



Holy Trinity School Newsletter



December 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you will see from our newsletter, it has been another busy half term, filled with lots of opportunities for our pupils.

Our Year 11 students have just finished their mock exams and many have started to attend interviews in preparation for the courses they will take when they leave Holy Trinity in July 2019.

On 20th November, we welcomed back many of our Year 11 students from last year, for their presentation evening. They returned to receive their GCSE certificates and individual awards for effort and attainment. It was lovely to see them all and to hear about how they are doing in their new courses and careers. Thank you to Paul Heckingbottom for joining us on the evening to present the certificates to our students and for giving them an inspiring speech on achieving their goals in life.

Our Advent Charity focus this term has been The Rucksack Project, which is aimed at helping to make winter a little more comfortable for those sleeping rough in Barnsley this winter. We have asked families to donate items such as gloves, woolly hats, warm socks, cans of food to fill a Rucksack. You will find more news about this campaign later in the newsletter. In the meantime, I would like to say a big thank you to everyone who helped in any way and to those who contributed donations, for your kind generosity.

Thank you also for your generous donations of items for our Christmas Fair which was again a great success. Together we raised £1900.62, which is an amazing result!

It has been lovely to see so many parents in school joining us for our Nursery, Foundation and Key Stage 1 Christmas Concerts and Nativities. It was also a pleasure to see so many grandparents attending the Grandparents' parties. Our children were brilliant, having worked really hard to learn songs and words and to produce very polished and professional performances. Well done to the children and to all of the staff and parents who helped to prepare for these events.

Finally, I would like to say thank you again for your continued support for our school.

I wish you a very merry and peaceful Christmas and a Happy New Year 2019.

Anna Dickson



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You can also find us on Twitter and FaceBook:

 <http://bit.ly/HT316Facebook>

 [@HolyTrinity316](https://twitter.com/HolyTrinity316)



NEWS ROUND UP

Parking on School Premises

Recently there have been a number of incidents on school premises, where cars have been damaged due to parking on pavements and in no parking areas.

Vehicles are also being parked on double-yellow lines, causing obstruction and delays, as well as turning in inappropriate areas, which could cause accidents. We're very concerned that it could be only a matter of time before one of our children is injured.

We would like to remind you that there are no on-site parking facilities for parents. We have a staff car park, visitor parking and a drop off zone. We cannot accept liability for cars parked on the school site.

Whilst we understand this can be inconvenient, we're sure you will agree that the safety of our pupils is paramount. The car park at Barnsley Bowl has been made available for our parents and carers to use from 8am each day.

Thank you for your support and cooperation.

Excellence in Reading!

Our KS3 students are making a fantastic effort in reading. After each book, students complete a quiz using the Accelerated Reader software and receive achievement points for their effort and progress.

Every year 7, 8 and 9 student has chosen a suitably challenging book and is encouraged to read for pleasure as regularly as possible.

A massive congratulations to the following students, who are at the 'top of their class' for their efforts in reading this term!

Bailey Frost	346, 871 words read.
Maya Taylor	566, 096 words read.
Isobel Wilcock	154, 096 words read.
Charlie Millward	245, 502 words read.
Elizabeth Cartwright	288, 905 words read.
Charlotte Senior	170, 643 words read.
Isobel Mellor-Keating	225, 439 words read.
Samantha Osbourne	298, 277 words read.
Lydia Green	95, 340 words read.
Steven Moule	16, 974 words read.
Marcie Heckingbottom	287, 720 words read.
Amy-Leigh Jenkinson	456, 942 words read.
Annabelle Oakley	66, 582 words read.
Georgia Green	404, 289 words read.
Patriks Pavlovics	98, 611 words read.

Student Union

Our brilliant Student Union has continued to work hard this year.

Members of the union have been involved in several projects this term, making a big contribution to school life.

Together, they have been involved in planning the delivery of AC days; helping to ensure they are focussed on things that are important to our students. They have also spent time considering and discussing lots of issues that affect students on a day to day basis.

The current focus of the Student Union is on environmental issues and the aim of making our school even more eco-friendly. Any suggestions from pupils or staff, with ideas for how this can be achieved are very welcome.

In addition, next term the union will be reintroducing the school shop. This will be a very useful one-stop shop for all your equipment needs.

If anyone is interested in what the Student Union does, or would like to contribute ideas or suggestions, please feel free to come along to room F26, where the members meet every Thursday, at lunch time.



Music Inspiration

We were very pleased to welcome composer Laurence Osborn into school this term, who came to work with our Year 10 and Year 11 music students.

Laurence is a Royal Philharmonic Society prize-winner and a graduate of both Oxford University and the Royal College of Music. He's currently studying for his PhD in composition

with renowned composer Sir George Benjamin. Whilst working with Laurence, the students were really inspired to compose music. This is something that can be difficult to get to grips with at GCSE level.

Everyone enjoyed the sessions with Laurence and found them to be incredibly valuable and helpful in progressing their skills.



Careers Advice And Guidance Information

Preparation for employment in an ever-changing workplace is an integral part of all we do at Holy Trinity. Our aim is to prepare students for further and higher education, or skilled employment with a clear career pathway in mind. We believe this enables them to make a significant contribution to society.

The provision of high quality, impartial and relevant careers information, advice and guidance has never been more important than it is today. By using the Gatsby Benchmarks, Holy Trinity aims to ensure that all students are equipped with the correct skills and knowledge necessary for them to investigate, research and enter their chosen professions.

Miss Hardcastle is our Careers Advisor. She provides excellent, impartial advice and guidance to ensure that students meet their aspirations and capitalise on opportunities.

All of our Y11 students meet with Miss Hardcastle to discuss their career options and choices, but she is also available to students in years 7-11. Parents and carers are also welcome to discuss their child's plan, or any con-

cerns they may have about careers education. Please contact Miss Hardcastle on hardcastle@holytrinitybarnsley.org with any queries.

Useful websites:

<http://ikic.co.uk/post-16-providers-2/pathways-to-success/>

<https://successatschool.org/advisedetails/506/Work-Experience-Ideas>

<https://careers.rolls-royce.com/united-kingdom/students-and-graduates/work-experience>

<https://vinspired.com/volunteer>

<https://ckcareersonline.org.uk/work-experience>
<https://www.stepintothens.nhs.uk/work-experience>

<https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/articles/work-experience>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/work-experience-and-related-activities-in-schools-and-colleges>

<https://www.barnsleycivic.co.uk/education/work-experience-and-placements>

The 39 Steps

On the 22nd November, staff from the Drama department took 39 students to see a performance of 'The 39 Steps' at the Rotherham Civic Theatre.

The murder-mystery espionage play was both hilarious and well rehearsed. Everyone who attended thoroughly enjoyed it and had a brilliant time.

We were very proud of our students, who all represented the school beautifully. They were also complimented on their attitudes by both the theatre staff and the actors.



Year 10 and Year 11 Mock Exams

Our Year 10 and Year 11 students will be busy revising and studying for some additional mock exams, which take place in January and February.

The exam dates are as follows:

Mon 14 th January:	Y11 English Literature
Mon 29 th January:	Y10 English Literature
Fri 1 st February:	Y10 Maths Paper 1
Wed 6 th February:	Y10 Maths Paper 2
Fri 8 th February:	Y10 Maths Paper 3

Please encourage your children to revise and ensure they are properly prepared for these exams.

Mock exams are very important. They give students the opportunity to experience exam conditions, to see which grade they are working to and allow them to work out where they need to improve, in order to be ready for their formal GCSE exams.

If you would like some guidance or advice, on how you can best support your children, as they prepare for their exams, please contact school.

Miss Walker's Christmas Reads



In amongst the chaos and excitement of Christmas, I wonder how many of us will find time to sit, relax and read?

It's long been a tradition in our house that time is given on Christmas Eve to reading 'Twas the Night Before Christmas' by Clement

Clarke Moore and my children love 'How the Grinch Stole Christmas' by Dr Seuss.

'The Polar Express' by Chris Van Allsburg also makes a welcome appearance at this time of year and it's also great to see it as a firm fixture on the TV schedule.

Here are just a few recommended Christmas reads for different ages that you might want to try during this holiday:

- The Snowman by Raymond Briggs



- The Jolly Christmas Postman by Alan Ahlberg
- The Snow Queen by Hans Christian Anderson
- The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe C.S Lewis

...and for the grown ups?

It's always good to have an excuse to revisit one of the classics - there are so many greats to choose from. If you're looking for a book with a Christmas theme, these classics can't be beaten...

- Hercule Poirot's Christmas by Agatha Christie
- A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens
- Little Women by Louisa May Alcott

If you read a book over the holidays that isn't on this list and would like to share it, please let me know. It would be good to publish some of your book reviews in our future newsletters.



Drama

Year 7 Drama Students

Students in Year 7 have completed their first two modules in Drama.

During the first half term, they studied “Drama Basics”, to give them the fundamental skills they will use throughout their studies. This included how to use tableaux, split scenes, monologues, thought tracking and characterisation.

In the second half term, students examined Melodrama- including the use of tropes, clichés, stock characters and stereotyping.

As part of this module, the students read, analysed and then performed “The Black-Hearted Villain”.

They all did brilliantly and had lots of fun dressing up, using the mise-en-scene, and performing for one another.

Throughout this term, all of the students

have made brilliant strides in developing their drama skills, knowledge and confidence in performing.

Mrs Steele is very proud of everything they have achieved.



Hallam Schools Social Action Day

On Thursday 29th November eight of our Year 8 students went with Miss Meehan and Mrs McKinney to participate in the Hallam Schools Social Action day, at Our Lady and St. Thomas Church in Sheffield. The day was organised by two students from St. Mary's Catholic High School, Chesterfield.

Our students attended workshops presented by CAFOD, Pax Christi, The Columbans and St. Wilfred's Centre, which raised awareness

of issues such as the environment, justice, peace, poverty and homelessness.

Our students had a fantastic day out and were a credit to our school. Miss Meehan was very proud of them, saying they were exceptional throughout the whole day.

The students have come back with lots of ideas that they want to share with others in school, to address the issues they learnt about on the day.



The Rucksack Project

Throughout Advent we have been collecting donations for Barnsley Rucksack Project. This is a voluntary movement, with the aim of helping people who are sleeping rough, or in desperate need, through the cold winter months.

We are delighted to have filled 19 rucksacks and have plenty of items left over. Four bags will be donated to St. Wilfred's Centre in Sheffield as part of the Hallam Young Chaplains 'Faith in Action Award' and the rest will be donated to Barnsley Rucksack project.

We also collected lots of tinned food and £102.79 in cash.



A special mention to form Z9, who set themselves the target of preparing three rucksacks, but thanks to their hard work, managed to exceed this goal. In the end, they were able to donate five rucksacks, two bags for life and three shopping bags. All were filled with donations that included food,

clothing, shoes, toiletries and flasks.

We are very proud of everyone's efforts and are glad to have helped so many people at this special time of year.

A huge well done to our students and staff who worked so hard and a big thank you to everyone who helped them with donations.

R7 would also like to publicly thank Mr Frank Scholey for his generous donation to the 'ruck sack appeal', along with the members of St Helen's 5th Barnsley Rainbows whose generous donation inspired all of us to dig deep. A big thank you also, to the store manager of Sports Direct in the town centre, who gave us a discount on items purchased in-store. This enabled us to use the money collected to even better effect.

This support is very much appreciated and made a big difference to people in need. Collecting for such a good cause has helped us all to remember the true message of Advent.



What do Beekeepers do in the Winter?

You would be mistaken if you thought that our beekeepers had nothing to keep them busy during the quieter winter months.

On the contrary, this is the time when they get to use the surplus wax collected during hive inspections.

We've made honey, pre-moulded candles, rolled candles, wax melts and lip balm. We were able to sell these items at our Christmas fair, where we also had our popular candle rolling stall, where for a small fee of 50p - £1.50 visitors could make their own bees wax candle.

If you've always wanted to try beekeeping, we are looking for new recruits to join our beekeeping club in the Spring term.

Some of our current beekeepers joined the club when they were in Year 7 and have been working with our bees for more than three years. They've really enjoyed learning about beekeeping and how to produce honey and other products.

If you are interested in joining the club, or have questions about what is involved and would like to find out more, please contact Ms Sefton, or collect a letter from the prep room.



Zoolab

Our Year 8's had their own 'Bushtucker Trial' recently, when they got up close to some incredible creatures.

Dr Watts arranged for Zoolab to come into school and our lucky students got to learn about - and handle - various insects, rodents and reptiles!



Christmas Events Round Up

We've had some fantastic Christmas events this year. A big thank you to everyone who came along to watch the brilliant performances and to join in with the Christmas celebrations.



Forthcoming Dates

Spring Term 2019

Mon 7 th January	School re-opens for Spring Term
Thu 10 th January	Year 3 visit to Cresswell Craggs
Fri 11 th January	Y11 Mock exam reports to students and parents
Mon 14 th January	Young Voices event
Wed 23 rd January	Y11 parents' evening
Thu 24 th January	Y10 reports to parents
Tue 29 th January	Y10 parents' evening
Wed 30 th January	AC Day
Thu 31 st January	Y9 reports to parents
Fri 1 st February	Y11 GCSE statements of entry issued to students
Wed 6 th February	Y7 reports to parents
Wed 13 th February	Y8 reports to parents
Wed 13 th February	Y9 parents' evening
Fri 15 th February	School closes for half term holiday.