack Petchey Award Scheme

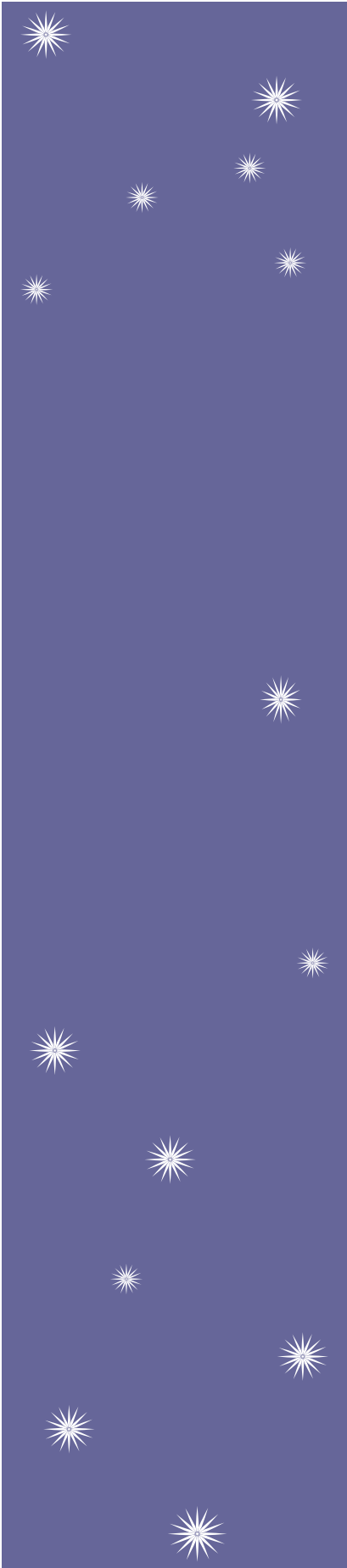
During this term four students have received a Jack Petchey Award and have been presented in assembly with a certificate, medal and a cheque for £200 to be spent on benefitting the school community. So far the award money has been spent on choosing time resources, DVDs, CDs, Home Management resources and group outings.

Recently nominations have been received for the 'Adult Leader Award' and a winner will be chosen by the end of term.

The Jack Petchey Award Scheme continues to provide the opportunity to recognise and reward our student's success and achievements and will operate throughout next term.

Yvonne Johnson





Jack Petchey Co-ordinator

