

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 FRIDAY
8 APRIL 2011

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PUPILS RETURN TO
SCHOOL AFTER THE
EASTER HOLIDAY ON
TUESDAY 26 APRIL 2011

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SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

Easter Holiday 2011

Monday 11 April -
Monday 25 April (inclusive)

Royal Wedding 2011

Friday 29 April (inclusive)

May Day 2011

Monday 2 May (inclusive)

Summer Half Term 2011

Monday 30 May -
Friday 3 June (inclusive)



Trinity School Newsletter April 2011

Dear Parents/Carers

Time passes very quickly and here we are again at the end of another very busy term. The teachers have been working hard at getting to grips with our assessment and record keeping scheme and are now moving on to work on the further development of our curriculum. This work, alongside their teaching duties is demanding, but has been approached with their usual commitment and desire to get it right for the pupils. These attitudes, together with pupils who are always keen to work hard and try their very best make the school a special place.

As I am sure that you are aware, there are significant changes being made to the provision of home/school transport by the Local Authority. In my opinion, there is much in the new arrangements which, given time, will offer the pupils a greater say in how they wish to travel to and from school. However, at the time of preparing this newsletter we are not yet aware of how many children will be making their way to school via school bus, personal travel escort, taxi or with parents in family cars. Consequently it is possible that the school drive and parking areas will become very congested in the mornings and after school. We shall monitor the effect of the changes on congestion and if necessary make changes to where parents can park and drop off/collect their children each day.

I am sure you will understand that if restrictions have to be introduced, it will be due to ensuring that safety of all users of the school roads and car parks is a priority.

I wish you all a restful Easter break.

Peter McPartland
Headteacher

School Calendar

Please note the attached calendar of school term dates. The school will be closed on Friday 29 April in recognition of the extra bank holiday to celebrate the Royal Wedding. This together with two other bank holidays makes the start of next term different from recent years. Please take careful note of the days when we are open or closed.

Dance Show

On Friday 3 April the work of the Dance and Drumming Clubs came together in a fabulous Presentation Evening. The work of the pupils had to be seen to be believed and was excellent. All the staff, pupils and parents involved were so proud of what had been achieved. Our congratulations to them all.

Leadership Training

This term has seen the first of several phases when teaching staff have had the opportunity to carry out some additional duties as part of our plan to ensure that we have a well trained and



THE LAST DAY OF
SUMMER TERM FOR
PUPILS/STUDENTS WILL
BE ON WEDNESDAY
20 JULY 2011

PUPILS RETURN TO
SCHOOL FOR THE
START OF THE NEW
SCHOOL YEAR ON
THURSDAY 8
SEPTEMBER 2011

NOTE TO PARENTS

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.

prepared work force. Two teachers have successfully completed their 'tour of duty' and our congratulations go to them for a job well done.

PMLD Training for Staff and Parents.

Over the past weeks Mrs Kelly has taken time out from her Assistant Headteacher duties to prepare a training course for staff and eventually parents on teaching techniques which are to be used with children with profound and multiple learning difficulties (PMLD). This work is an exciting development in our training plan and will form a key part of our work in the coming months.

Parents Training

Nadine Warren, our TEACCH Training Consultant from North Carolina was with us again this term. Alongside her duties of advising and training staff, she was also able to run two, 3 day training sessions for parents. The training was a great success and we wish to increase these training opportunities for our families in the future.

Annual School Reports to Parents.

Our Annual Summer School Reports will be sent home a few days before the Open Evening on Tuesday 12 July for all but the FEC. The format for the reports will be very different this year as they will contain information on the progress that the children have made using information from our new assessment and record keeping scheme. Whilst the reports will be shorter with less description of the pupils work, they will contain data on their progress during the year and how well they have achieved the expected levels of attainment. We urge you to attend the Open Evening and thus enable the teachers to discuss the contents and findings with you.

School Clubs and the End of Late Transport Home.

This coming year has seen a significant cut in public spending. Many of you will be aware of the impact of changes which are taking place in the area. Whilst the school budget has been protected by the Local Authority, other funds have

unfortunately been 'drying up'. As a consequence, whilst the School Governors are committed to continuing to run our extensive range of After School, Half Term and Saturday Morning Clubs, we are no longer able to afford to fund the provision of late transport home for the moment. As the Extended School Clubs have been such a wonderful success, we shall continue to seek replacement funds for transport. In the meantime this year well over 160 pupils have attended the After School Clubs and 120 had attended on Saturday Morning. Please make every effort to help your son or daughter to continue to attend by making arrangements to collect them from clubs.

Prize giving

We remind parents that this year's Celebration/Prize Giving events will take place on:

Upper and Middle School -
Tuesday 17 May at 7.00 pm

Lower School -
Tuesday 5 July at 1.30 pm

As these are such popular and wonderful events we strongly advise you to book your place to watch, clap, and cheer the pupils, as together we celebrate their achievements.

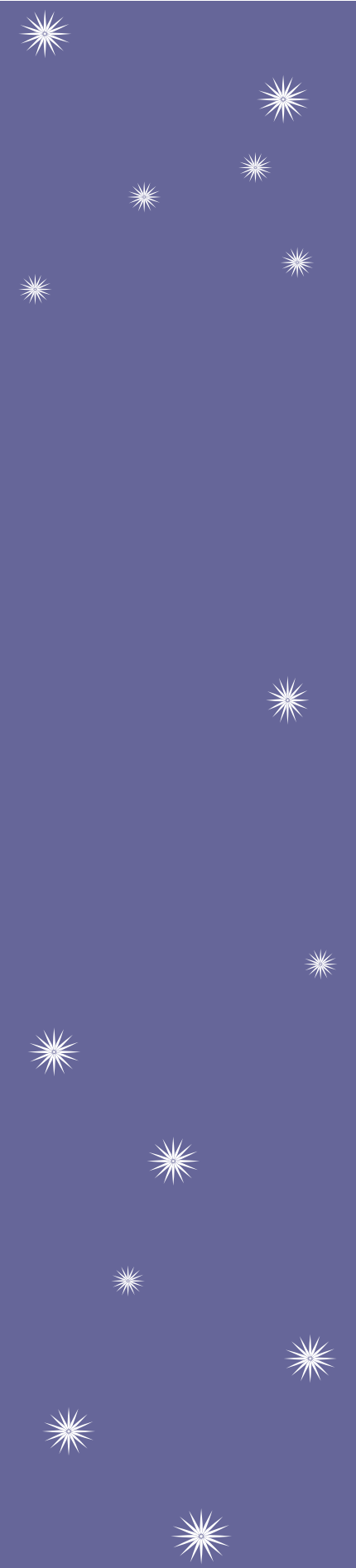
Residential Visits

The school will be organising three residential visits this year for pupils in the Upper School and a small number of Year 9s. Whilst these events are not suitable for all pupils the following trips have been organised:

- Trewern Outdoor Pursuits week.
- The Further education Centre annual visit to Wales
- The Middle and Upper School visit to Mersea for pupils with complex needs.

Buildings Programme.

Whilst the Building Schools for the Future (BSF) programme has been halted at Trinity School, we continue to be committed to providing the best possible working conditions and



facilities for our pupils and staff. Consequently we shall be undertaking a major upgrading of our Upper School hygiene areas, together with the construction of a new classroom to accommodate a group of PMLD pupils. We hope to commence work after Easter and to have the new facilities ready for next October

Staffing

We say goodbye to Mr Beattie from the FEC at the end of this term.

New Telephone System

A new telephone menu system has been installed at Trinity. Parent/Carers have the opportunity to leave messages regarding absences/receive information during school closure.

The Lower School

We have had a term full of hard work and fun with all our new children now settled and enjoying their days at school. After all the Winter snow, all of the children have been pleased to get outside more. The outdoor classroom is proving a great hit and the children are particularly enjoying the learning opportunities in this setting. Everyone is moving on with their personal learning targets and we hope that families are also seeing some of the progress we are now seeing in school.

Our topics this term on transport and play have been successful. The books used included: The Train Ride, Pass the Parcel, The Magic Train Ride, A Dragon on the Doorstep, The Journey Home from Grandpas and Mrs Honey's Hat.

We are already preparing for our topics next term. Wellgate Farm will be bringing animals into school again next term so that the children have a chance to have a close encounter with the real animals that they will be seeing in the books we tackle in lessons. We will also be hatching some chicks from eggs - a first for the Lower School.

The Speech and Language Therapy Team have worked with all the groups this term in the multisensory theatre which the children love and which really enhances their communication.

This term they have gone on a magic train ride, participated in an interactive cube session, worked on the theme of Spring and Easter and some pupils participated in a sensory journey through India.

Red Nose day was a great success and our Early Years Team made a fantastic contribution with their raffle and cake sale, raising £200. Chinese New Year was also celebrated with dragon dancers and Chinese food, enriching the experience for us all

We wish you all a Happy Easter and look forward to seeing all the children after the holiday.

Melanie Archer
Lower School

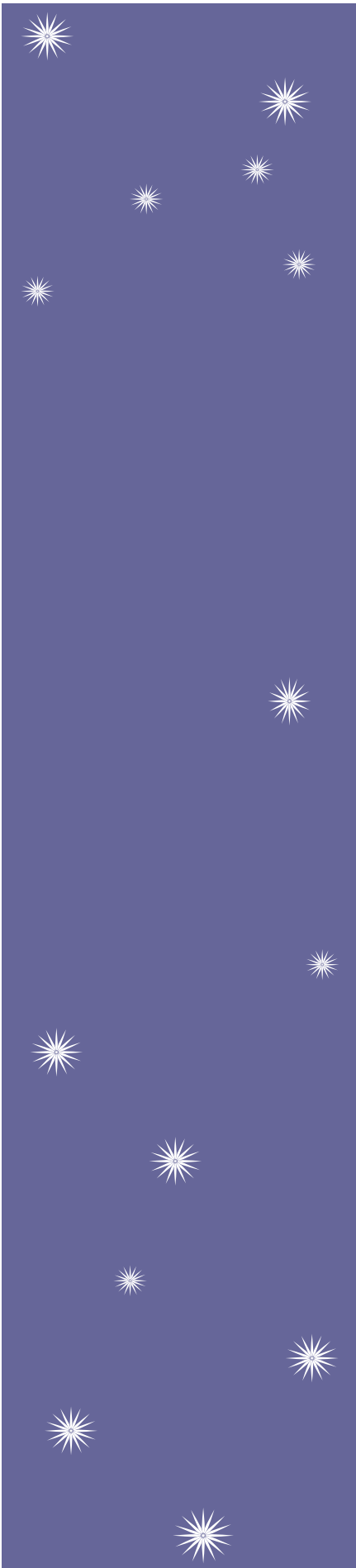
The Middle School

As a phase we have renewed our membership to ELHAP, an Adventure Play venue designed for the needs of our pupils, and several groups have already visited with one group in particular visiting on a regular basis with both pupils and staff really enjoying the activities taking place.

Several other educational visits have also taken place with class groups exploring the community facilities available to them. Some of our pupils went to Lakeside Shopping Centre to visit Santa, others went bowling and out for lunch, and some participated in the Presidents Sporting Cup Christmas Lunch - where one of our pupils received an award for his outstanding effort in a sporting competition.

Building on our already embedded rewards system, Middle School now celebrates outstanding pupil achievement in our weekly assembly.

Each class team nominate a pupil for "Star of the Week" and they then receive a certificate and have their photograph, along with the reasons why they were chosen,



displayed in school. It has been a real success and pupils are motivated by this process. The Middle Phase Management Team have also been encouraging pupils to bring pieces of good work to the phase office - so that we can acknowledge the effort and progress they are making. We have had a steady stream of pupils so far and some have even made it to the Headteacher's office for special commendation!

Pupils have also been enjoying tasting French foods, taking part in the Trinity "Tour de France" and learning some of the language during themed afternoons with our MFL teacher. Each week a different class has this opportunity and next term some classes will be extending this experience with a trip to the Europa Centre

Our pupils in Years 5 & 6 recently followed a unit of work on recycling - this was supported by a visit from Anglican Water who carried out a workshop on wasting water. This involved making "sewerage soup" and was enjoyed by all involved.

Pupils from classes Y7/8JC and Y7/8SF have formed the Trinity School Choir and they recently recorded a CD with Jo Richardson School, performing several tracks which they have rehearsed throughout the year.

Break times for Middle Phase pupils are now more active experiences with several new additions to our resources.

These include a tunnel at the start of the trim trail, two chalk boards and a range of adapted trikes and scooters. Our midday assistants have also recently received training in playground games and are now encouraging pupils to join in with parachute games, skittles and basketball.

So far this academic year, Middle Phase pupils have been involved in two fundraising events. The "Jeans for Genes" and "Wear it Pink" days gave pupils the opportunity to support others in raising money for genetic

disorder and breast cancer charities - we helped to raise nearly £400.

On February 11th, Speedmark returned to school with their huge inflatable football goal - pupils tried to score a goal with their fastest shot possible, raising money for playground equipment at the same time. Between them our pupils, from Middle and Upper phases, now have £400 to spend on play equipment.

To end a very busy and enjoyable term, the Middle phase pupils are taking part in an Africa Day on Thursday 7th April - where they will have the opportunity to taste foods, listen to music, watch dancers, listen to stories and wear outfits typical of African cultures. They are then also taking part in our end of term assembly on Friday 8th April - sharing songs and stories to celebrate Easter.

As the Spring term draws to a close, Jo Chambers and I would like to thank all the staff in the Middle Phase for being so supportive during the succession training we have had the opportunity to undertake.

We welcome back Lynne Kelly as Assistant Head and hope that she enjoys next term as much as we have enjoyed this one!

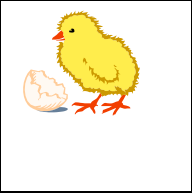
Abby Town

*Acting Assistant Headteacher
Middle School*

The Upper School

The ending of a very busy term fast approaches. The Year 11 students have been working extremely hard to complete their accreditation work in all subject areas.

The Key Stage 4 garden is beginning to take shape. As with all gardens in the Winter, it has been difficult to maintain, but now as Spring is upon us we are gradually seeing things happen!! We have a beautiful display of flowers as a result of the bulbs planted earlier.



After Easter the process of growing vegetables will begin.

The Home Management room is still being used on a regular basis and is a brilliant resource for developing life skills.

We joined in with some of the activities for Red Nose Day which was a successful event.

The Easter holidays are upon us and once we are back it will be our final term for this year. There will be a number of special events during the Summer Term of which you will be notified in due course, one of which is a Fashion Show!

From all the staff and students we wish you a very happy Easter holiday.

Sandra Burns
Assistant Headteacher

**TRINITY SCHOOL WILL BE CLOSED
FOR PUPILS/STUDENTS ON THE
DAYS THAT HAVE BEEN
HIGHLIGHTED ON THE CALENDAR
BELOW:**

| JUNE 2011 | | | | | | |
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| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | | | |

| APRIL 2011 | | | | | | |
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| MAY 2011 | | | | | | |
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| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 | 31 | | | | | |