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SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

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THE LAST DAY OF
AUTUMN TERM FOR
PUPILS WILL BE
FRIDAY 18 DECEMBER
2009

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Christmas Holidays 2009

Monday 21 December -
Friday 1 January (inclusive)

Spring Half Term 2010

Monday 15 February -
Friday 19 February (inclusive)

Easter Holidays 2010

Friday 2 April -
Friday 16 April (inclusive)

Summer Half Term 2010

Monday 31 May (Bank Holiday)-
Friday 4 June (inclusive)

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THE LAST DAY OF
SUMMER TERM FOR
PUPILS WILL BE
21 JULY 2010

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Dear Parents/Carers

This term continues to see the pupils engaged in a wide variety of exciting and stimulating curriculum experiences. This newsletter has attempted to capture just a few of the events which have taken place this year. I really hope that you enjoy reading about them.

This term has seen two significant events in the life of the school. Firstly the school was inspected in October by a team from OFSTED, and as I am sure you know, our work was found to be outstanding for the second time running. I am sure that you will join me in thanking all the pupils and staff for their hard work and commitment to the school. Secondly I am pleased to announce the launch of the school website which will become a major means by which we share our work and illustrate life here at the school. The website can be found at - www.trinityschooldagenham.org.uk. We shall gradually add information to the site and 'open up' new pages as the year develops. Finally may I offer my best wishes to you all.

Trinity School Newsletter

December 2009

I hope that you all have a peaceful Christmas and a Happy New Year.

*Peter McPartland
Headteacher*

How to check if the school is open during bad weather -

During periods of severe weather parents can check if Trinity School is open by following these simple steps.

1. Telephone 02084087508.
2. You will be asked to enter the following DCFS code - 301 7005.
3. A recorded message will tell you if the school is open or closed with the time and date of when the information was last updated.

In addition please check with the school transport department to find out if the school buses are 'on the road'.

Where possible the school will also endeavour to leave a message on our answer phone.

Our advice to you during severe weather conditions is to always check if the school is open before attempting to bring your child to school.



CURRICULUM DAYS

Please note:

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

Thursday 22 July 2010
Friday 23 July 2010

The Lower School

What a busy term again in Lower School with lots of new children starting at different points throughout the term. Thank you to all our staff for making sure our children settle well in their first few weeks with us. I hope parents and carers can see a difference already. We were extremely proud to see how far our youngest children have come during our Christmas celebration concert on 11 December. We were pleased to see all those of our families who could make it! It was a beautiful and moving experience for all, especially when the lights went down and one of our pupils, Jessica, sang a solo to *Twinkle Twinkle Little Star*. There was not a dry eye in the house! This was only equalled by a rousing rendition of *Santa Got Stuck up the Chimney* sang by 2 boys from Jane Moreland's class, George and Charlie.

We have had one more exciting addition to Lower School-the Outdoor Classroom, which is situated in the Lower School quad and which we share with Middle School and the Science, Art and DT Departments. Lower School pupils have already had a go and are really excited by the play and learning opportunities on offer. We hope you will have a peep when you are next in school-it has sand, water, hiding places, a theatre, and lots more, all in a very natural setting.

Looking forward to working with you all in the New Year, and wishing you all a happy Christmas holiday.

*Sue Ball –
Assistant Headteacher
Lower School*

Year 3&4 JM

We had a lovely Festival of Lights Celebration. During the week we made lamps, different types of patterns for the windows, door and floor. We played games, gave gifts of money and had a lot of different

things to taste and experience. We are very excited about Christmas, and are counting the days and watching with great anticipation as the pile of gifts under our class tree grows by one each day. We are looking forward to going to Santa's Grotto at Lakeside on 17 December and I hope that the Christmas love and excitement will make your holiday special.

*Jane Moreland -
Class Teacher*

The Middle School

Middle School has had a great half term with many things going on. Year 9 have been learning about what it was like to be a child in World War II and Y7 have been learning how to make and follow maps, whilst Y5/6 have been learning all about what it was like to be a child in Victorian times. The Rainbow Theatre came into school to help with this project and they had lots of fun with us.

We welcome Inthujan into Y5/6 and say good bye to Leigh (Y9). Good luck in your new school Leigh. Congratulations to our own Lorri Stock for winning this year's Jack Petchey Leader's Award.

We have held two really great year group assemblies. They were so good that we have decided that next time we do them we will invite parents of those classes along to watch as we were so proud of what the students achieved. Some of our classes went out to the Presidents Sporting cup Christmas dinner in Chelmsford where they met famous sporting personalities and had a generally good time. Whilst there, Zayn (Y5/6JL) received an award as the Trinity student nominated for a special sporting achievement. Congratulations Zayn!

We have had several trips out over the Christmas period with classes going into town to see the Christmas lights and one class visited a local church to see how they celebrate Christmas. Rainbow Theatre came back to Middle School again to tell us the pantomime story of Sleeping Beauty in which lots of our

students took on starring roles alongside the actors. We now have many budding actors of our own in our midst!

Students have done really well with their rewards this term with many achieving bronze, gold and silver awards, so well done to them. The Christmas Rewards Assembly at the end of term was lots of fun with all students receiving a special gift as well as their rewards. We all enjoyed Christmas dinner together during the last week with table decorations and hats made by the students. The term finished with Trinity's own X Factor show with Middle School all shouting for our very own Dancing Snowmen, followed by Christmas parties on the last afternoon, a lovely way to end the term.

May we take this opportunity to send you and your families our very best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a peaceful and Happy New Year.

*Lynne Kelly, Abby Town &
Denny Brackenbury –
Middle School.*

Year 9 LS

The class have settled down really well since September. They really enjoyed the Macbeth and Egyptian topics. Since October we have been experiencing life during World War Two. The students had a fabulous time at The Presidents Sporting Club Christmas Lunch, and we really enjoyed going to Barking on the 15 December.

*Lorri Stock &
Class Team*

The Upper Phase

So ends a very busy term. We have had many highlights throughout the Autumn. The students have been very busy following accredited courses and for those who completed their exams last term, we celebrated together at the Presentation Afternoon in November. Many parents joined us.

The Mini Enterprise Team have been busy making some brilliant calendars.

The garden is now resting until the Spring.

Christmas brings many different events. Key Stage 4 students will enjoy their Christmas buffet on Wednesday followed by a disco. On Friday it will be 'Trinity's Got The X Factor', a real fun way to end the term. The Upper Phase wishes you all a wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year.

*Sandra Burns
Assistant Headteacher*

Work Experience

Work Experience has started for our Year 10 and 11 students. Peacocks, The Disablement Association of Barking & Dagenham Transport Department and DeBRA Charity Shop. All reports have been very good.

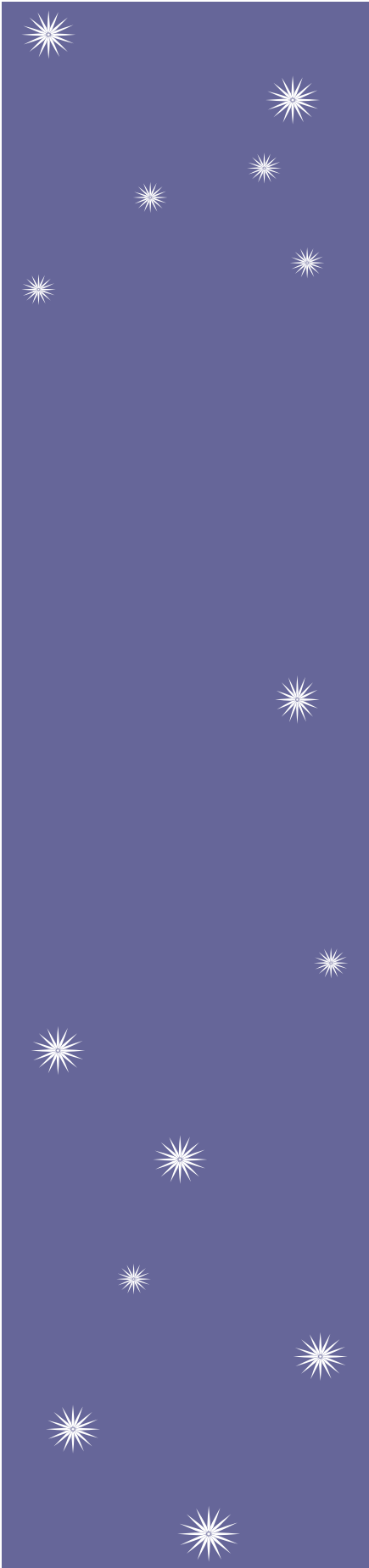
International Day for the Disabled

A group of Year 10 students spent 3 December celebrating The International Day for Disabled People at Dagenham & Redbridge Football Club. They were involved in a balloon launch, heard the winner of the School Story Competition read her story and watched the wheelchair ballroom dancing.

Careers Year 11

Pupils have sent off their application forms for Barking College and are awaiting interviews in the New Year.





Pupils attending Trinity Further Education Centre (FEC) September 2010 will receive their letters and have interviews in the Summer Term. There will be an Open Afternoon on Monday 22 March 2010 between 1.30-2.30 pm for FEC pupils attending in September 2010.

The What Next Exhibition

In November we held our fourteenth What Next? Exhibition. This was attended by our Year 7-14 pupils, parents and carers. We had twenty exhibitors attend.

Investors in Careers Award

December 4 saw the presentation of The Investors in Careers Award during the Key Stage Four assembly. A plaque was presented to the Head and Deputy Head Boy. This will be put alongside the last Investors in Careers Award plaque.

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

FEC3

All of the new students have settled well into the FEC and have been working hard.

In the build up to Christmas we have been shopping for gifts in Romford, putting up decorations and making Christmas dinners. We have also been to a panto 'Oh yes we have' and a disco.

Several of our students have enjoyed work experience this term too.

All of the staff and students in the FEC would like to wish you all a peaceful Christmas and a happy and healthy successful 2010.

Staff & Students of FEC3

Inclusion

Currently we have ten students attending a variety of links at mainstream schools and colleges within the Borough. Links range from Art and Craft based activities for a Year 4 student, through to accredited ASDAN courses for Years 10, 11 and 12 students and a day release compass course at Barking College for a Year 11 student.

Earlier in the term, as part of the ASDAN course, three Upper School students visited London with staff and students from Jo Richardson Community School. The students went on a river boat trip along the Thames and then a journey on the London Eye. All of the students enjoyed the experience and will be visiting the Natural History Museum with The Jo Richardson Community School next term.

Next term we will set up some group links with Thomas Arnold School and invite a group of staff and students from Jo Richardson School to visit our Further Education Centre.

*Yvonne Johnson
Inclusion Co-educator*

The Jack Petchey Award Scheme

This term three students have received the Jack Petchey Award and a cheque each for £200 to be spent on benefitting the school community. Students were presented with the award for a variety of reasons including increased confidence and communication, settling well into class routines, helping others and maintaining a positive attitude. The Award money has been spent on day trips, choosing time resources and multi-sensory equipment.

The Scheme plays an important role in motivating and rewarding Middle School, Upper School, FEC and LLC students and will continue to operate next term.

*Yvonne Johnson
Jack Petchey Co-ordinator*

Speech & Language Therapy Department

The Speech and Language Therapy Department had a few changes this term. We welcomed two new therapists, Jennifer Kingman and Jennifer Weekes, but also had to say goodbye to Alison Mitchell who started a new career with the NHS. We miss Alison, but wish her all of the very best in her new post. Katy Wraight had a little baby girl in November.

Our primary focus during the Autumn Term was to assess new as well as existing students. Lower School and PMLD students accessed the multi-sensory theatre. These sessions were very successful and students did some wonderful communication work.

Lower School students and some classes from Middle School accessed a sensory story based on the Lower School curriculum topic Colours and Patterns. Students enjoyed exploring animals, emotions, and musical patterns. Lower and Middle School students had the opportunity to experience an early Christmas in the multi-sensory room. This journey is always very popular amongst students and staff as well. We do apologise if your child's festive spirit started a bit early!

As a team, we continue to strive to give every child a 'voice' to communicate, whether they are using speech or any other means of communication.

We wish all and everyone a happy festive break with their loved ones.

*Erna O'Neil, Jennifer Kingman &
Jennifer Weekes -
Speech & Language Therapists*

Cultural Projects

This term has once again been an exciting one. We started the year with a visit from The Oily Carte Theatre Company. Oily Carte write and produce special performances designed to be watched by children and adults with special needs. For the performance, the swimming pool was turned into a wonderland of lights, smoke and bubbles not to mention wonderful music. We are looking forward to their return in May, which means that more pupils can visit and take part in their new show in the PE hall.

Our Year 11s went to the theatre to see Sister Act at the Palladium in Oxford Street. They all had a great time and enjoyed seeing a real West End musical.

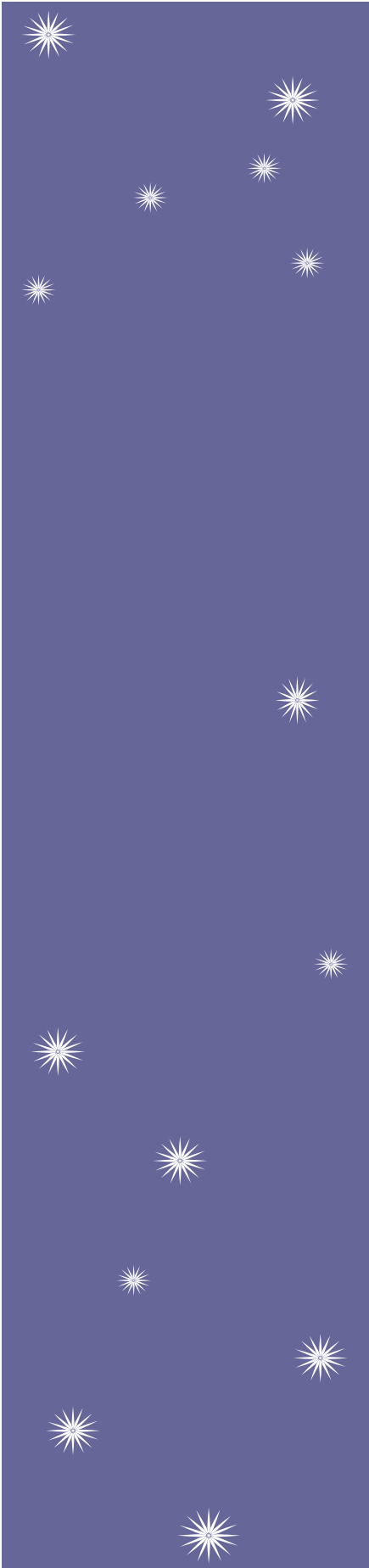
To end the year we had a Festival of Faiths. Pupils took part in Gospel singing, different forms of art work, food tasting and listening to music from all around the world. The Spring term plans to be a busy one with more theatre visits and also Chinese New Year.

*Antony Clements
Lower School Management Team*

ICT

The ICT After School Club would like to say a big 'Thank You' to all parents, staff and friends who have given their TESCO vouchers towards purchasing USB video cameras and accessories. The cameras will be used for future projects and presentations by the students. We have collected and counted this year over 18,000 vouchers which is a record.





The club has offered the students access to the computers in the ICT suite and produced a number of powerpoint presentations for the display in the foyer as well as the students own school work.

It was good to see the students who completed the accreditation course in ICT last year receiving the certificates. We are always impressed with how much the students achieve in ICT and the skills they are showing.

The latest purchase of computer hardware for the school included more infant style computers that have specific software for the Lower School, as well as more large height adjusted plasma displays with interactive overlays for groups to use. As well as use for groups this has offered individual access for students with profound and multiple learning difficulties.

Denis Fox
ICT



