

Trinity School
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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.

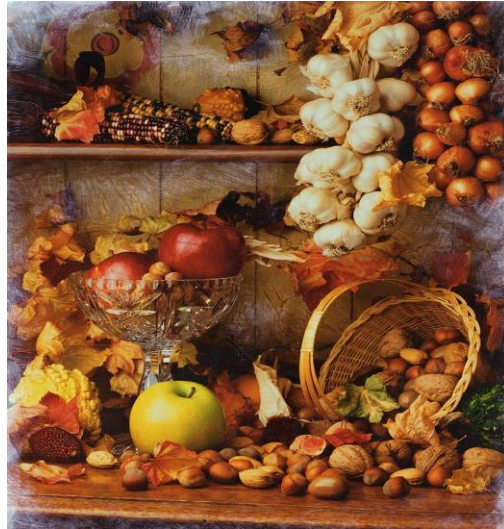
CURRICULUM DAYS

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

This is our first newsletter of the year.

This term has seen several new pupils joining the school, therefore I take this opportunity to welcome all the new children and their families.

I do hope that all our families will find our new Personal Learning Diaries a welcome addition to the range of ways that we try to keep you informed of the work being undertaken by the children at school. In addition we have altered the Annual Review Meeting and Transition Report formats. We believe that all these changes will mean that we are more focused on the personal special needs of the pupils.

Our photographer will be in school on the 11, 12 and 14 of November and we shall write to you nearer the time to let you know how you can purchase copies of pictures of the children.

Over the coming weeks we will also keep you informed about our Christmas activities.

Our After School Clubs and Summer Swimming week have been a great success. I would like to thank the Trinity Parents Support Group for all their work and effort in securing funds for the clubs and the late transport to get the pupils home.

Peter McPartland
Headteacher

Trinity School

Newsletter

Issue 59 – October 2008

Lower School

As we come to the end of our first half term at school after the Summer, it is time to let you know about the news for the Lower School.

We have welcomed eighteen new pupils into Lower School this term. An Open Morning was hosted late in the Summer term for all our new families. Home visits were also carried out in early September for new Nursery and Reception children.

All the children seem to have settled well after a brief period of staggered admissions and staff are enjoying getting to know them all. We pace the children's start carefully to support their emotional development in starting school. We hope that this positive start will help children to enjoy and achieve during their first few months with us.

Pupils have enjoyed and achieved across all areas of learning through the exciting, well matched topic work on 'Ourselves' during September and October 2008.

Children have enjoyed work we have planned using the Little Princess books by Tony Ross, Titch stories by Pat Hutchins and Maisy books by Lucy Cousins.

We are looking forward to the delivery of our new Summer House for the Lower School playground during the half term holiday.

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

Autumn Half Term 2008

Monday 27 October -
Friday 31 October (inclusive)

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)

This will be a major addition to the play experiences we already offer at playtimes. It has been purchased using the generous donations from our instructor Gill Johnson's Jack Petchey Award and also from Callum Slattery's family. Callum's uncle ran a marathon in aid of the children at Trinity. A local company has generously donated the further funds necessary to secure a luxury Summer House that can be used all year round. Thank you to all those involved. We cannot wait to use it!

Sue Ball
Assistant Headteacher for Lower School

Class Y1/2VJ
Veronica Jackson & Sue Ball

We are all enjoying our new class and have made new friends.

We have worked hard on our topic The Little Princess books by Tony Ross and our room shows some of the work we have been doing. Outside our classroom we have created a display about our favourite number rhyme 'Six Shiny Bubbles'. Come and see it next time you are in school.

Veronica, Sue, Jackie, Michelle, Nathan, Kanika, Daniel, Jessica, Charlie & Jemimah.

Class Y5/6JL

We have really enjoyed our first half term in Middle School.

In Food Technology we have been learning how to make bread. It was lots of fun.

We said a sad goodbye to Billy who has moved into Lorri's class and hello to Michael.

This half term we have celebrated James' birthday who was ten on 18 September and Pat's birthday on 8 October - she was twenty one again!!

We are looking forward to our next half term in Middle School.

Jo Long
Class Teacher

The Upper Phase

The Upper Phase staff and students have all settled into the new term. Each area of the department is working hard. The Year 10 students are faced with a variety of new challenges, whilst the Year 11 & 14 students are working hard in preparation for pastures new next year.

Reflecting back to the end of last term, it is important to mention the extremely successful Fashion Show. The students looked magnificent in their chosen outfits and displayed them with confidence on the catwalk. We also had an excellent Leaver's Celebration and Barbecue.

The Upper Phase Garden has successfully provided us with fresh produce. The students have been busy picking tomatoes, pumpkin and squash and digging up cabbages and potatoes. We had so many tomatoes that some classes made tomato chutney which was sold to staff. The garden is still being developed, but by the end of the Autumn Term we hope to have most of the weeds under control! We are currently waiting for new overalls and boots for the students to wear when in the garden.

The Upper Phase now has a Home Management room to be used by different groups. There is a bedroom area, lounge and kitchen. Students will have the opportunity to learn different skills such as making a bed, hovering and making simple snacks.

Sandra Burns
Acting Assistant Headteacher
Upper School



PLEASE NOTE THAT
THE LAST DAY OF
SCHOOL FOR PUPILS
WILL BE FRIDAY 24
OCTOBER 2008

TRINITY SCHOOL
RE-OPENS FOR PUPILS
ON MONDAY 3
NOVEMBER 2008

IF YOUR CHILD IS
ABSENT YOU MUST
LET THE SCHOOL
KNOW ON THE FIRST
DAY, GIVING THE
REASON FOR
ABSENCE E.G. ILLNESS,
APPOINTMENTS ETC.
YOU MUST ALSO
INFORM TRANSPORT.

TRANSPORT

ALL QUERIES
REGARDING
BARKING &
DAGENHAM
TRANSPORT SHOULD
BE DIRECTED TO:

020 8270 6713

Careers

This term starts the Year 11 interviews for their Post 16 placements. One student has expressed a desire to attend Barking College and the other students will be looking to attend Trinity Further Education Centre.

A Coffee Morning took place for the Parent/Carers of Year 10 students. Jackie Walsh SEN Connexions Personal Advisor and Myra McCormick of Barking & Dagenham Trident Director were in attendance.

Connexions offered a thirty minute slot for Parents/Carers that could not attend the coffee morning. These are due to take place mid November.

'What Next?' Exhibition

Date for the diary Thursday 6 November 1.30 - 3.00 pm - Venue Trinity Sports Hall for Parent/Carers of pupils Years 7-14.

Work Experience

Myra McCormick - Barking & Dagenham Trident Director spent a morning in September assessing and speaking to students in Year 10 & 11 regarding their Work Experience placements. Seventeen students will be placed under the Trident Scheme out in the community and others will be placed around the school environment i.e. the new Upper School garden and delivering the post around the school.

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

Inclusion

At present we have ten students attending mainstream links. Links for some students have only started very recently as understandably mainstream schools need their own students to settle into a new school

year before welcoming students from Trinity.

Two Year 11 students are attending an accredited ASDAN Certificate of Personal Effectiveness mainstream link at Jo Richardson Community School.

We also have five other Trinity students from our Middle and Upper Phases attending a variety of links at Jo Richardson Community School, including Maths, Literacy and PE.

Our mainstream links with Dagenham Park School continue with a student from Year 9 attending a mainstream ICT link. He enjoys the opportunity to work with students from mainstream some of which he met last year when he attended a Civics and Citizenship link.

A Year 8 student has recently continued his Art and Social Skills link at Sydney Russell School Base. He enjoys working with a small group of mainstream and base students on a wide variety of Art based activities and the opportunity to play games and mix with peers in an informal setting.

A Year 3 student will begin attending a PE and ICT mainstream link at Thomas Arnold School. It is hoped that the link will give the student opportunities to develop and learn skills, experience being part of a mainstream setting and build relationships with mainstream staff and peers.

*Yvonne Johnson
Inclusion Co-educator*

Jack Petchey Award Scheme

The Jack Petchey Award Scheme continues to operate successfully throughout Middle and Upper School, Living & Learning Centre and Further Education Centre.

So far this term two students have received awards and are in the process of deciding what to spend the award money on.

NOTE TO PARENTS

Please advise the school office of any changes in personal details i.e. address, change of home telephone number/ mobile number so that we may be able to contact you in case of an emergency.

Would you please ensure that your child's belongings (coat, lunchbox etc) are clearly marked with their name, as items are being handed to reception with no indication to whom they belong to.

NOTE TO PARENTS

IF YOUR CHILD ATTENDS AN AFTER-SCHOOL CLUB, TO AVOID CONFUSION AT HOME TIME, PLEASE ENSURE THAT THE BUS ESCORT/ DRIVER IS INFORMED ON THE DAY

In the past, award money has been spent in a variety of ways to benefit the school community. This has included playground equipment and resources, gardening equipment, group outings and 'choose time' resources.

The scheme provides opportunities for students' achievements, success and triumphs to be recognised, celebrated and rewarded. Students receive awards for a wide range of reasons, and not just academic success.

Our students are justifiably proud of their achievements and the scheme will continue to play an important role in school life motivating and encouraging them and celebrating their success.

Yvonne Johnson
Jack Petchey Awards Co-ordinator

Home Intervention

This has been a busy start to the new school year.

With the support of Lynne Kelly we showed how families can communicate through touch and music with their child. For those families who could not attend but requested information, I will contact you shortly.

Nadine Waurin our Consultant from North Carolina gave a successful talk to parents about Autism, TEACCH and her work with us at Trinity School.

I have been making home visits and arranging for parents to learn the techniques used in school.

Please remember if you would like some support with your child at home, please contact me via your child's home/school diary.

Veronica Jackson
Lower School Management Team

Trinity School *Parent Support Group*

The Parent Support Group held an enjoyable and popular swimming week and two day trips in the Summer break. You can see some of the photographs in the main entrance when you come into school. These events have generated more funding for the clubs at Trinity School.

The group held a very successful evening meeting on the 24 September. The next meeting will be on Wednesday 3 December. A flyer will be sent out nearer the time. Please support the work of this successful group of parents.

The Committee has been very active over the school term, with the Summer Swimming Club (funded by the Local Authority) being such an enormous success, we have managed to secure funds to provide additional after school clubs, with transport until April 2009 within Trinity School.

Following the Swimming success, additional funds have been secured for other Swimming Clubs during the half term holidays. It is an exciting time for Trinity School Parent Support Group. At the last General Meeting, parents were informed of the proposal to provide a six bed new build respite centre within the Borough (2009/10) another facility that the group's committee have been campaigning for. Future social events are being organised for the children and their families - an evening at Harmony House Restaurant and the possibility of family group breaks, with other pupils and families of Trinity School. The committee would welcome any ideas for future events that parents would like us to consider.

Although the group have secured the funds, the committee and the parents would like to thank the Headteacher Mr Peter McPartland for supporting the group and a special thank you to all the school staff that have supervised the after school activities.

George Tidbury -Chairperson
Trinity School Parent Support Group

