



HOLY TRINITY ACADEMY NEWSLETTER SUMMER TERM 2019



Dear Parents and Carers,

In what has been another very busy year, I look back on the successes of the pupils and staff alike. I am rightly very proud of the response of pupils and staff in their tireless effort towards becoming involved in the wider school life. This academic year has seen the continuation of a very varied extra-curricular programme, including the enrichment programme offering opportunities as diverse as Young Enterprise, building computers from scratch (pupil led!) and archery. There has also been a renewed vigour to create learning opportunities outside of the classroom through working with outside education providers coming in to run workshops or by taking the students out to visit different places. On all occasions, students are real ambassadors for the school and I am delighted with the feedback we get with regards to how well they conduct themselves. This was clearly evident when I had the honour to accompany the group of Year 9 and 10 pupils on the Battlefield trip to Belgium and France. Whilst there we were asked to be representatives at the internment of 9 French Marines whose bodies had been found in the area around Ypres. One of our pupils was asked to lay a wreath at the ceremony and it was a delight to see how several students insisted on wearing their full uniform even with the very warm temperatures; this included two of our own students who are Sea Cadets and attended in their full Sea Cadet uniform. Whilst it was a very poignant reminder of the sacrifice which was given by so many during all military conflicts, it is also a fantastic example of how our young people of HTA have a real sense of respect. This trait in young people is often maligned in the media, but I was very proud of the pupils who were in attendance as they conducted themselves with real maturity and showed great reverence throughout the service and at all the locations throughout the trip.



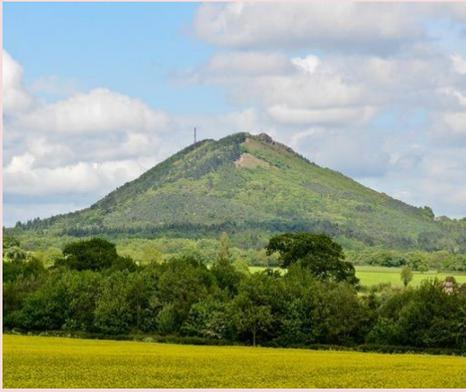
We have also worked hard on expanding our opportunities for students within school. This has included the new 10:10 project at Key Stage 3. The programme has been designed to allow pupils to experience "education" in its truest sense and allow pupils to overcome adversity, take on new challenges and understand that it is okay to fail. More importantly they have learnt it's overcoming the failure which is the key part. The programme has included students walking up The Wrekin, camping on the school site and at the Long Mynd, which for some was seriously outside of their previous experiences and comfort zone! Next year there will be further aspects of the award which I am looking forward to sharing with you.

This year has also been a fantastic year for the support of charities with the school raising over £3000 for various charities including the Teenage Cancer Trust and the School of Joy in Bethlehem. Last week's fun run was great fun with various staff volunteering to dress up in fancy dress - The new year 6's were very puzzled when they saw hot dogs, seagulls and the like running around the school field. I must mention the great efforts that students made in collecting sponsorship money with one year 7, Melody, raising £240. A huge thanks to her and her family for such support. We have also recently developed a link with a school in Nabwalya, Zambia with the recent non-uniform day raising £500 for this worthy cause.

I would like to thank all parents and carers for their continued support of the school and wish you all a happy and safe summer break.

Angus Neal

Year 7 Wrekin Walk



125 Year 7 students completed a sponsored walk up and down the Wrekin on 5 June. As part of their 10:10 Life in all its fullness project the students demonstrated some excellent leadership and teamwork skills. It was an opportunity to develop their skills in resiliency and to encourage their peers to complete the challenge. Well done!

Life Ready – Work Ready

It is never too early to look at career and study options. Year 8 students spent Impact Day exploring the many different career opportunities post-education, looking at the importance of developing and maintaining transferrable skills and even getting the chance to meet with different business ambassadors who shared the experiences of *their* journey.

Thanks to the 'Life Ready, Work Ready' programme, our students received an invaluable insight into further education and university pathways, apprenticeships and key sectors of work in the local area.



YOUNG ENTERPRISE

Congratulations to our Young Enterprise team who were the winners of the Social Enterprise Award at this prestigious annual event. Olivia, Precious, Steve, Matthew and Liya are pictured accepting the award on behalf of the rest of the team (Kirsten, Chloe, Rewin, Jon and Lucy). Their company, 'Anonymous Attire' was recognised for its key concept of raising the profile for young people and to be valued for who they are, rather than to be judged and stereotyped. Twenty two YE companies entered from across many of Shropshire's schools and colleges and our team's hard work paid off in this particular category. They were also nominated in the Innovation Award category. Throughout this Young Enterprise competition, the team completed two Saturday trade fairs, formally presented their company in front of judges at Wolverhampton University and produced a company report. The awards evening gave



them the opportunity to meet local business leaders from sponsoring companies and in particular, CapGemini who will provide work experience for one of our students later this year. The team should be extremely proud of their efforts and value the skills that they have developed during this challenging competition. A big thank you must go to Mrs Evans for leading and supporting the group throughout their business journey.

FLAME 2019

Students from Holy Trinity Academy were part of an 8000 strong crowd at Wembley Arena for Flame 2019, the largest event for Catholic young people in England and Wales. The theme for the day was 'Significance' and defined as 'worthy of attention', 'with meaning' and 'important'. Organised by the Catholic Youth Ministry Federation (CYMFED), the young people were addressed by the Primate of All Ireland, Archbishop Eamon Martin and worship was led by artists including Tim Hughes and Guvna B, while the line-up also included Premier Gospel's Ibe Giantkiller and Premier Praise presenter Candice McKenzie. There was drama by the Christian drama group RISE Theatre, and the American Christian and worldwide speaker Robert Madu urged the young people to keep their eyes well and truly fixed on Jesus who loves them and not to get caught in the trap of comparing themselves with others and not to let social media define their sense of self-worth.



That's Entertainment

The Holy Trinity Academy 'Musical Production Society' has treated us to two amazing performances of 'Songs from the Shows', an extravaganza of song, dance and drama from a range of popular musicals. An alternative to their traditional musical production, we saw solos, duets, dance pieces and ensembles from Wicked, Matilda, Oliver, Grease, A Chorus Line and The Greatest Showman to name but a few. Despite many months of rehearsals, last minute changes saw some students having only days to learn and perfect their performances which were astonishing. Congratulations and well done to all those involved; the principal cast, actors, dancers and the entire company for their incredible, breath-taking and harmonious performances. A special thanks to Ms Monks (Producer) and Mr Harper (Musical Director) and also to Mrs Newall & Miss McNally, not only for their support but for their vocal contributions. As the song goes... 'Thank you for the music..!'



Speakers Trust- Speak out Challenge

Back in March, some of our Year 10 students took part in the 'Speak Out Challenge', an interactive workshop designed to give students confidence to present their own point of view in front of others and to listen to, and understand the views of their peers. The workshop helped to develop skills in both speaking and listening. Six students then went on to a recent final held in front of another panel of judges and a much larger audience. All finalists presented very well but congratulations to Rosalinda Kwafo-Akoto who goes on to the regional final in the Chancellor's Hall at the University of Wolverhampton.

Holy Trinity Academy History Department Trip to Ypres and Somme to explore surgery and treatment on the Western Front 1914-1918.

40 students from Holy Trinity Academy have just returned from this amazing trip.

Staff and students attended the burial of nine French marines who were being given a full military funeral at St Charles de Potyze Cemetery, Zonnebeekseweg.

We were able to lay a wreath on behalf of staff, students, parents and governors of HTA.

We visited Hill 60 to look at the impact of mining and the use of explosives and gas on the Western Front.

We visited a cemetery and learnt how the evacuation process worked for injured soldiers in the First World War.

We were able to discover the grave of a soldier who had been awarded the V.C. and one soldier who was only 16 years old.

The highlight of our time in Ypres was attending the last post ceremony at the Menin Gate. This was a most moving experience.

Our second day was spent on the Somme including a visit to the Hawthorn Ridge Crater.

We visited the Deville Wood museum and cemetery. Two students were able to dress in VAD and RAMC uniform.

This was a real highlight of the trip as Joseph Vickers was able to dress exactly like his great, great uncle, Joseph King. He joined the Irish Regiment, the Connaught Rangers with other Saint John's Ambulance men from his home town of Shiny Row, served as a medic, and was commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant until he was killed in action in the final month of the Great War, in 1918, aged 25. It was really amazing to see Joseph dressed in exactly the same way as his relative.

Our trip ended at the Thiepval Memorial to the Missing where we were able to have a ceremony of remembrance and reflection on the sacrifice of all those killed in war. This was a most moving time.





This was an excellent trip that brought History alive. The students were really well behaved and most positive in their attitude and showed enormous respect at all times.

Students really enjoyed the experience, some of their thoughts are below:

“I enjoyed the trip as the experience was great, I learnt a lot and enjoyed the company of my friends.” L.F.

“I was interested to find out that the two British soldiers seen as the bravest in the First World War didn’t kill anyone but both got the Victoria Cross, one got two!” C.W.

“France was a brilliant opportunity to learn about Medicine in World War I. It helps give us a better understanding because we were there in person and were able to see where everything happened. P.R. & J.S.

“The trip was great as we learned lots to do with the First World War and Medicine as well as getting to hang out with friends.” H.G.

“France was amazing as it was packed with things to do, you were not just sitting in silence on a coach all day, there were films relative to what we were doing and the tour guide gave us constant information, I learnt quite a lot.” K.M.

Mrs Simmonds



COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN PARENTS AND THE SCHOOL

The focus of communications should be to advance student progress either academically or socially.

Parents can communicate by :

- emailing enquiries@holytrinity.academy
- using the 'contact us' form on the website
- calling the main office on 01952 386100
- by writing a note in the student planner

Please do not use systems such as Show My Homework to communicate with staff.

Whatever the form of communication, please provide brief details of the nature of the concern.

The school operates a "Zero Tolerance Policy". Whilst we appreciate that parents may be contacting the school regarding a disagreement, it is essential that the matter is dealt with in a professional manner in order to ensure the best outcome for our students. Abuse and rudeness towards staff will not be tolerated.

Please understand that teachers will need **up to 4 working days** to respond to communication requests, as schedules are very busy at school and the answer may involve meeting with other teachers who may have valuable input. More complicated issues may take longer to fully and effectively resolve.

Please do not attend school without having previously made an appointment as this can be very difficult to accommodate due to teaching schedules and other meetings before/after school. You can arrange for an appointment via the main school office.

Reception staff will ask for brief details of the nature of the communication in order to direct you to the most appropriate person.

Any major behavioural concerns or urgent safeguarding issues should be dealt with via a phone call to the main office to ensure a quick and positive outcome if required. Urgent safeguarding concerns can be reported to Family Connect on 01952 385385. The Pastoral Team will endeavour to deal with urgent issues as quickly as possible, within 48 hours. Please note the pastoral office closes at 3.30pm.

The subject areas and point of contact for communication should be as follows:

AREA OF CONCERN	FIRST POINT OF CONTACT
ACADEMIC	Subject Teacher
PASTORAL (low level)	Form Tutor
PASTORAL (medium level)	Pastoral
ADDITIONAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS	SENCo
ADMINISTRATIVE / FINANCIAL / SIMS Parent Online	School Office

SCHOOL UNIFORM

UNIFORM AND APPEARANCE

It is the policy of the Governing Body of Holy Trinity Academy to require students to wear our distinctive uniform neatly and to follow the appearance requirements. Below is a list of the various items.

Parents are asked to ensure that all clothing is clearly marked with the student's name.

GENERAL UNIFORM

Blazers must be worn at all times unless permission is given to remove them by a member of staff. No form of 'hoodie', track suit top or sports top must be worn as an outer coat, it will be confiscated and parents will be asked to come in and pick it up. The Blazer will become the outer coat whilst in School.

Trousers must be sensible tailored school trousers not jeans, fashion trousers that are too tight or have belts, buckles or other ornamentation. Skirts should be a decent length, no higher than just above the knee.

Outer coats should be black or navy only.

JEWELLERY & MAKE UP

Jewellery should not be worn. If students have pierced ears, a maximum of two small plain gold or silver studs (one in each ear) on lower lobe is allowed. Nose studs, upper ear piercings and facial piercing, including tongue studs, are not acceptable. A recent piercing is not a valid reason for wearing unacceptable jewellery. The use of plasters as a means of covering up is not acceptable. No rings, bracelets, or chains (except a small crucifix if worn)

No make-up or any cosmetic products, for example - false tan, tinted moisturiser, tinted eyebrows/eyelashes or false eyelashes are allowed. This list does not cover all the cosmetic appearance enhancers, so please contact the school before you choose to use anything that we may deem cosmetic. Students will be given sanctions and asked to remove any of the above. A bigger sanction will be given for applying cosmetics that cannot be removed instantly.

Students who arrive wearing make-up or nail varnish will be told to remove it before they are allowed in class. For safety reasons finger nails should be kept to a reasonable length. False nails are not acceptable under any circumstances.

HAIRCUTS

We appreciate that fashions in haircuts are constantly changing and schools have to cope with trends. However, students should have hair of a 'natural colour' not have streaks, etched or engraved designs or cuts or styles that are extreme or below a **Number 2**. Long hair should be clean, tidy and be tied back at all times.

This is not an exhaustive list. To avoid possible anxiety please talk to the school before allowing your child to opt for a hair style or piercing that could get them into trouble

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE 2019

Attendance

- Students are registered at 8.25am prompt. Students arriving after this time are marked **Late**.
- Absences should be reported **by 9am** on the absence line **01952 386102**. A phone call should be made on each day's absence.
- Hospital and Orthodontist appointments will be authorised if supported by hospital letters/appointment cards.
- General doctor/dentist/opticians appointments will not be authorised and should be made outside the school day or in the school holidays.
- If a student has an appointment in the middle of the school day we would expect the student to register as normal in the morning, go to their appointment at the required time and then return promptly back to school to minimise the amount of lesson time missed.

Leave in Term Time

Holiday and other requests for leave in term time are only approved in **exceptional circumstances**. A 'Leave of Absence from School in Term Time' form (available from reception) should be completed in advance by parents/carers and returned to school. The Headteacher will make a decision on whether the leave of absence will be authorised. Parents/carers will be informed of the decision in writing.

HOLY TRINITY ACADEMY

TERM DATES

2019 – 20

AUTUMN TERM 2019

Monday 2 September PD DAY

Tuesday 3 September STUDENTS RETURN

Start of half term: Monday 28 October 2019

End of half term: Friday 1 November 2019

End of term: Friday 20 December 2019

SPRING TERM 2020

Start of Term Tuesday 7th January 2020

Start of half term: Monday 17 February 2020

End of half term: Friday 21 February 2020

End of term: Friday 3 April 2020

SUMMER TERM 2020

Start of term: Monday 20 April 2020

May Day: Friday 8 May 2020

Start of half term: Monday 25 May 2020

End of half term: Friday 29 May 2020

End of term: Wednesday 15 July 2020

FRIDAY 11TH OCTOBER

MONDAY 6TH JANUARY

THURSDAY 16TH JULY

FRIDAY 17TH JULY

FAREWELL TO CHAIR OF GOVERNORS

After a number of years at both Blessed Robert Johnson & Holy Trinity Academy,

Mrs Langdale is retiring from her post as Chair of Governors at Holy Trinity Academy.



PARENT WEEKLY BULLETIN

A Reminder that the Parent Weekly Bulletin is now available every week on the website with latest school information and events.

AUTUMN TERM BEGINS

ON

TUESDAY 3RD SEPTEMBER 2019