

Holy Trinity School Newsletter



December 2016

Dear Parents,

It has been another busy half term! Our Year 11 pupils have just finished their mock exams and many are having interviews in preparation for the courses they will take when they leave Holy Trinity. Key Stage 4 students visited Romania to support the Cry in the Dark Charity. It is a very intense experience and they make a huge contribution to people whose lives are very difficult. You may have seen some of the blogs that the students wrote while they were there.

We were joined in our Armistice Commemoration by the Lord Lieutenant, Mr Andrew Coombe and his wife Mrs Sue Coombe along with members of the council and governors. As always, the service was very moving and our pupils were a credit to us. Following the service, the Lord Lieutenant and Mrs Coombe had a walk round the school to meet some of the pupils and staff. They were very impressed by the climate around our school.

On 22nd November, we welcomed our Year 11 students from last year who returned to receive their GCSE certificates. It was lovely to see them and to hear how they are doing in their new courses and careers. In the run up to Christmas, each of our classes prepared a shoebox with gifts to send to the children in Romania so that they each had a present to open. Thank you to parents for supporting this. We have also raised money for the Barnsley Hospice through a lovely Chocolate Bouquet that was displayed in reception.

It has been lovely to see so many parents and grandparents in school joining us for our Christmas Fair, Christmas Concerts and events. Our children were amazing, working hard to learn songs and words and giving very professional performances. Well done everyone involved.

On Friday, we will say goodbye to some of our staff. Mrs Gallear from the office, Ms Bracewell from the student support office and Mr Waller from the maths department. Thank you to them for all they have done for Holy Trinity and for our pupils. In January, we have a new teacher joining the maths department; Mr Wright.

Thank you again for your continued support for our school. I wish you a very Happy and peaceful Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Anna Dickson

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You can also find us on Twitter & Facebook:

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News and Events

Children in Need

Our Year 7 Focus group did a fantastic job this half term, raising a brilliant £152 for the Children in Need appeal.

The group ran two events, a cake sale and a 'students versus teachers' penalty shoot-out. Special thanks to everyone who donated cakes and to the staff who had penalties shot at them and tried valiantly to save the penalties, including a special mention to Mrs Steele and Mr Henderson who took most of the grief!

The students who organised the events were:

Abigail Burgin	Logan Armitage
Kizzy Conway	Michelle Frey
Tyra Hayward	Oscar Harrod
Amy-Leigh Jenkinson	Emma Marlow
Kieron Mann	Olafs Sklauda
Warren Taylor	Alyssa Mills

They all deserve a huge well done for their amazing efforts and brilliant achievement.

Chemistree!

Our Science Department haven't disappointed with this year's "Chemistree". The baubles contain solutions of nickel sulphate, hydrochloric acid + indicator, sodium hydroxide + indicator, copper sulphate, lead white, potassium chromate and potassium (VII) manganate.



Primary Round up

Things have been very busy in the Primary Phase! Pupils were treated to a performance of "Aladdin" from a theatre company that came into school to start our Advent season. The children all enjoyed the performance and joined in with the singing.



It is thanks to *your* generosity with our fundraising through the year that school was able to provide your children with this enjoyable experience.

Mission Together

Our Primary Phase also raised a fantastic £320.00 for Mission Together. Some of our Year 6 pupils went along to present the



cheque to Bishop Ralph at a special mass at Holy Rood Church.

Grandparents' Christmas Carol Concert

This popular event was held this week and we added an additional concert, so Grandparents weren't disappointed.

The children performed some traditional carols and our school choir and Year 4 Ukulele groups provided entertainment.



Christmas Fair

Thank you to everyone who attended our Christmas Fair in November and donated prizes. The event was opened by our

school choir, who gave a lovely performance of Christmas songs.

Our Christmas fundraising total is a staggering

£2800! This does not take into account the £288 we raised from the Book Fair, which will be given in books for school. Well done to everyone who has helped and to Michaela Woodcock, who spent the last few months preparing for this event.

Nativity Season



Our Nursery children performed their version of the Nativity to their proud parents and grandparents. The morning and afternoon groups retold the story brilliantly and could sing all the words to the songs. Thank you to Mrs Swallow and Mrs Hill for organising this special event with our youngest children.

Foundation 2's Nativity was called, "Christmas With the Aliens." This was a modern nativity where the traditional Christmas story is retold to alien visitors who are stranded on earth and meet a group of schoolchildren rehearsing their Christmas play. The children performed with confidence and had the audience smiling to the catchy songs, such as "Let the Universe Know His Name." Well done to everyone involved in this production!

Key Stage 1 performed the Christmas musical, "Are We Nearly There Yet?" about a family's important journey to Bethlehem. Again, the children gave a fantastic performance. They all knew their lines and sang songs including "Rejoice With Us!" which also had the audience joining in at the end. Again, thank you to everyone for their hard work.



Anti-Bullying Competition

Our students have entered a competition to promote the important message of anti-bullying, with the chance to win a £300 first prize!

The idea was discussed with both the primary and secondary student councils. They came up with the idea for every form to create a poster, to show what bullying and anti-bullying means to them. The student council arranged all of the posters into a collage, in the shape of our school's "Holy Trinity Cross".



Holy Trinity's Got the X Factor!

The Primary School Council organised a brilliant event, where each class nominated acts who auditioned throughout the week.

Finalists were chosen to perform and the overall winner was Finn Wilson (Year 2) who played the electric guitar. The children all enjoyed being part of this talent show; and it is with special thanks to the School Council, led by Miss Homer.



Year 7 TeenTech Challenge

Our Year 7 students received two awards at the Barnsley Finals of the TeenTech Challenge on 28 November. The 'Best Domestic Space' Award, for the Home of the Future, was won by Deven Galloway, Amie Cooper, Dilly Evans and Maisy Hanby of Barachiel House.

Their winning entry, the 'Human-Eco-Hamster House' was designed to harness solar energy and featured zoned areas for a variety of domestic activities.

Gabriel House members Meg Moffat, Laura Spencer and Molly Cross presented their family centered, 'Under the Beach Hotel' which was constructed underground in order to

minimize visual pollution. They were awarded 'Most Innovative Building' partly due to their idea of cleaning



and filtering seawater for use in the hotel.

Students presented their concept and model of their building to pupils from other schools, then took part in a number of TeenTech activities, such as gadget design and developing ideas that could be incorporated into the new Barnsley Library building, before presenting their detailed ideas to a panel of judges, chaired by Maggie Philbin of 'Tomorrow's World' fame.

Our pupils are delighted with the result of the competition, and are now eagerly awaiting their visit to London in January, where they have been invited to present their work in the National Final!!!



More from Alternative Curriculum Day



In school, our Year 8 students took part in a very interesting retreat, which adopted the theme of 'care for the common home' – this came from the encyclical of Pope 'Laudato Si'.

Throughout the day, students took part in a carousel of activities focused on the topic of climate change. They covered how as individuals, we can care for our school environment and how we can apply the teachings of the parable of the sheep and goats. Everyone enjoyed the day, which as well as being interesting and fun, helped everyone to develop their knowledge and understanding of the issues around climate change and our duty as Christians to be good stewards of God's creation.

Year 9 students took part in a unique workshop on

higher education. This was no ordinary workshop though – the theme was a Zombie apocalypse and how to survive student life!

Students were able to take a closer look at the types of courses and pathways available to them, as well as considering important factors such as student finance and university life.



Meanwhile, thirty-seven of our Year 11 students visited the campus of York St. John University. They enjoyed a tour of the campus, had an introduction to higher education.

They too learned more about student finance and in the afternoon attended a taster session to find out what life is like for students at the university.

This really helped students to get a true taste of university life.

Year 9 Mathematical Enterprise Day



Year 9 students were also involved in a mathematical enterprise day, which entailed learning about money in the real world.

They tackled important skills for life, learning about things they will have to do, such as knowing how to set up a bank account and the various ways to budget.

There were sessions on how to plan and budget for a holiday and converting currency. For the celebrations

in life, they looked at how to plan for a party and the associated costs which included looking at real life offers in supermarkets.

In addition to covering how to enjoy money, they were also taught about concerns involved with gambling and how easy it is to lose money – as part of this, the students watched a clip of someone who had lost half a million pounds in just six minutes.

All students enjoyed the activities of the day and learned vital maths skills that they will go on to use in real life.

