



Newsletter

October 2017



Senior Awards Evening

Last year's school leavers are now looking forward to their Senior Awards Evening as we celebrate a significant number of our students achieving the top grades of A*s and 9s in this year's GCSEs.

Six pupils achieved the new 'super grade' of 9 in either English or Maths - with one student Paige Kerry celebrating a double as she got Grade 9 in English Language and English Literature.

There were A*s and As in a host of other subjects as we continued our strong academic tradition.

"At Blessed Trinity we are very proud of the achievements of our pupils," said Acting Head

Teacher Mr Thompson. "In the new Maths and English GCSEs, where candidates achieved a Grade 1-9, our pupils have continued to perform well, with a number achieving the new super grade of 9.

"We are delighted that many pupils have also hit the top A* and A grades in other subjects as well.

"Our students will go on to study A-Levels, BTEC's as well as apprenticeships while we have several sporting students who have won special scholarships. We are proud of all of them.

"The awards evening is on 30th November and we can't wait to see our successful students pick up their deserved prizes."

UPCOMING EVENTS

HALF-TERM

30th October-3rd November 2017

NOVEMBER

13th: Arts and Culture Week
22nd: Year 11 Progress Evening
30th: Senior Awards Evening

DECEMBER

5th: Year 9 Progress Evening

JANUARY

17th: Year 8 Progress Evening

FEBRUARY

1st: Year 7 Progress Evening

MARCH

14th: Options Evening
20th: Year 10 Progress Evening

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Monday lunch-time

Art GCSE Rm 108; Games Club Learning Support; KS3 Drama Rm 201
Sport: Basketball (Y9-11); Fitness Suite (Y9-11)

Monday after-school

Chamber Choir Rm 220; Dance Academy Rm 201; Enterprise Rm 107
Sport: Boxing, Boys Football (Y8), Netball (Y8), Biking Club

Tuesday lunch-time

Faith Friends (Y7/8) Chapel; Games Club Learning Support; Glee Club KS3 Rm 217
Sport: Athletics (Y7/8), Rising Stars

Tuesday after-school

Science Club Rm 308, GCSE Textiles Rm 107; GSCE Art Rm 109
Sport: Summit Seekers, Girls Football, Boys Football (Y9-11), Boys Rugby, Netball (Y9-11)

Wednesday lunchtime

Faith Friends (Y7/8) Chapel; Computing Club Rm 303; Debating Society Rm 114; Games Club; GCSE Textiles Rm 107; GCSE Art Rm 109
Sport: Cricket (Y7/8) Fitness Suite (Y9-11)

Wednesday after-school

GCSE Drama (Y10) Rm 201. Sport: Netball (Y7)

Thursday lunch-time

Music Theory Rm 220; Games Club; Ukulele Club Band Room
Sport: Badminton (all years); Fitness Suite (Y9-11)

Thursday after-school

GCSE Art Rm 108; KS3 Art Club Rm 109
Sport: Hockey (all years); Running Club, Boys Football (Y7); Girls Rugby (all years); Tennis (all yrs)

Friday lunch-time

Faith Space Y10 Chapel; KS3 Drama Rm 201; Games Club
Sport: Basketball (Y7/8); Fitness Suite (Y9-11)

Information page

ATTENDANCE

What does "good attendance" mean? Do you know what your child's attendance is?

For example, Simon is in Year 7 and has 90% attendance. Simon thinks this is pretty good, so do his parents. However, 90% attendance = ½ day missed every week!

1 school year at 90% attendance = 4 whole weeks of lessons MISSED!

90% attendance over 5 years of secondary school = ½ a school year missed!

Research suggests that 17 missed school days a year = 1 FULL GCSE grade DROP in achievement. (DfES)

The greater the attendance, the greater the achievement.

Ways for parents to encourage attendance:

1. Find out regularly your child's absence. Ask for half days if easier and check this matches with your own record.
2. Talk regularly with your child about school and how they feel about it. They are more likely to attend if they feel supported and their anxieties are listened to.
3. Phone or email us as soon as possible to tell us why your child is absent - 506200 or dhope@btrcc.lancs.sch.uk and when you expect them to return. Putting the school number in your phone can save you time.
4. Only grant days at home for genuine illness.

5. Avoid taking holidays in school time.

6. Know routines of the school day to avoid issues, e.g. have they got their PE kit?

7. If you have concerns ring us – we will check attendance and be discreet.

8. PRAISE AND REWARD GOOD ATTENDANCE:

Even small successes, such as going in promptly even when you know their first lesson isn't their favourite.

We have a reward system in place for pupils in each year group who have achieved 100% attendance each week. Their names go into a draw and the winner receives a £5 voucher every week.

YEAR 7

Jessica McNulty, Dylan Cole, Theo McCormick, Madeline Storah.

YEAR 8

Robin Carter, Breanna McFarlane, Xander Thompson, Shea Hughes

YEAR 9

Amelia Cookson, Cian Parkinson, Dominic Halleron, Heleena Ramzan

YEAR 10

Rebecca Williams, Lily Bradshaw, Max Singleton, Yvette Lecheminant

YEAR 11

Emily Reynolds, Ione Benson, Leah Morton, Kacey Benson.

Year 7 key dates

Our 266 Year 7 students have settled in well. They have all been able to go on retreat and spend a full day with their form and form tutor in order to get to know each other and bond.

After all, this is their school family for the next five years!

We had a great turn out for the mini parents evening which enabled staff and parents to ensure that their child has settled in

and any issues or questions could be addressed. Their full parents evening is in the new year on 1st February at Turf Moor.

Some key dates are:

Welcome Mass: Tuesday 24th Oct Period 5.

Year 7 Christmas Disco:

Thursday 7th Dec – ticket

only which must be bought by 15th November. This is being organised by Mrs Buchanan and her Year 11 Catering pupils.

Year 11 Science update

As part of the support being offered in preparation for the GCSE Science exams, your child has been given a Tassomai account. Tassomai is a trusted learning and revision tool to support your child through the stress of GCSEs and put them on the path to good grades.

Tassomai makes learning and revising for GCSE Science as effective and as straightforward as possible.

Pupils can see the revision topics they need to work through, they can see how they are getting on so far and they can see what they should do next.

It also organises a daily routine, prioritising each topic and subject based on progress so far and time remaining (ie. the date of the exam).

If pupils can progress through 80 per cent of the course, this revision will have a significant impact on their final grades. Pupils should now be using the package for 15-20 mins per day at least so that they can reach the target of 80 per cent by the exam date.

www.tassomai.com

Blessed Trinity in the news



Singer helps with on-line safety

Singer and songwriter Sion Hill came to school to help to highlight on-line safety.

Sion is from Ireland and has a growing reputation in the music industry.

He came to Blessed Trinity to sing a number of his songs but also give advice on how to stay safe on-line as well as discussing cyber bullying and where to go for help.

"I want to inspire students and encourage them to follow their dreams," said Sion, 23. "It's about not letting people get you down, helping students to believe in themselves and having confidence."

PSHE co-ordinator Ms Lanney who, along with Ms Loney organised the event, said: "Sion had a great day with the pupils in Key Stage 3, making a lot of students think about how safe they are on-line. They asked him a lot of questions about e-safety and also his singing career!"

Holly's county call-up



Our netball star Holly has got a county call-up. Holly, 15, represented Lancashire at Under 14 level last year and has just been selected for the Under 15s.

"It was a tough process this year as it was a big step up from last year," said Holly. "It was much quicker and obviously everyone had grown so it was more competitive."

More than 100 girls started the trials at Blackburn College for the first day, they were reduced to 50 and then the numbers were reduced again with Holly making the final cut.

"I was really happy as I knew how tough it was."



Generous students raised an impressive £1,364 for Cancer Research in Blessed Trinity's 5km Race for Life.

Show My Homework

Show My Homework is an on-line tool to help you keep track of your child's homework tasks. Show My Homework will allow you to see details of the tasks your child has been set, as well as their submission status and where applicable, their marks.

Pupils will be expected to complete homework tasks, outside of school, although the library will be available at break times and lunch times if needed. Homework tasks are there to enable all pupils to extend their learning and to reinforce new skills which have been acquired.

Show My Homework helps to provide greater structure and clarity over what has been set and the expectations of when it should be completed by.

Your child should expect to receive regular homework tasks which are compulsory and it is expected that all pupils will complete homework by the set deadlines. Blessed Trinity will continue to provide the homework club at the end of each day to support pupils.

You have been provided with login details to your personal account, ready-linked to your child's homework calendar. By visiting the school's website, you will be able to log in at any time where you will:

- View quality and quantity of homework
- Get free apps available for iPhone, iPad, iPod Touch and Android devices
- Receive automated notifications before homework is due

If you have any queries please contact Mrs D Williams who will be able to help.

After school clubs - focus on dance, drama, music and science



ARTS: We are proud to have an active and thriving arts provision at Blessed Trinity and this was seen in our end of year show - Oliver! We took the production to the Burnley Mechanics, hiring a professional set, lighting, sound, band and costume to really give our pupils an experience of professional theatre. We feel that the arts and culture are an integral part of young people's education and hold many activities during the year to develop and nurture these talents. We have extra-curricular lessons in dance, drama and music - see Mrs Wright for more details.



SCIENCE: Mrs Greenwood's and Miss Lambert's KS3 Science Club is well received by students who have a passion to learn and an inquisitive nature. The pupils have done various experiments which include: make your own grass heads, diffusion in skittles, oobleck and chromatography – just to name a few! Pupils who attend the club are mesmerised by the science behind practicals and this benefits them in their normal science lessons as their knowledge goes above and beyond. Keep an eye on the Blessed Trinity Twitter page to see what exciting experiments we have carried out each week.

A message from Mr Thompson

Welcome to the very first edition of our newsletter!

As ever, the first half-term has been an active and full session. Our 266 Year 7's have completed their induction into school involving a range of events, including a day retreat for all form groups, and a wonderful Mass of Welcome celebrated just this week.

Pope Francis says that 'to change the world we must be good to those who cannot repay us.' As a school community, we have responded to this call by 'Brightening Up' for Cafod Harvest Fast Day at the start of October and recently collecting a great number of goods for a very worthwhile local charity, Safenet.

After half-term, we are looking forward to our inaugural Arts & Culture Week, with the theme this year linking in to the Armistice, and the 100 year anniversary of the award of the Victoria Cross to local hero Thomas Whitham. We will also welcome back our summer leavers as they return to collect their well-deserved GCSE certificates at our Senior Awards Evening.



Many thanks for your continuing support for all we do here at Blessed Trinity. I hope you have enjoyed reading about the many wonderful events and activities going on, and feel well-informed about life at your child's school. Do feel free to contact me if you have any suggestions as to what news you, as a parent, would like to hear about in future editions.

Phil Thompson, Acting Headteacher

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