TRINITY HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

June 2022

A MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD TEACHER

Welcome to our Summer 2022 Newsletter!

This term Trinity High School has been really busy. We have thoroughly enjoyed getting back to hosting all of the activities that makes our school so special. Our senior students have worked so hard this year in preparation for their National Examinations and we anticipate a strong set of results that reflects all of their efforts. Our new timetable is up and running and we look forward to welcoming our new S1 in August.

There have been many highlights this term including our sporting success in football, especially for the U14s & U16s, and our S1-S3 sports day which showcased our talented athletes. S1 students won the Overall Business Idea of the Year award as part of the Circular Economy Challenge of Young Enterprise Scotland. Pupil leadership continued to flourish with very high numbers of students providing leadership and service by undertaking taking Caritas, Duke of Edinburgh, Sports Leadership and Dance Leadership Awards.

We marked our Patronal Feast Day with mass led by Bishop Toal and concelebrated by Fr. Annis and our associated priests. The school's tradition of caring for others continued with our Lenten Appeal, which raised an amazing £6900 for our chosen charities. In addition, our young people donated over 4000 items to our local Food Bank this year. All of this work truly demonstrates our pupils living out our school values of Faith, Hope and Charity.

I would like to thank you, our parents for all your support over the past session. The PTA and Parent Council have also provided tremendous support and I wish to acknowledge the many ways that they continue to assist the school in its efforts to provide a wide range of opportunities for all of our young people.

At the end of the session we say farewell to Mr Daly from the Chemistry Department, who has spent all of his teaching career serving the pupils of Trinity High School. We thank him for all of his work and wish him the very best in his retirement.

I would like to thank all of our staff for their dedication and hard work as well as our young people for being the most fantastic ambassadors of our school.

Our current session ends on Friday 24th June. We will close the term with mass led by Fr. Annis at the beginning of period 4. Mass will be followed by lunch and school will close at 1pm. I look forward to seeing all pupils return on Wednesday 17th August 2022.

Stay safe and have a lovely holiday!

Allison Craig, Head Teacher

SCHOOL TRAFFIC

To ensure pupil safety we have been monitoring the high volume of traffic in and around the school. We kindly ask that you do not use the school car park to drop off or pick up your children at the beginning or end of the school day. Please use the streets around the school area. This is for your child's safety and the safety of others. Where possible please encourage your child to walk, cycle or park & stride.

CARITAS CLASS 2021-2022

Trinity High is delighted that almost 50 of our S6 pupils were successful in gaining their CARITAS award which links learning about Deus Caritas Est (God Is Love), witness (service to both school and community) and reflection (thinking about the impact of their actions. This leadership award helps our seniors to combine aspects of faith with practical action. Students also have been successful in the SQA Award Religion, Beliefs and Values - Well done to all - Medals and certificates will be distributed at our senior award ceremony next term. Congratulations!

S1 TINTO HILL CLIMB

Congratulations to our 49 S1 pupils and staff helpers who climbed Tinto Hill on the 19th May 2022! (A hill... seemed like a mountain!) The pupils loved the challenge and all managed reach the summit 2,333ft in record time! A great day out in the fresh air, boosting our well-being and raising an amazing £1921 to assist St Andrews Hospice with the great work they do to provide palliative care to those who need it in Lanarkshire. Well done S1!

CARITAS CLASS 2022-2023

Our new cohort of Caritas students are already making an impact in Trinity High in a number of ways, assisting in the liturgy at our Patronal Feast Day Mass, highlighting key environmental concerns, helping with litter picking in our school community, working in our school garden, and helping with a secret project for our teachers through up-cycling glass jars - living out the key messages of Laudato Si! Great start everyone!

P7 PRAYER SERVICE

It was wonderful to begin our P7's 2 day visit with a prayer service formally welcoming them into the faith community of Trinity High school. Fr Paul spoke to them about our key values of Faith, Hope and Charity. We ended day 2 of their visit with our school prayer, receiving their school ties (Blessed by Fr Paul) and asking our P7 pupils to write a message on a ribbon of Hope and tie this to our Pathway of Hope. A wonderful way to mark the transition from P7 to S1.

IMPORTANT DATES

Monday 15th - Tuesday 16th August	*In-service days*
Wednesday 17th August	*Pupils return to school*
Friday 23rd—Monday 26th September	*September weekend holiday*
Monday 17th—Friday 21st October	*October week holiday*

PATRONAL FEAST DAY MASS

Trinity High was delighted to welcome His Lordship Bishop Toal to celebrate our first patronal feast day Mass in three years. He was joined by our school chaplain, Fr Paul Annis, Fr John Clarke (Comboni Missionary) and Fr Pat Hennessey from St Columkilles. This celebration of Holy Mass helps us to remember and be thankful of all the blessings of the year and helps to keep our Catholic faith at heart of our school community. During this beautiful celebration we also distributed our Lenten Alms. Over £6,000 was raised by the generosity of our Trinity family. Our local foodbank also received over 4,000 food items. What a wonderful achievement. The charities that benefitted were chosen by our pupils, SCIAF, Mary's Meals, Chris's House, The Ozanam Centre, Our local SSVP/Foodbank, You are my sunshine(YAMS) and Therapets.

St Andrews' Hospice was also gifted with a cheque for £1921 raised by our recent S1 Tinto Hill Climb.

It was wonderful to welcome a variety of young people - chosen as representatives of our school community, some members of our parent council, and representatives from our selected charities and a wonderful way to mark the retirement of Mrs Harris (Headteacher of St Charles Primary school). A wonderful celebration!

SPORTS DAY 22

On Thursday 26th May Trinity High School hosted our school sports day 2022. In the lead up to the event, pupils across the school have spent the last 5 weeks competing in heats to qualify for the event. The event was a whole school spectacle, with all classes stopping in the afternoon to support their fellow pupils who had qualified in the top 8 in their year group for Hurdles, 100m, 200m, 400m, Shot put, Javelin, High jump, all rounded off with an inter-house relay. There were 45 events going on over the course of the afternoon with over 146 pupils from S1-S3 competing to win each event, but most of all, become the Trinity Sports Champion. Despite having to endure all four seasons in one day, it was an unforgettable afternoon that would not have been possible without staff across the school from every department volunteering to help out to enable the event to run as it did.

IN SCHOOL COUNSELLING

We are very pleased to now be able to offer an in school counselling service for pupils who feel that they may benefit from this. This is a free service based in our school and is aimed at supporting the mental wellbeing of our young people. Our current provider is Lifelink. If your child feels that they may benefit from this service then they should speak with their pupil support teacher who can help them with self referral.

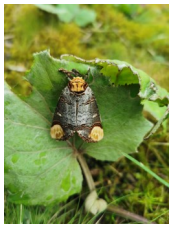
Further information about Lifelink can be found at www.lifelink.org.uk

NIPTUCK SEWING CLUB

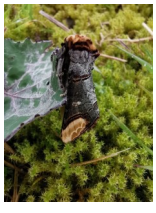
The current S2 and S3's have been enjoying the NipTuck Sewing club and we have had a great turnout despite it being so last minute and at the end of term. The pupils have been making bow ties and scrunchies so far and loving modelling them.

Learning hand sewing and machine sewing skills, they have no fear, and all are determined to complete products that they are proud of. After the summer holiday we are aiming to run the club throughout the year for the new S1's and S2's and make lots more amazing things. Thank you all for your support!

WHITLEE WIND FARM



6 S1 classes had the opportunity to visit Whitelee Wind Farm to learn more about the green energy sector. Pupils took part in a morning workshop called "Wind Works" were they experimented with different turbine blade shapes to see what would produce the most energy. In the afternoon pupils were led on a walk by the Whitelee countryside ranger service, learning about peat bog formation and with our very own Aiden Donnelly recording a species first at Whitelee Wind Farm.



A MESSAGE FROM OUR SCHOOL CHAPLAIN—WELCOME A STRANGER?

The deportation of foreigners has been on the news recently, did you wonder why? What are the reasons behind deportation of foreigners? Is there a similarity between Brexit and the Rwandan project of repatriation? On one hand the welcoming of Ukrainian refugees is publicly seen as necessary good for the lives who flee danger, would they be deported further on down the line? By the time political peace is achieved people settle in the place where they are welcomed.

How can we consider hospitality as a value? Unlike commercial hospitality, the process of welcoming a visitor, or a refugee, or an asylum seeker and even to the welcome of the "down and out" is an act of compassion. This costs the host and benefits the guest. When would our hospitality become a burden? Particularly during this post-COVID restrictions, with price rise, tax increase and low wages which can easily turn a host from a giver to a receiver – just consider the increase of the food banks.

When Jesus said in the parable of the last judgement; "***I was a stranger and you made me welcome***" (Matthew 25;35), why did he not consider the cost of welcoming? Nor did Jesus consider the duration of time of one's hospitality. Being a Jew, Jesus knew the Torah; "***You shall treat the stranger who sojourns with you as the native among you, and you shall love him as yourself, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt: I am the Lord your God.*** (Leviticus 19; 34). Similarly no one who experienced the hardships of the world wars or survived loosing everything in a disaster or in a civil war, would not turn a blind eye to someone in a similar situation.

However, in the book of Leviticus which is full of laws and precepts we find in Chapter 25 verse 35; "***If any of your fellow Israelites become poor and are unable to support themselves among you, help them as you would a foreigner and stranger, so that they can continue to live among you.***" Can this be practiced by us? Travelling abroad during the summer can be a moment of reflection; "how do I see a stranger?" Being for a short time in a strange country, culture and practices appreciating the other can have a positive openness to the "other".

Pope Frances shares a desire in his Encyclical titled "Tutti Fratelli" (we are all brothers/sisters);

> " It is my desire that, in this our time, by acknowledging the dignity of each human person, we can contribute to the rebirth of a universal aspiration to fraternity. Fraternity between all men and women. "Here we have a splendid secret that shows us how to dream and to turn our life into a wonderful adventure. No one can face life in isolation… We need a community that supports and helps us, in which we can help one another to keep looking ahead. How important it is to dream together… By ourselves, we risk seeing mirages, things that are not there. Dreams, on the other hand, are built together". Let us dream, then, as a single human family, as fellow travellers sharing the same flesh, as children of the same earth which is our common home, each of us bringing the richness of his or her beliefs and convictions, each of us with his or her own voice, brothers and sisters all."

Can we ever dare to dream that we are 'one single human family'?

By Fr. Paul Annis MCCJ