

Holy Trinity Catholic School A partner in the St Teresa of Calcutta MAC

Learn to Love. Love to Learn. Dream. Believe. Achieve.

<u>Update for parents and carers: Wednesday 6th March 2024 - Friday 24th</u> May 2024

At Holy Trinity we remain committed to the fulfilment of our school's Mission Statement:

'Holy Trinity Catholic School serves the local community; Christ is at the centre of our school and our greatest example. Our school is a place where uniqueness and diversity is celebrated and respected because we know and believe that we are united as children of God and created in His image. Through acts of love and learning, we grow in knowledge and spirituality, we are inspired to become successful citizens and are understanding, compassionate and loving to all of humanity'.

We continue our 'Lenten Journey' in preparation for the solemn contemplation of Jesus' crucifixion and death on Good Friday. We will then joyfully celebrate Jesus' triumphant resurrection on Easter Sunday.

Extract from 'Walk with Me': A journey of prayer for lent 2024.

'What is the kingdom of God? St Paul says first of all what the kingdom of God is not, then what it is. 'For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating or drinking, but of righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit' (Romans 14:17). So the kingdom of God isn't about rules, regulations or a manifesto! There isn't a manifesto or even a law, because the kingdom of God is about righteousness, peace and joy - in the Holy Spirit. Where the kingdom of God is to be found is where there are the fruits of the Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control'.

At Holy Trinity, we all move forward in our journey through Lent and look to exhibit the 'fruits of the Spirit' through love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control'.

Ofsted Inspection September 2023:

We remain immensely proud of our *Ofsted* inspection outcome. These following words from the inspection report continue to bring a very special joy:

'Pupils experience a truly inclusive and holistic education at Holy Trinity. They have exceptional opportunities to develop their interests and talents'. Pupils express great appreciation for the opportunities which help them grow into caring and responsible people'.

At Holy Trinity, we aim to educate the 'whole' child believing that true personal development comes in a variety of forms, including through the spiritual, social, emotional, moral, physical, cultural and academic progress of all young people. We continually aspire to be an 'elite' school that achieves 'exceptional' examination outcomes for all groups of learners on a 'consistent' basis.

Curriculum Update: Mrs Henvey

Introduction of Further Maths:

A large number of Year 9 and Year 10 Mathematicians continue to study towards the AQA Level 2 Further Maths Certificate with Mrs McCarthy and Mr Shaw. The sessions take place before school on Tuesdays and Thursdays and after school on Tuesday. Year 10 students will potentially be sitting their exam for this additional qualification at the end of this year. Year 9 students will be sitting the exam a year later. Pupil attendance continues to be exceptional and there is a consistently positive culture of high achievement which sets pupils up well for their future studies of Mathematics.

Holy Trinity remains committed to developing high levels of pupil literacy and oracy:

Please access the following document from the 'Reading' tab on this website: 'Guide for parents to support students with reading at home'. School expectations for reading and suggested reading lists for KS3 are included within this document.

<u>Homework:</u>

Holy Trinity is a homework school and pupils are developing much better independent study and organisational skills as a result. The expectation is that pupils complete homework for all subjects except Core PE and PSD. There is a 30 minute school detention in the hall on a Monday, Tuesday and Thursday for those who fail to meet expectations. Please check 'My Child at School' to find details of your child's homework record.

Year 9 Options Process:

Year 9 pupils have now chosen their GCSE options and work is under way to ensure as many pupils as possible get their first three choices. We are offering 16 different option subjects to Year 9 pupils this year alongside Maths, English Literature, English Language, RE and Science. All pupils will also study discrete Personal Social Development (PSD) and Core PE. We have the highest numbers of pupils ever who have chosen Spanish, Triple Science, Citizenship, Engineering and Computer Science and healthy numbers in Photography and Music. Year 9 pupils were fantastic during options week. Pupils enjoyed six 'taster learning sessions', talks in the hall with all Heads of Departments and an Options Evening/Parents' Evening where youngsters were able to discuss their pathway, their choices and pose any questions they had.

Extra-curricular and enrichment provision:

We have had another wonderful term so far of extra-curricular and enrichment opportunities both in and out of school! In addition to our Sports clubs, Ethics, Active Citizenship, KS3 Science, Debating, Chess, History, Computer Aided Design and Musical Band Group, we now have a Crafts Club that runs weekly. Last month, we were also delighted to welcome Josh from 'Round Midnight' Drama Company who delivered Drama workshops to pupils in Years 7, 8 and 9. This was in response to feedback from our pupils and is our first step towards reinstating Performing Arts / Drama within our already extensive Creative Arts curriculum offer. Our pupils greatly impressed Josh and he spotted some genuine talent. Josh will pass on casting opportunities and information about 'Youth Theatre; and hopefully return in the near future. In the same week, Year 9 pupils also had Romeo and Juliet Drama workshops to help prepare them for their exciting trip to 'Shakespeare's Globe Theatre in London'. There will be an update on this visit next time!

'Positively You' returned and delivered motivational workshops and sessions looking at study skills to Key Stage 3 and we hosted (and won!) the Birmingham Catholic Secondary Schools Public Speaking Competition! Our pupil reward trips to the 'Ackers' were a great success with 240 of our pupils trying Tubing and Orienteering! Our Year 10 Musicians visited Birmingham University to attend a prestigious musical performance, Year 8 attended a Catholic Maths Challenge at Bishop Challoner and we had a group of KS3 dancers attending a Central Dance Competition. Year 11 had 'mock interviews' in the hall to help prepare them for life beyond Holy Trinity and this term also saw the whole of Year 7 and Year 8 attend a Spiritual Retreat at either The Briars in Derbyshire or Alton Castle in Staffordshire. Relationships were strengthened and pupils left knowing just what makes them so amazing and special in the eyes of God.

All of these wonderful events have operated alongside our existing and successful Forward Thinking and Envision programmes. A big well done to Envision cohort 1 the 'Anti-Racism Ambassadors' for their excellence and dedication to the programme. We hope pupils enjoyed working alongside the Envision team and business mentors at Atkins Realis, in Birmingham City Centre. The group performed exceptionally well demonstrating a great team effort, grit and determination. We are all very proud of their achievements. A huge well done to Dominic, Hana, Abir, Kenneth, Gamal, Rehaan, Zaamin, Morgan, Inaya and Iyaz. Year 9 (September 2024) trip to Barcelona is now at full pupil capacity and planning is well

underway! Please check the website and the latest news tab for regular updates and photos from these super events.

Sports Update:

Year 7 & 8 Sports Athletics competition: Both teams showed great resilience and determination throughout. Year 8 team finished in second place!

KS3 Dancer competition: was a great learning curve for our talented Holy Trinity dancers. Their confidence and creativity shone through.

Year 9 Netball Team have upheld their winning streak and beaten Bordesley Green Girls School 14-5

Year 10 Netball Team won their first game against Bordesley Green Girls School

3 vs 3 Girls Basketball Team secured the win against Yardley School with a strong performance.

Year 7 Boys' Football Team go to Waverley School in the semi-final of the cup on Tuesday 12th March after beating Starbank in the quarter finals on penalties following a 1-1 draw.

Year 11 Boys' Football Team are in the final of the cup following a 4-1 win away at KESH, goal scored by Arnold $\times 2$, Elliot and Asim.

Year 8 Boys' Football Team have had continued success in their league games by beating Waverley (2-0) and Starbank School (2-0). They also came second in the Central Birmingham 7-a-side tournament at the end of November, only getting beaten in the final on penalties.

Year 9 Boys' Football Team have started to demonstrate some resilience and quality, by beating Moseley School 3-1 and claiming a draw against Small Heath School (2-2)!

Holy Trinity organises its latest 'Primary School Games' event:

On Wednesday 24th April, Holy Trinity will be hosting their third Primary School Games Event. At least 6 Primary Schools will be competing in a 'Handball Competition' with medals being handed out to the top three positions and the winning school getting to take back the 'Holy Trinity Cup'!

Year 11 progress update: Mrs Pritchard & Mr Woolgar:

Last half term, Year 11 successfully completed their mock exams. Throughout the process, we witnessed a hall brimming with students early each morning with a determination and ambition to perform to the best of their ability. This was followed by a successful mock results morning, which provided students with an opportunity to experience the emotion of receiving and opening their GCSE results envelope, just as they will in the summer. Since

mock results day, all Year 11 students have met with either Mrs Pritchard, Mr Mahmood or Mrs Hayle to discuss their results and next steps. Through these conversations, along with an exceptionally high attendance to after-school tuition and a strong work ethic, it is evident Year 11 are committed to their own success.

Internal 'Extra Tuition' has started extremely well, with a 95%+ average and voluntary attendance of Year 11 pupils. 'My Tutor' external tutoring program has now finished, with all pupils receiving a certificate and 50 out of 112 pupils achieving a 100% attendance award. Congratulations to those that received a £10 voucher for improvement in their 'Attitudes to Learning' (ATL) as a result of 'My Tutor'. Well-done to Abdul-Kader Sanhaji, Esa Sharrock, Dilet Petros, Zara Rahman and Zaheen Bhuniya. Well done to the winners of the 100% attendance prize draw - first place with £25 Nguyne Vy Chim, second place £15 Arafat Mohammed and third place £10 is Cameron Chalmers. A superb effort!!!

Safeguarding update from Mrs Daw (Deputy Headteacher):

Promoting positive mental health and wellbeing

At Holy Trinity, we strive to promote good mental health and wellbeing for our whole community: students, staff, parents and carers. We are a community in which all are respected, have a sense of belonging and feel safe, are able to talk openly with trusted adults and see good mental health as something to be valued and nurtured. If parents and carers are worried about their child's mental health and wellbeing, we would always suggest a discussion with the family GP. School also hosts a weekly visit from our school nurse and parents and students can seek support by contacting the Medical lead - Mrs Donnelly. Additional information is available for parents and carers via the school website where useful signposting to support agencies (such as Kooth, School Nurse virtual drop in, Pause) can be found. For further information click on the following link. https://holytrc.com/parents/exam-anxiety/

Developing and understanding risks of the online world.

We would like to remind parents and carers of the importance of monitoring the digital usage of their children. This includes usage of the internet and social media usage. The school curriculum focusses carefully on teaching children about online safety and the importance of 'digital civility' and appropriate and safe behaviours. Complemented with close parental monitoring and supervision, this supports safe social media and internet usage outside of school. On our school website, there are several resources to support parents and carers with understanding how they can keep their children safe in this digital age. Additional info is available at the following link. https://holytrc.com/esafety/

Food bank and support with food parcels.

School is fortunate to have sourced regular donations of food and toiletries delivered via an external company. If you would benefit from support in this area, please contact your child's Head of Year in the first instance. School is also able to offer signposting and referrals into

to Early help and Support as part of Birmingham Children's Trust. Please contact your child's Head of Year in the first instance.

A reminder to remain safe in the community- Contextual safeguarding.

We ask our parents to remind their children to make sensible choices when on the way to and from school and when out at the weekend. We are aware that sometimes there may be risks posed by other children and or adults linked to grooming and exploitation. If you have any concerns about your child's safety when outside of school, please contact your child's Head of Year in the first instance. School will always signpost families for support. Further information can be found on the following link. https://parents.actionforchildren.org.uk/feelings-behaviour/safety-wellbeing/child-exploitation/

Parental support in reinforcing this key message is very important. We thank you in advance for your support with this.

A request for parents and carers to park and drop off with care at the start and the end of the school day. We are working with the local community and West Midlands police to ensure that our children and staff can enter and exit the premises safely and request that parents park with courtesy and continue to be patient and understanding of this situation as we all endeavour to support one another as best as possible.

Holy Trinity is a 'Safe School':

All children have the right to be safe inside and outside of school. At the heart of our school ethos are the core values of 'Respect', 'Tolerance' and 'Equality'. Being made in God's image we should 'Learn to love and love to learn' in order to be the best we can be and to affect positively the lives of others and society in general. We are creating the next generation of pupils who are leaders, who know right from wrong and are able to develop a clear sense of responsibility and moral purpose in their decisions and actions- those who can be the voice and hand of good and the voice of the voiceless. We remind our parents and carers that if they have any concerns around the safety of their children in school to please contact either your child's Head of Year or a member of the Designated Safeguarding Team (DSL team).

Inclusion update from Mrs Sian (Assistant Headteacher):

Our Drexel Centre has been a busy hub of activity this term, providing the best provision possible for the pupils of Holy Trinity. We continue to expand upon what we provide and have extended this provision to specialist support and advice, one day a week, from an Autism specialist, who was previously part of the Local Authority CAT Team - welcome to Matthew Gough! We continue our work with many wonderful outside agencies who provide outstanding support to both pupils and staff. We look forward to our next coffee morning! Art therapy provision continues for a small group of students and this will continue until the end of the academic year.

Our parents attending the 'Family Learning' program in school have taken part in various activities this term. Parents have even made Chocolate Easter Eggs in preparation for Easter! Thank you to all staff who have facilitated sessions and provided extra support for Family Learning.

A reminder of our High Standards and Expectations:

- Pupils are reminded of our 'no hands' policy which is in place to protect the safety of all.
- Pupils must have a blazer, tie and shirts to be tucked in at all times.
- Pupils must wear plain black footwear without any coloured logos/laces.
- Pupils will no longer be permitted to arrive to school in their PE Kits, they will have access to specialist Sports Hall facilities for changing.
- Pupils must have a planner/day planner and at least an appropriate pencil case containing essential items such as:
 - black/blue pen
 - green pen
 - pencil
 - ruler
 - rubber
- Punctuality to form time and lessons must be excellent.
- PE kit must be in line with our Uniform policy, there should be no branding on kits as they must be plain.
- Hoodies are not permitted to be worn, all coats/jackets must be worn on top of blazers.
- Jackets/coats must be plain with no large branding, denim jackets and gilets are not permitted to be worn in School.
- One small set of plain metal stud earrings are acceptable for all pupils but all other piercings and jewellery must be removed.
- Hairstyles should be practical, clean and safe. Tramlines, or patterns shaved into hair or eyebrows is not permitted. Extreme hair colours are not permitted.
- During the winter, it is essential that your child wears a suitable waterproof coat for school. As stated, Hoodies are not permitted and should not be worn in place of a suitable outdoor coat. Balaclavas, ski masks, snoods and comparable items of clothing are not permitted. Items will be confiscated if they are seen in school.
- Pupils must be highly organised ensuring homework and other tasks are completed on time when set by their teachers.
- In line with our annual practice, this existing Uniform Policy, is to be reviewed with school stakeholders during the summer term in anticipation of next Academic Year.
- Please access the full school uniform policy from the front page of this website. At Holy Trinity, we are committed to maintaining high standards and are open to changes that may support your child's positive progress in school.

Attendance and Punctuality Update from Ms Hodson (Assistant Headteacher, Personal Development):

Pupil Attendance and Punctuality:

Holy Trinity continue to make excellent progress in improving pupil attendance to school. Holy Trinity are in the top 25% of best attending secondary schools nationally according to latest benchmarking comparisons. A big thank you to our parents and carers who continue to support us with this whole school priority. Our aim is to return to our pre-pandemic best of 95%+ attendance. We can do this if we all continue to work together in effective partnership.

124 pupils achieved the 100% bronze award for Autumn Term 1. So many have picked up awards for improving their attendance from last academic year. We continue to remind pupils that they will achieve their best, if they attend every day.

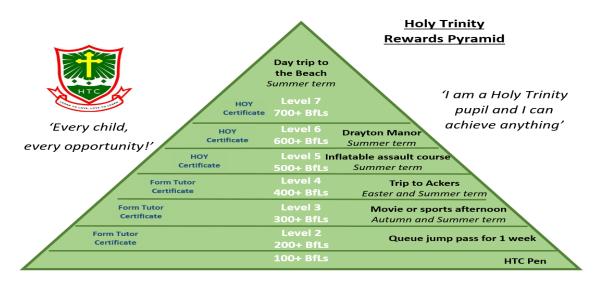
Please refer to the school website for guidance around attendance. Parents and carers are also reminded that if your child attends after the register closes, they will receive a 'U' code which will count against their attendance. Please encourage your child into school on time. If you have any questions, please contact Ms Hodson or the Attendance Team. Thank you

A key reminder regarding the negative impact on learning due to absence:

Attendance	Days Absent	Weeks Absent	Lessons Missed
95%	9 Days	2 Weeks	50 lessons
90%	19 Days	4 Weeks	100 lessons
85%	29 Days	6 Weeks	150 lessons
80%	38 Days	8 Weeks	200 lessons
75%	48 Days	10 Weeks	250 lessons
70%	57 Days	11.5 Weeks	290 lessons
65%	67 Days	13.5 Weeks	340 lessons

It is a statistical fact at Holy Trinity that our most successful pupils at the end of Year 11 are the pupils who have the very best attendance to school and don't miss out on specialist teaching. Our intention is for each and every pupil to be in school and achieving a very high quality of education.

<u>Pupil Rewards at Holy Trinity:</u>



This year has seen the launch of our new 'Rewards Pyramid', which was designed and created by our pupils! Pupils are rewarded with 'Behaviour for Learning' points (BFL's) for demonstrating positive behaviour, attitudes, progress, attendance and commitment to our schools spiritual ethos, to name just a few. Total points are then combined to climb the ladder of success and reach the top of the pyramid. The following pupils have received the highest BFL's in their respective year groups:

	1 st Place	2 nd Place	3 rd Place
Year 7	Iffat Ali	Aisha Rani	Benedict Fasakin
Year 8	Anosh Johnson	Harnoordeep Singh	Carmel Sesay
Year 9	Maknoon Akther Khan	Haddy Mbye	Favour Fasakin
Year 10	Raheem Ali	Fatima Molika Al Noman	J'Nayah James
Year 11	Pranav Bharathi	Maisha Hussain	Nahian Afrose



This term we have had the pleasure of rewarding 240 students across Year 7-10 with a free trip to Ackers adventure. All students took part in orienteering and tubing and had a fantastic time. Students returned excited, happy and all commented on how much fun they had! As always the students were a credit to the school and it was a joy to spend the day with them.



We are looking forward to next term and continuing to reward those students who are consistently demonstrating positive behaviours!

'My Child At School'

We invite you to regularly log into 'My Child at School' to monitor how your child is getting on at school. You will find out whether your child is completing homework, receiving any consequences or being awarded positive behaviour points. Pupil timetables, the school calendar and attendance records are also available. Please visit www.mychildatschool.com. The school ID is 11389. The school does not have access to your password information. You can request a new invitation code from home or if you have added an email address to the account you can click 'forgotten login details' and follow instructions that will email you the details.

Parental Governor Update: Re-election of Staff Governor:

Following our recent Parent Governor nomination process, I am very pleased to announced that Mr Meb Hussian has been elected to serve a second term in office as one of our parent representatives. Mr Hussain has been a dedicated and committed Parent Governor during these past 3 years and has made a significant contribution to the overall governance of the school being evaluated as 'outstanding'. In his time of service, Mr Hussain has been a link governor with responsibility to support our school's expansion project and more recently, has been involved with school staff in creating Holy Trinity's new digital strategy to meet DFE requirements by 2030. Mr Hussain has given up countless hours in service to our school community and has been prepared for this work to take up his evenings, weekends and holidays when important matters have arisen. We are delighted that Mr Hussain will now be serving a second term in office in support of our school meeting its improvement objectives. A huge thank you to Mr Hussain for continuing with his dedicated commitment to the positive development of our school.

A regular reminder regarding car parking:

In a regular reminder, it is important to remember, that driving and parking near our Oakley Road entrance / exit point, continues to be highly problematic at drop off and collection times. This is something that we continue to work on with local residents to improve. I encourage parents to continue being patient and understanding of this situation as we all endeavour to support one another as best as possible. Thank you.

Some key dates / up and coming events in school:

Date	Event
	'World Book Day'
Thursday 7 th March	Pupils and staff to dress up as their favourite fictional character!

	Ramadan Club starts at Holy Trinity
Monday 11 th March	during this blessed time of fasting and
	charity for our Muslim community
Monday 18 th March	Sacrament of Reconciliation available in school as we continue our Lenten Journey
Thursday 21 st March	Easter Services to take place in school and are led by Pupil Chaplaincy team
Friday 22 nd March	Term ends. Pupils leave to begin their Easter break at 1.20
Tuesday 26 th March	Year 11 'Extra Tuition' (day 1) in school
Wednesday 27 th March	Year 11 'Extra Tuition' (day 2) in school
Thursday 28th March	Year 11 'Extra Tuition' (day 3) in school
Tuesday 2 nd April	Year 11 'Extra Tuition' (day 4) in school
Wednesday 3 rd April	Year 11 'Extra Tuition' (day 5) in school
Thursday 4 th April	Year 11 'Extra Tuition' (day 6) in school
Monday 8 th April	INSET Day - Staff to attend only. A focus on Year 11 GCSE Moderation / Curriculum planning.
Tuesday 9 th April	Pupils return to school prior to an 8.30 start
Thursday 11 th & Friday 12 th April	Year 11 GCSE Photography exam
Monday 15 th April	'Speak Out Challenge'
Monday 15 th April, Tuesday 16 th April, Wednesday 17 th April & Thursday 18 th April	Year 11 GCSE Art exam
Wednesday 17 th April	External SEND review
Thursday 18 th April	Year 8 Parents Evening (4.00 - 6.00)
Friday 19 th April	Year 9 History trip to National Holocaust Museum
Monday 22 nd April	Year 9 Rewards Trip to Alton Towers
Wednesday 24 th April	' <i>Positively You</i> ' workshops for Year 9 & Year 10
Thursday 25 th April	Year 8 Rewards 'Inflata Nation'
Friday 26 th April	Elevate external tutoring program for pupils in Year 7 and Year 8
Wednesday 1st May	Year 7 & Year 8 Geography trip to Carding Mill Valley
Saturday 4 th May	Year 11 'Extra Tuition'
Tuesday 7 th May	Year 7 and Year 8 HPA pupils trip to Keble College Oxford

Wednesday 8 th May	Year 11 pre- GCSE examinations 'Mass of Thanksgiving'
Thursday 9th May	Year 11 GCSE examinations start
Saturday 18 th May	Year 11 'Extra Tuition'
Friday 24 th May	Half-term. Pupils and staff break for holiday.
Tuesday 28 th May	Year 11 'Extra Tuition' (day 1) in school
Wednesday 29th May	Year 11 'Extra Tuition' (day 2) in school
Thursday 29th May	Year 11 'Extra Tuition' (day 3) in school
Saturday 1st June	Year 11 'Extra Tuition' (day 4) in school
Sunday 2 nd June	Year 11 'Extra Tuition' (day 5) in school
Monday 3 rd June	Pupils and staff return to school prior to an 8.30 start

The continued strong partnership between school and home, is at the foundation of the successes that we continue to celebrate. If for whatever reason you have any issues or concerns, please contact your child's Form Tutor / Head of Year in the first instance. If at any point you require further support in resolving a particular situation, please escalate your concerns to a member of the Senior Leadership Team. As Headteacher, I always welcome dialogue with parents informally on the school gate, through a conversation on the telephone, an email dialogue or more formally in a request to meet with me in person. Please contact school reception if you wish to speak with me. If at any point you are not satisfied with our school's response, there are further channels available to parents in order to raise concerns. Please contact school reception if you require any additional information and clarity regarding the processes for raising formal complaints.

'At Holy Trinity, we want all pupils to be able to leave with a world of opportunities at their feet; for them to reach their fullest of potentials; to believe in themselves, and to achieve their wildest dreams'.

Thank you for your continued support.

Paper copies of this document are available from reception upon request.

Mr Crehan

Headteacher: Holy Trinity Catholic School

Wednesday 6th March 2024