



NEWSLETTER TO PARENTS and CARERS MAY 2012

Trinity School

Headteacher's Letter

Dear Parents and Carers

A lot has been happening, even though it is not long since I last wrote ... The Mayor and Mayoress have paid us a visit to Phase III and they have been impressed by what they have seen. It was very good of them to come to have a look round, and we are glad that they liked what we have managed to achieve with the Margaret Sewell building and courtyard.

Invitation Therefore, on **Monday 14th May** from 3.30pm – 6.00pm, if you would like to come and have a look for yourselves, then you would be very welcome to do so. If you are available, you could join your children at 3.30pm when they finish afternoon school and they could show you round. Or you could come later if that fits better with work and home commitments. Mr Kay, Mrs Johnston and I will be here to guide you round, but then you could bring your children back with you and they could show off their new school too. Tea, fruit juice and biscuits will be served. Sorry about the short notice – but it does mean that it is fairly immediate. Of course, there will be other opportunities later to have a look – or you could just book yourselves in with your children at your convenience...

Meanwhile, demolition has happened at the front of the Creighton building and the works on what will become the new and very different car park are taking place outside the window of this new office from which I am writing to you. Phase IV is the smallest and last so all is going well for completion this summer and a grand opening, we trust, in September.

In the pages following you will find much information about the changes which, in large part, are being ushered in now that we near the end of the rebuilding programme. Chief, and most immediate of these, is the move towards 'cashless' catering' after the half term holiday this June. May I commend this to you as it will mean a big change in just a few weeks' time. Why do this now rather than waiting until September? Our exam years are on study leave and we will have the chance to introduce it with fewer students who are already used to the school rather than asking the rest of the school to manage it alongside everyone else. If there are problems to resolve, then we can iron them out this summer...

Best wishes Our Year 13 Leavers' Service happened with much sadness at the prospect of their leaving us ... and exams begin on Monday ... it is that time of year so soon. All our best wishes then to student in Years 11 and 13 who face their exams this summer, and also to those in Years 10 and 12 facing theirs.

Alan Mottershead

Headteacher

Chaplaincy

This month we say goodbye to our Year 11s and 13s as they leave, first on study leave and then onto their next adventure. Different words for goodbye have slightly different meanings; for example the Welsh for goodbye is 'hwyl fawr' which means 'big fun'. The Spanish goodbye 'adios' means 'you're going to God' and the Hawaiian 'aloha', which is used for hello and goodbye, means 'love and peace'. In so many languages 'goodbye' is a blessing given to someone as they leave, a wish that as they go they take fun, love, peace and the company of God. Even with all these great words for goodbye my favourite is our own, as it is a contracted form of 'God be with you'. This is my prayer for those pupils leaving us this summer; that God is with them and blesses them. The following Irish blessing expresses that prayer much better than I can:

May the road rise up to meet you, May the wind be always at your back.
May the sun shine warmly on your face, The rains fall softly upon your fields.
And until we meet again, May God hold you in the palm of his hand.
May God be with you and bless you, May you see your children's children.
May you be poor in misfortune, Rich in blessing.
May you know nothing but happiness, From this day forward.

Mrs Milligan, Chaplain

ParentPay

As we near the completion date for the Rebuild at Trinity School it is now time to introduce “Cashless Catering” to our students and staff.

This system was part of our original vision for the new school and will allow us to continue to improve the quality of our catering services in school.

Some of the direct benefits of the new system include reduced queuing time; students on free school meals remain anonymous; a reduction in the amount of cash in school alleviating potential problems of loss, theft or bullying; and a direct tie in to the existing cards students use for the Library, printing and some door access.

If parents choose to take up the on-line payment system (ParentPay) there are many other benefits which are described below.

We are sure you will appreciate the advantages the new system will now offer the parents and students of the school. We will be able to deliver a more efficient, faster service and continue to provide wholesome, healthy and enjoyable meals at low cost.

The new system will commence on **Monday 11th June** and from this day it will not be possible to use cash at till points anywhere in school. Before then all students will have been given advice and information about how to use their existing cards to purchase food and drink.

ParentPay is our preferred method of payment for school meals and has many other benefits.

It is not a requirement for parents to enrol on ParentPay and students are always able to use the revaluer units in school to load credit on their cards.

We would hope that a large majority of parents would enrol with ParentPay given the benefits both to themselves, their children and the school.

Before enrolling, further information can be seen both on the Trinity website and the ParentPay website. Trinity ParentPay is now live and parents can set up accounts now in preparation for the school moving to cashless catering on the **11th June**. Remember at that point cash cannot be used at till points anywhere in Trinity.

ParentPay offers you the freedom to make payments whenever and wherever you like, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week – safe in the knowledge that the technology used is of the highest internet security available. You will have a secure online account, activated using a unique username and password; you will be prompted to change these, and to keep them safe and secure. If you have more than one child at school, you can merge their accounts to create one login for all your children.



Making a payment is straightforward and ParentPay holds a payment history for you to view at a later date; no card details are stored in any part of the system.

Once you activate your account you can make online payments straight away.

Once set up you will be able to personalise aspects of your account to, for instance, change the daily limit or obtain a complete list of your child’s purchases.

In the near future we intend to open up more payment options for events such as trips and instrumental lessons.

We hope you will support us in gaining all the benefits of a cashless school.

You will shortly receive a full pack of information from us in preparation for 11th June and this will include a ParentPay activation letter which you may choose to use to set up an account.

There are a number of different ways that credit can be added to the card and these are briefly described below:

1. **Revaluers.** There are a number of these units placed around the school. To credit their card students insert it into the device and then insert coins or notes. The system credits this to their card and shows the total on screen. This can be done at any time during the day.
2. **ParentPay.** This is our preferred method of payment. Parents set up a secure on-line account and credit money to the card as they choose. There are many extra benefits to using this system as it removes the need for students to carry cash at all, and ensures the students eat meals in school. Parents have full control over their child's account and can view information about their eating habits and also personalise aspects of their spending. We have visited a number of schools in preparation for moving to cashless catering and parents have been very impressed with ParentPay and the facilities it offers parents. We would encourage parents to seriously consider this option and the many extra benefits it brings.
3. **By Phone** Parents can phone school on 403560 and we will accept credit and debit card top ups to student cards.



4. **In Person paying in advance.** We are able to accept cheque or debit/credit card top ups at reception during normal reception hours (8 a.m. to 5 p.m.)
5. **By Cheque** Students can bring cheques to reception **before 11 a.m.** and their account will be credited by lunchtime that day.

For further information on ParentPay please visit www.parentpay.com where there is a comprehensive Parent advice section with a full list of Frequently Asked Questions.

INFORMATION for Parents and Carers

Reception Opening Hours

The Main Reception and switchboard will be open from 8.00am right through to 5.00pm.
On Fridays, both close for the weekend at 4.30pm.
Adult Education Reception is open from 5.30pm – 8.30pm (Monday – Thursday)

Helping with revision

As Year 11 and some of our Year 10 approach GCSE exams, take a look at some materials on our website. Recent additions include this year's revision timetable, a variety of revision strategies presentation slides with tips for parents to support students at home. Students have access to resources for subjects on moodle and other websites such as mymaths.

Instrumental/Singing Tuition Fees 2011/12

Please note that payment for Music Tuition should be paid in full by 29th June 2012.
Can Students in Years 11 and 13 please inform their Peripatetic Teacher or Finance Office of their intention to continue lessons during the Summer Term.

Collection of A/AS/GCSE certificates

A/AS level and GCSE certificates from Summer 2011 are now available to collect from the Sixth Form Office during school hours.

School Nurse

Please note that the Nurse has returned to her previous room in the Margaret Sewell building. Should any parent or carer have to collect a student from the school for medical reasons, then please come to the new Main Reception and the Nurse's room is only just along the corridor from there. Thank you.

Hayfever

Please can parents/carers ensure that if your child suffers from hayfever, the school nurse has an adequate supply of prescribed or 'over the counter' hayfever remedies. Any medication brought into school should be in the original packaging, within the expiry date, clearly marked with the student's name, dosage and the frequency of use. Please note: students are not allowed to carry medication other than asthma inhalers in school. The Nurse's room is secure and accessible, and ensures that only that one student can take the medicine prescribed for them.

Raising the Participation Age (RPA)

RPA is coming into effect from Summer 2013. If your son or daughter is currently in Year 10 or below this will affect them.

The Government is raising the age at which young people are required to participate in education or training. If your son or daughter is currently in Year 10 they will have to continue in education or training until at least the end of the school year in which they turn 17 ie Year 12. If they are currently in Year 9 or below, they will have to continue until at least their 18th birthday i.e. Year 13. Of course, they are then able to continue beyond that if they want to.

This does not necessarily mean they will have to stay on at school after Year 11, and they will still be able to work full-time, if they choose to. They will have a choice about how they want to participate post-16, which could be through:

- Full-time education, such as school or college;
- Work-based learning, such as an Apprenticeship; or
- Part-time education or training if they are employed, self employed or volunteering for 20 hours or more a week

More information is available at

<http://education.gov.uk/childrenandyoungpeople/youngpeople/participation/rpa>
<http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/EducationAndLearning/14To19/OptionsAt16/index.htm>

The young people's careers helpline is available from 8.00am to 10pm, seven days a week, telephone 0800 100 900, or for text messages on 0776 641 3219.

RECENT EVENTS

Royal Society of Chemistry Analytical Competition North West section

On the 27th of April a team of three highly motivated Chemists took part in the Royal Society of Chemistry Analytical Competition North West section at the University of Central Lancashire. The students took part in a 4 hour practical assessment using university laboratories to analyse and write a report on their findings. The team of Ellena Margerison, Grace Ronnie and Sophie Howell completed all aspects of the task to a high standard and achieved the highest recorded score for a team from Cumbria. A great achievement.

Visiting Science Lecturer

Around 40 Sixth Formers from Carlisle schools attended Trinity School for a presentation on "Starlight" given by Dr Rachel Livermore from the Durham University Physics Department. The students heard about current research projects at Durham, followed by observations of different emission spectra using an assortment of spectrosopes and diffraction gratings. The evening was part of an ongoing series of events for Sixth Form Physics students and was funded through the Ogden Trust.

Chess Tournament

Congratulations to the Trinity Chess Team who won the Goodwin Trophy for the third year in a row, and thank you to Austin Friars, Ullswater College and Richard Rose who took part.

The Trinity Chess Team participants were: Jason Maxwell 10TDO; Camas Millar 10EHU; Chris Royle 10TDO; Jonathan Leung 10EHU; Daniel Bullens 10GSB; Avran Millar 8JMY; Steven Barker 10AHP; Luke Suniga 8JST; Thomas Johnston 8TSN; Thomas Cox 7DBI; Alex Raphael 7KWL.

Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme

Our Two Gold Canadian canoe groups were staying at the "Old School" Wythop Mill for the second of their weekend theoretical and practical training sessions following on from their seven week course practising rescue skills in the Trinity Pool last term. The weekend was a great success with the groups undertaking a journey on Ullswater, followed by individual and tandem paddling skills on Bassenthwaite. The group also covered poling and rescuing full sized 17 foot upturned canoes as opposed to the lighter 13 foot ones in the pool. In addition, sessions on river safety, hypothermia, and emergency procedures were covered and the groups learned how to use the Trangia camp stove safely then cooked a main meal in readiness for their four day practice expedition on Loch Ken in June. The groups are now three quarters through their preparation for their final expedition on Loch Lomond in July, having already planned their expedition journey and produced their route cards in December. Thanks to all staff involved whose efforts during last weekend were much appreciated by the group.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Year 11 Celebration Day

There is a helpful gap in the GCSE exam timetable on Friday 25th May, which will enable us to hold the Year 11 Celebrations on that day. Students will be able to attend school in their smart clothes for the formal photographs of their Form and the Whole Year. There will be the final assembly, when many stories of their time in school will be told, and we may remind them of how they looked when they joined the school in Year 7 ...

The Year 11 timetable will end on that day, but there will be revision sessions planned in from the Monday following to allow students to prepare as well as they can for the GCSEs which come after that date.

Year 13 Leavers' Ball

The Year 13 Leavers' Ball will be held on Thursday 28th June at The Greenhill Hotel, Wigton.

Year 11 Prom

The Year 11 Prom will take place at The Crown and Mitre Hotel on Friday 29th June, after the final GCSE exams, as, we hope, a fine celebration of a very good year done well by students. Arrangements are being made in the next few weeks.

Uganda

On Saturday 11th May students and staff will be participating in a sponsored swim to raise funds for the Uganda fund and then the following weekend there will be a sponsored ride. We also have planned, in June, a Nearly New Sale, further details to follow soon. We would also greatly appreciate the donation of netball and football strips, among other things, to take over to Uganda, so if any parents are in a position to help us it would be very much appreciated.

Chess Workshop

We are hosting a Chess Workshop delivered by International Master Angus Dunnington on Thursday 17th May in the Chapman Library. Each school involved will bring up to 10 students, plus staff. This is a great opportunity for participating schools which will benefit each individual student who will receive professional chess coaching, free of charge. The event will be promoted in the local press and 'Chess' the national chess magazine.

We hope this could be the start of a very worthwhile and ongoing programme of interschool chess events over the next academic year.

TRINITY SCHOOL ARTS

Shakespeare Schools Festival

Auditions are taking place for 'Hamlet', which is this year's Shakespeare Schools Festival production. We will be performing a half hour version of Shakespeare's most famous play in November at the Theatre by the Lake in Keswick.

Trinity Theatre Company – Junior Branch

Our talented younger actors are working on a devised piece based around the idea of being positive, whatever your situation. This will be performed for Parents towards the end of term. Date to be confirmed.

Acoustic Night

Coming soon, before the end of term.

Whole School Production

Coming soon: an exciting announcement about next year's whole school production!

DIARY DATES FOR 2012

Monday 14 th May	A Level and GCSE exams begin (until 27 th June)
Friday 25 th May	Year 11 Celebrations Day
Friday 1 st June	Break up for Half Term
Monday 4 th June – Friday 8 th June	HALF TERM
Monday 11 th June	First day of new Half Term
Monday 25 th June and Tuesday 26 th June	Year 9 Geography trip to Edinburgh
Wednesday 27 th June	End of A Level and GCSE exams
Thursday 28 th June	Year 10 Work Ready Day Year 13 Leavers' Ball
Friday 29 th June	Year 11 Prom
Monday 2 nd July	Year 12 Futures Ready Day Year 10 Work Experience Week
Tuesday 3 rd July	Year 12 Geography Trip – Glasgow Sixth Form Induction (pm)
Wednesday 4 th July	Sixth Form Induction Band Night
Thursday 5 th July	Sixth Form Induction Year 7 Parents' Evening
Tuesday 10 th July and Wednesday 11 th July	New Intake Day
Wednesday 11 th July and Thursday 12 th July	New Intake Parents' Evening
Monday 16 th July and Wednesday 18 th July	House Services
Monday 16 th July	Junior Prize Giving, St Cuthbert's Church
Tuesday 17 th July	Sports Day
Wednesday 18 th July	Year 12 Geography Farm Visit
Thursday 19 th July	End of Term

Please note that the half term holiday is a week later than usual this half term because of the celebrations for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee on 4th and 5th June.

TERM DATES for the 2012/2013 School Year

– As circulated by Children's Services

First Day of Term	Last Day of Term	Half Term
2012 Autumn Term		
Wednesday 5 th September (Inset Days - Monday 3 rd September and Tuesday 4 th September)	Thursday 20 th December 2012	Monday 29 th October – Friday 2 nd November
2013 Spring Term		
Monday 7 th January	Thursday 28 th March 2013	Monday 11 th February – Friday 15 th February Good Friday – 29 th March Easter Sunday – 31 st March
2013 Summer Term		
Monday 15 th April	Friday 19 th July 2013	Monday 27 th May – Friday 31 st May Early May Bank Holiday - Monday 6 th May

SPORTS NEWS ROUNDUP

Athletics

Cumbria Schools Multi-Events Competition held at Sheepmount on Thursday, 26th and Friday 27th April. Congratulations to Callum Aldridge (Yr 12) who won the Senior Boys' Decathlon.

Cycling

Eleanor Dickinson (9LHP) competed at Southport this weekend for the NW Regional Championships and came away with first place in her age category – North West Regional Champion 2012! Congratulations Ellie!

Cumbria Schools Cricket

Congratulations to James Lythgoe who has been selected to represent Cumbria Schools Cricket Team.

Cricket

Under 12 Bunbury Cup Round 1
RRCA 69 for 1
Trinity 70 for 7

Football

Under 15 RAF 5-a-side Competition held at the Sands Centre

Trinity A and St Benedicts A were the winners of the afternoon competition.
Richard Rose Central and Cockermouth were the winners of the morning competition.
Semi-finals: Trinity A 2 Cockermouth 2
After extra time Cockermouth won 3-2 on penalties.
Final: Cockermouth 4 RRCA 2

Cumbria Schools Football

Congratulations to the following Year 10 boys who represented Cumbria v Dumfries & Galloway on Thursday, 19th April:

Ben Greig, Daniel Wood, Josh Cooke, Michael Reid and Ryan Woolnough.
The result was Cumbria 4 Dumfries & Galloway 3.

Cumbria Schools' Under 15 County Cup Final held at French Fields, Penrith on Friday, 27th April

Trinity 4 St Bernard's Barrow 2

Congratulations to the squad who were: Ben Greig, Ben Underwood, Michael Reid, Daniel Wood, Jamie Andrews, Josh Cooke, Damon Thirlwall, Kal Rowlands, Ryan Woolnough, Jamie Barbour, Jason McMullen, Daniel Ellior, Aidan Styles, Andrew Bates, Tyla Steele, Matthew Douglas and to the Team Coach and Manager Mr McMullen.

TRINITY LEISURE CENTRE

If your son or daughter is approaching 13 they can now sign up to use the fitness gym after school and on Saturday mornings. All they need is a gym induction so they can be coached on how to use the equipment correctly and look at what they want to achieve. The induction is just £13.00 and, once complete, your son/daughter may use the gym for just £1.55 per visit.

A junior and student Lifestyle Membership can be purchased for just £9.95 per month which entitles the member to use Trinity Pool and Gym, The Sands, The Pools, Morton Pool and Gym, Bitts Park Tennis, Sheepmount Athletics Track and Keswick Spa. Outstanding value with summer and winter activities available. That's less than £2.50 per week for time spent on exercise and fitness so it is a very positive investment in current and future health.

As a parent or sibling of a Trinity student you may use Trinity pool, badminton court plus gym at **50% of the standard price** at Trinity Leisure Centre.

Half Term coming up – Open at 1.00pm for general swimming, gym and sports sessions.

Aqua Tone is a very private water based aerobics class on a Wednesday at 7.05pm - 8.55pm.

New: **Zumba** the popular dance aerobic work starts at Trinity Leisure Centre 6.00pm - 6.50pm on Tuesday 12th June. All proceeds from the launch class will go to Charity (potentially the Eden Valley Hospice) so we invite you all to come along and have fun raising money for a good cause.

Enquiries: 01228 403565 or clark.morton@carlisleleisure.com



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