



Newsletter

Winter term 2024

Celebrating our BT achievements!



Every term we celebrate the success of our amazing pupils with our Blessed Trinity Achievement Awards.

We couldn't get everyone who has achieved awards and prizes on our photographs as there were so many but we want to say a huge well done to all the pupils who collected a Headteacher's Award, a 100% Attendance Award, a Sparx Award – whether it was in Maths, English or Science – Merit Awards and Subject Awards.

There was an outstanding number of pupils who were recognised by their teachers for their brilliant behaviour, their excellent progress, their superb contribution to school life and their attitude to learning.

The prestigious Headteacher's Award is the pinnacle which is awarded to a pupil in each year group who has made outstanding progress on their recent assessments and who has shown how much effort they are putting into their studies.

A huge well done to Year 7 Evie, Year 8 Bradley, Year 9 Sasha, Year 10 Dawud and Year 11 Ruby.

Sasha said she was 'amazed' and 'astonished' to win the prize, Dawud said it was 'overwhelming' while Bradley was proud, as he has won the award before.

Headteacher Mrs Williams said: "These are the top pupils from each year group and they deserve to be extremely proud of their achievements."

At the end of each term, every teacher nominates one pupil within their lesson for a Subject Award.

This is a pupil who may have been working hard in lessons and had an excellent attitude to learning, or they may have performed outstandingly on their recent assessments. Pupils receive a subject badge to wear with pride on their blazer and also a certificate. 650 pupils across school won Subject Awards from Years 7-11.

As a school, we also follow the SPARX platform in English, Maths and Science – this is a chance to do extra work in these subjects and be rewarded. We had more than 200 winners across all year groups for their efforts within SPARX.

We also presented our Attendance Awards with pupils in each year group with 100 per cent attendance placed into a draw. Four pupils from each year group won a £10 voucher while one person from each year group won a £30 voucher.

Assistant Headteacher Mrs Kelly said: "Pupils were so excited for this draw and many have been working hard to ensure that they are in school to have the chance to be in the draw! "We are so proud of our pupils and our community. Our Blessed Trinity Achievement Awards are a wonderful celebration for all year groups to share the academic success and many pupils are rewarded for how hard they are working."

Romero Community Christmas Concert



The inaugural Romero Community Christmas Concert was a festive success. Held at the Life Church, it was organised by Blessed Trinity's Mrs Pagliuca and featured nine schools from the Romero Catholic Academy Trust. There were readings alongside Christmas songs from the individual schools involved such as 'This Child', 'Mary's Boy Child', 'Christmas Lullaby' and 'Jingle Bells.'

The primary schools who took part were: St John the Baptist, St Augustine's, Christ the King, Holy Trinity, St Mary Magdalene's and St Mary's all from Burnley alongside St Anne's and St Joseph's in Accrington and St Mary's in Bacup.

Associate Assistant Headteacher Mrs Pagliuca said: "The evening was a huge success and I was incredibly proud of all the pupils involved.

"I am very blessed to work with such talented pupils, they make my job joyful. "I aimed to keep Christ at the centre of this Romero family celebration and I think we did this well.

"It was a wonderful opportunity for our young people to experience performing in a professional theatre with a professional band and I hope they remember this forever!"



Turf quest for Noah



Burnley FC fan Noah sat down and got back up again a lot of times for Pendleside Hospice!

The Year 10 sat on every one of the 8,000 seats in the James Hargreaves Stand at Turf Moor and raised more than £1,000 for Pendleside Hospice. Noah said: "I decided to do it for Pendleside as my grandad raises money for them."

"It took me around six hours and I was tired but it was worth it! I enjoy doing charity work."

Poppy Appeal delight



Our Air Cadets collected almost £400 in donations for the Royal British Legion's Poppy Appeal.

Head Boy Jayden, who has been an Air Cadet for more than two years, Dawud, who has been an Air Cadet for around eight months, and Jason, who has been an Air Cadet for over a year, all helped out with promoting and collecting money to help the armed forces.

Jayden said: "I know many people who are in the services so I am proud to do my bit to help them."

Thank you to our generous families!



Our families have been so generous this Christmas, helping those in need. Chaplain Mr Preston organised two collections – one for Burnley's Life Church and another for Safenet.

Blessed Trinity as a school raised an amazing £1,314 for the Life Church as well as donating a huge amount of presents.

Headteacher Mrs Williams said: "The Life Church said they were overwhelmed with the generosity of our school which is something we are exceptionally proud of."

Safenet is a domestic abuse charity and Year 7 Archie has helped Mr Preston with collecting toiletries, presents, canned food and more.

Archie said: "I have been pushing the trolley around and encouraging other pupils to help. We have a lot of toothbrushes, teddy bears and toiletries. I have really enjoying helping Mr Preston and being involved in carrying out charity work."



Cafe Trinita meet-up helps pupils to settle into school life

Two Year 11 pupils are helping those who don't have English as their first language settle into school life.

It's part of EAL – English as an Additional Language.

Mrs Pagliuca said: "We have two Year 11s, who couldn't speak English when they first came to the UK, who sit with pupils in Cafe Trinita and help those where English is their second language. They might feel a bit lost or miss home and they can speak to people who have similar experiences."

Ukrainians Nazarii and David came to England when war broke out in Ukraine and have now spent three years here.

"I like helping others," said Nazarii. "It's rewarding."

Year 7 Malalay said: "It makes me feel better being with people in the same situation."

History and MFL trip to Bruges



Year 8 and 11 pupils walked through World War 1 trenches, ate snails and sampled a Christmas Market on a five-day Bruges trip. It was a history and languages trip led by MFL teacher Mrs Corbishley, with the group based in France but visiting Belgium. Mrs Corbishley said: "The pupils had the chance to use their French language skills and also learn more about history." They visited a Christmas Market, tried local delicacies and also explored a World War 1 museum and trenches. They also attended the Last Post Ceremony at the Menin Gate in Ypres where Charlie and Kate laid a wreath.

Reader Leaders share passion for books



Our Reader Leaders are hoping to spread their love of books to the younger generation. The Reader Leaders are made up of Year 9s and 10s who had to apply for the role. Their role is to help those who can't read as well to develop reading skills. They have been given training by Mr Tasker and Mrs Arcangelo and will begin a 10-week plan in January. Imogen said: "I have a passion for reading and I want to share it and help young children who have not had chance to read as much to enjoy books and see that they are filled with knowledge." Greta said: "I want to help the younger pupils to read better."

Nathaniel makes the grade



Nathaniel has passed his first saxophone exam – and he wants to see where it can take him. Nathaniel sat a tough test where he had to complete two pieces – a duet and solo – to make the grade and achieve the Copper Music Medal from the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music. He said: "I first started learning saxophone around September 2023, when I came here. My mum had a saxophone so I used hers to practise. I have lessons in school and I really enjoy it."

Gold for Dominic



Year 10 Dominic has passed one of the highest achievements in scouts – his Chief Scouts Gold Award. Dominic has been a member of St Matthew and Holy Trinity Scout Group since he was four. "I like it as you meet new people and learn new skills," said Dominic, who will now become a Young Leader. "For my gold award, I had to do a two-day hike in the Lake District and had to lead a camp among other things. I get a lot of enjoyment and happiness from it."

Afternoon of Remembrance



An Afternoon of Remembrance was also an afternoon of nostalgia in school.

Alongside the Deputy Lieutenant, Dennis Mendoros OBE, cadets, current service personnel, veterans as well as the community enjoyed entertainment, coffee and cakes in school.

The event was organised by Curriculum Leader of Performing Arts Mrs Pagliuca and it was the second year it has been held. The choir performed wartime songs such as 'Pack Up Your Troubles,' 'It's a Long Way to Tipperary', 'White Cliffs of Dover' and 'We'll Meet Again.'

The school band played a number of wartime songs, there was a performance by the drama department while Music Teacher Mr Snowden performed The Last Post.

Head teacher Mrs Williams said: "It was a fantastic event which brought a tear to my eye. It was extremely moving. Our pupils are amazing and this is a wonderful community event."

Mrs Pagliuca said: "At Blessed Trinity we value the importance of teaching the pupils about remembrance and keeping the tradition alive.

"As an educator we know it's more important than just wearing a poppy and so our pupils mixed with the service men and women to really understand the stories behind the poppy."

Head Boy Jayden and Head Girl Maisie are both in the cadets and both read at the event.

Carole Wolstenholme, who attended the Remembrance Afternoon through St John's Church, said: "It actually brought a tear to my eye, I have enjoyed it all and it's a fitting tribute."

Jaqui Collins was in the Royal Military Police for 32 years and now is part of Age UK Lancashire.

"It's been a fantastic afternoon. We have all been singing along."





We began our Advent Journey with all pupils celebrating Mass and ended with each year group taking part in Christmas Liturgies. The theme was light, focussing on how Jesus brings light into the world and preparing for the coming of Jesus at Christmas and the impact this has on our lives. We had reflective readings, video clips, performances from the choir and band and we focused on active Christian living through our fundraising efforts. Thanks to all of our talented staff and pupils who worked tirelessly to prepare this for our community.



Interfaith Day

Our Year 7-9 pupils came off timetable to take part in Bollywood dancing, meditation, drumming and more as part of Interfaith Day which was a celebration of all the lived faiths in the community.

In Interfaith Week, pupils had the chance to learn more about different religions and the positive impact of faith with a host of visitors to school while pupils and staff also led a variety of workshops.

Pupils attended Jewish Catering sessions in Food Technology and made Challah Bread. There was also a Drumming session, to the Bhangra Rhythm.

The Eco-Group sessions were led by Blessed Trinity's Eco-Club.

Year 10 Grace said: "We have been educating pupils on recycling and what the Pope has said about it. We have also had activities, such as sorting bottles into the correct bins."

There was a session with Anthony Holden on the Life Church and Burnley Christians against Poverty.

Fr David entertained pupils with Christian songs on his guitar, there was Bollywood dancing, sessions on Islam, Equalities, Sikhism, Quakerism, Climate Activism, Humanism and more, including visitors from Springhill Hospice, Lancaster University and Science and Religion.

Sisters4sisters proved a popular lesson as pupils had the chance to wear Islamic dress.



'Being more grateful'

Our Year 7s enjoyed their Retreat Day.

It was a reflection day spent thinking about 'Being More Grateful.' They listened to the Gospel of Jesus healing the ten lepers and the pupils spent time thinking about what they have to be grateful for in home, school and life.



Presentation of awards



Paralympian bronze medallist Fliss Pickard was an inspiration at our Class of 2024 Presentation of Awards.

Fliss, 30, attended St Hilda's as it became Blessed Trinity in 2002 and found her love of table tennis at the school.

In Paris 2024, with partner Bly Twomey, she won a Paralympic table tennis doubles bronze medal.

She said: "It's been a long journey. I have cerebral palsy and was diagnosed with autism after I left school. I struggled accepting my disability.

"I tried dressage, boccia and swimming but, at 14, went to Hyndburn Table Tennis Club and have been a member of their Performance Squad since then.

"I had to believe anything was possible and you have to work hard to achieve your dreams.

"I found table tennis, thanks largely to Mrs Lindsay Bleazard who was my PE teacher at the time, and it's been unbelievable. I never thought I would win a medal at the Paralympics. A local girl from Burnley winning a Paralympic medal!

"There have been setbacks, I didn't know if I would get to Paris due to nerves, but due to the support of my family and people in Burnley along the way I got there. I wouldn't be where I am now without that.

"Now I want to get better, I am motivated, and you have to follow your dreams."

GCSE certificates were handed out, there were individual subject awards and then KSC Awards for Outstanding GCSE results.

The specialist awards were then presented to the Class of 2024.

The Attainment Award was given to Amelia Korczynska who achieved an outstanding 11 Grade 9 GCSE's to be one of the best performers in the country.

The Progress Award, sponsored by KSC in memory of James Frizelle, was awarded to last year's Head Boy Wayes Iftikhar who achieved a Grade 7 or higher in every subject, far exceeding his expected targets.

The Contribution to Community Award, sponsored by the Catenian Association, was presented to Erin Fielding while the Contribution of College Life prize, sponsored by KSC, was awarded to Gabriella Kudzinowski.



The Specialist College Sports Award, sponsored by KSC in memory of Bill Duxbury, was presented to Li-Bau Stowell, a goalkeeper who represented the school as well as the county and is now at Preston North End.

The Specialist College Humanities Award, sponsored by KSC in memory of Albert Walmsley, was awarded to Lily Howarth who got an outstanding Grade 8 in History and was praised for her hard work and determination.

The Bishop Casartelli Award: Contribution to College Life was given to Samantha Bernabe, who has been an ambassador for the catholic faith in school and was a role model for faith and mission leaders.

The Endeavour Award, sponsored by Burnley Education Trust in memory of Cliff Duerden, was awarded to Jessica Slack by Head of Year Mr Kelly for her determination to succeed even when times were difficult.

The Sporting Commitment Award, in memory of Mick Ennis, was awarded to Erika Corns who was a Sports Ambassador and now competes to a high level in athletics, especially the long jump, and is a county swimmer.

The Design and Technology Award, in memory of Ken Hare, went to Joshua Jackson, for showing resilience and determination and producing a fantastic end-of-term project. Headteacher Mrs Williams said: "It was such an inspirational speech by Fliss and we are in awe of her achievements.

"She has shown that enthusiasm, talent and hard work leads to success.

"All our pupils have worked hard and have achieved so much during their time at Blessed Trinity. I am so proud of all of them."

Young Enterprise crochet endangered animals



Our Young Enterprise team are highlighting the plight of endangered species with their business.

The Young Enterprise is a national charity which helps young people develop work skills, knowledge and confidence through enterprise and financial programmes. Social Media Manager Beatrice said: "We crochet animals which are endangered to sell while also educating people about this and raising awareness of the environment and which animals are in danger of extinction."

Grace, one of the team who crochets the animals, said: "The environment means a lot to me and animals can't speak so we have to speak for them."

News in Brief



Pupils enjoyed a trip to see the musical *Wicked* at the Palace Theatre in Manchester.



There was a Romero Trust Art and Photography competition with Blessed Trinity pupils showing off a number of fantastic entries.



Our Year 11 footballers are through to the last 16 of the Lancashire Under 16s Cup after they knocked out the holders in dramatic fashion.

They faced defending champions Leyland St Mary's and led 1-0 but it was 1-1 after normal and extra-time. It went down to the dreaded penalties and Olly scored the winning spot kick to take them through to a tie against Bowland High School which will be played in January.

Our Year 8 girls are through to Round 4 of the Lancashire Under 13s Cup.

The overcame Ribblesdale High School and Leyland St Mary's to reach the semi-finals of the competition.

Our Year 7 football team are doing well as a new team. Alex, Isaac and Leo are all part of Burnley FC's Academy.



**Have a Happy and Holy Christmas.
We look forward to seeing you in 2025.**



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