Trinity High School

DECEMBER 2025 NEWSLETTER

A Christmas Message from the Head Teacher

As I reflect on my second year as Head Teacher, I am grateful once again for the kindness, support, and faith that define our school community. Since August, our young people, staff, families, and partners of Trinity High School have shown remarkable commitment, and I thank you all for the part you play in making our school such a special place.

I am especially grateful to Father Stephen and Father Christopher for their continued guidance and the vital role they play in nurturing our spiritual and pastoral life. My thanks also go to our staff, whose dedication and care support our pupils each day.

This term has brought many moments of pride, and I am inspired by the way our young people live out our values through their learning, service, and friendships. To our families and parish community, thank you for your partnership and encouragement throughout the year.

On behalf of all our staff, I wish you and your family a very happy and peaceful Christmas and a blessed New Year. May the light of Christ fill your hearts and homes with peace, love, and joy this Christmas Season.

Carol McArdle

Head Teacher

A Christmas Message from our School Chaplains

In the Oratory this Advent, the crib figures of Mary and Joseph have been gradually moving closer to the crib each week, symbolising our journeying ever closer to the feast of Christmas and to the newborn saviour himself.

As we draw closer to him we draw closer to each other. We have done in so many ways this term by living our school values: Faith by trusting each other and the purity of our motives despite our failures; Hope by dreaming big and holding high standards for our pupils; and Charity by giving selflessly of our time and talents.

And what a ball we've had while doing so! The school panto, Christmas Fayre, staff night out, chaplaincy cinema trip (which was Wicked!), final Mass with carols and many more events have given us great joy and made us truly one family, united in the greatest family of all, the Trinity. May you have a happy and holy Christmas with your families and friends.

Fr Stephen and Fr Christopher
School Chaplains

PASTORAL PLANNING COMMITTEE

Late October, a beautiful evening was spent at Carfin Grotto with two of our senior pupils leading the parishioners in the Holy Rosary.

Our Caritas pupils have been working to develop their understanding of refugees as part of the St Anthony's and St Mark's parish initiative with Justice and Peace Scotland.

Congratulations to our Caritas Award Justice & Peace Scotland parishioners who led a beautiful Holy Hour on 10th December in St. Mark's, praying for all refugees. We are very proud of them.

On 19th November, in school we had some fundraising and awareness for Aid to the Church in Need for RED Wednesday.

We also had representatives from the school on the same day, celebrating Holy Mass at Our Lady of Good Aid Cathedral for the annual #ACN mass to pray for those facing religious persecution.

FACULTY OF PERFORMING ARTS

Young Performer - 20th November

Our annual THS Young Performer of the Year was an evening filled with fantastic music and drama performances from 28 young folk who really were a credit to themselves, their families and the school.

The judges this year were Chris Bensalem, Depute Head (Music teacher) at Dalziel High School and Stacey McRobbie, Drama teacher from Brannock High who had a difficult job in deciding our winners. Huge thanks go to the participants, their parents and friends, the PA staff, Mrs McArdle, Liam McDevitt (S5), the janitors and Dalkia staff as without their help and support, a night like that wouldn't be possible!

THS Junior Musician: Christopher Brazenall (S2) who played piano. Runners up: Erin Stewart (S1) and Darcey King (S2) who played a clarinet duet.

THS Senior Musician: Matthew Brazenall (S4) who played electric guitar - and a double winner for the Brazenall family! Runners up: Imogen Millar (S6) on fiddle.

THS Vocalist of the year: Sophie McCluskey (S6) Runner up: Iona McArthur (S3)
THS Drama Performer of the Year: Amber Keenan (S6) Runner up: Aiden Donnelly (S5)

Bridgeton Burns Competition - 5th December

Mrs Swan travelled to the Bridgeton Burns Competition with 18 of our brilliant pupils to participate in the annual singing competition. The pupils work so hard and have attended rehearsals over the past few months so a big well done to them!

The results:

Secondary Solos, literally swept the board!!!!!

1st Place - Amber Cooper 2nd Place - Hollie McGinty 3rd Place - Andrew Osisanya

Secondary Duet Category:

2nd Place - Sophie McCluskey and Hollie Friel 3rd Place - Amber Cooper and Hollie McGinty

Secondary Choirs: 3rd Place - Trinity High

The pupils involved were: Mya Miller, Julia Szwerc, Andrew Osisanya, Amber Cooper, Sophie McCluskey, Quinn McCulloch, Hollie McGinty, Hollie Friel, Maurice Fung, Mauro Estefano, Oliver McCormack, Aimee McLaughlin, Emily Kalsi, Abigail Pettigrew, Rosie Clark, Rebecca Derwin, Bella Lang and Erin Farley!

Well done to everyone!!!

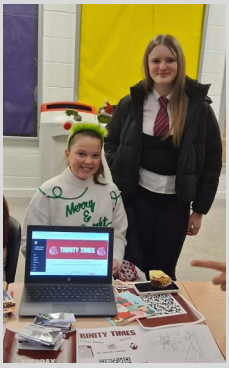
Christmas Concert and Panto - Tuesday 16th December

Pupils have been working extremely hard perfecting their performances for our annual Christmas Concert. Approx 100 pupils will be taking part in what promises to be a lovely festive evening of music and fantastic panto performances from our pupils ranging from S1-S6. It is a real highlight of the Performing Arts Calendar and we hope the pupils and their parents/carers have a brilliant night!

As always...

Huge thanks go to the pupils, their parents/carers, the PA staff, Mrs McArdle and SLT, the office staff, the janitors and Dalkia staff - as without their support, we couldn't host the various events that we do.

TRINITY TIMES



The Trinity Times newspaper club have been working hard this term to get out their Christmas issue. With reviews of favourite Christmas films, festive recipes and festive traditions around Trinity - it is hard to not feel full of festive joy after reading it! 3 of our pupils also had a stall at the Christmas fayre to promote the newspaper and take comments for our latest edition. Read the newspaper here t https://sites.google.com/sl.glow.scot/thetrinitytimes/.

Any pupils (S1-S6) who want to get involved can come to B205 on a Tuesday or speak to Miss McMonagle.

SPANISH TRIPS

On Wednesday 19th November, pupils from the two Higher Spanish classes, and the Advanced Higher Spanish class, attended a special screening of the classic Spanish film El Laberinto del Fauno (Pan's Labyrinth) by Guillermo del Toro at the Showcase Cinema in Coatbridge. The outing gave pupils the chance to hear authentic Spanish in a real cinematic setting and appreciate the relevance of their learning. They also enjoyed exploring Spanish culture and the historical context of the Civil War. It was a fantastic day out!

On Friday 28th November, 48 S2 pupils attended a Spanish football tournament at Cathkin High School. They competed against several teams, each named after clubs from La Liga. It was an opportunity for pupils to use and recognise the Spanish sports commands words they had been learning in class and see the relevance and potential of their Spanish skills out with the classroom and in the world of sport. The pupils had a fantastic time, and we were thrilled to win both the boys' and girls' tournaments, with both Player of the Tournament awards going to Trinity pupils: Darcey King and Brodie Gardner.

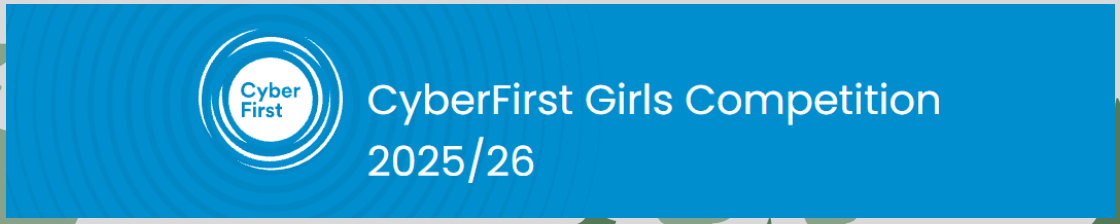
The pupils were an absolute credit to themselves and to the school. Vamos Trinity.

CYBERFIRST S2 GIRLS CYBER COMPETITION

We are very proud of the eight S2 girls who undertook this year's CyberFirst online competition.

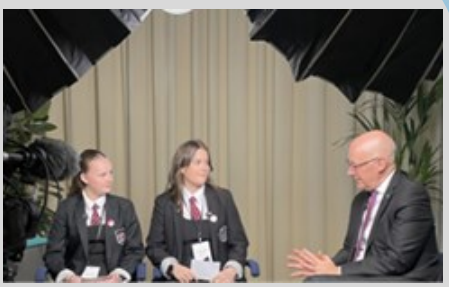
Eve Campbell (Top Scorer)
Sarah Griffiths
Emilia Milne
Cassia Gallagher
Quinn McCulloch
Maanya Thakur
Lara Giles
Melody McGuire

The girls worked in two teams of four and did an excellent job completing Cyber challenges. This was Trinity's fourth year in a row entering the competition!



EQUITY UPDATE PART 1

COST OF THE SCHOOL DAY



This year, Trinity pupils attended the first COSD Young Person Summit on 30th September. Our COSD S6 Captain, **Imogen Miller** put some of our pupils' concerns around COSD to the First Minister, John Swinney, and the Children and Young Person's Commissioner for Scotland. Two of our S3 COSD Ambassadors**, Brooke Cochran and Mollie Monaghan**, had the honour of interviewing First Minister, John Swinney, on behalf of the COSD Voice Network.

PUPIL VOICE

The girls did an outstanding job of representing the views of young people at Trinity and across the country exercising their UNCRC Right to have their opinions listened to and taken seriously. Additionally, Brooke and Mollie were a vital part of the organizing committee for this inaugural event and greeted visitors at the door with a welcome pack as well as conducting this interview.

S1 WELCOME PACK

Our new S1 Pupils were welcomed to Trinity High School with a COSD information leaflet, a drawstring PE bag, a pencil and pen and a snack to remind pupils that we offer support with uniform, learning resources and food among other aspects of the school day. Just speak to Mrs Simpson, Mrs Marks or S6 Captain, Imogen Miller, and we can help!

UNIFORM

Our laundered range of pre-loved, new and nearly new uniform is available on request, at Parents' Evenings, P7 Information Evening and at the Christmas Fayre. Fight Fast Fashion – go Trinity.

MAGIC BREAKFAST

Our bagel bar continues to be hugely popular with up to 100 pupils receiving a free nutritious breakfast every morning in these cold, winter days! Big thanks to our Staff and Parent Volunteers, and Rayaan Ali, S6 Bagel King, who give up their time to generously. Our S6 Breakfast Ambassadors received training on the importance of breakfast and designed this poster to share with other pupils.

FREE SCHOOL MEAL ENTITLEMENT

This year, Trinity has been chosen to pilot the SLC Test of Change for S1-3 pupils meaning more than sixty additional pupils are now entitled to Free School Meal Entitlement! Anyone receiving the Scottish Child Payment in S1-3 should be getting this daily allowance. To apply for FSM and the Clothing Grant, click here: https://www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/info/200259/education_benefits/159/school_clothing_grants_and_free_school_meals/2

COMMUNITY CHAMPIONS

Thanks again to our Tesco Community Champion, Rachel, for contributing a trolley of snacks for our Halloween Disco and Christmas Fayre.

WIDER ACHIEVEMENT

22 S4-6 pupils achieved their Level 6 Emergency First Aid at Work Qualification equipping them with vital life skills for their future. Also, 18 S4-6 pupils completed their First Aid Mental Health Level 6 Award giving them a better understanding of how to support others at times of crisis in their mental health.

EQUITY UPDATE—PART 2

SCHOOL OF NETBALL S1 – S3

The S1 School of Netball has officially launched its 2025–26 programme, attracting an impressive turnout of more than 40 S1 pupils for the trials. S1 pupils showcased strong talent and enthusiasm throughout the session. Following a competitive selection process, 20 outstanding girls were chosen to join the School of Netball . The new team is already building strong relationships and looking forward to an exciting year ahead.

The S3 School of Netball has made an excellent start to the year, successfully completing their Netball Leaders Award. Pupils demonstrated impressive leadership skills and excelled while coaching one another. They have also achieved the *On the Whistle* Umpiring Award, qualifying them to officiate at festivals and tournaments. The group is now in the midst of organising a Primary School Festival, where pupils from local feeder primaries will come together to take part in friendly competition.

LEARN TO SWIM

The S1 Learn to Swim programme is now in full swing, with pupils beginning their eight-week block. Participants are developing key skills such as front crawl, back crawl, and underwater swimming. Pupils are excelling in their lessons while enjoying themselves and gaining an important life skill.

TARGETED NUMERACY

'Our Targeted Numeracy Support intervention has been up and running for a few weeks now with pupils engaging well with the programme. Our S2's have already improved their numeracy skills since last session which is excellent. Catch-Up Literacy will also be up and running in the new year to support our amazing pupils at Trinity with skills for learning, life and work to aid them in reaching their positive destinations.'

SUPPORTED STUDY

Supported study has been very well attended this year...

1217 - Total pupil-hours of supported study attended

214 - Sessions have been provided to pupils across 42 different subjects/level combinations

347- Individual students attended a session

National 5 sessions are better attended (926 attendances across 20 subjects) than Higher (267 attendances across 18 subjects). Attendance and engagement of S4s is very encouraging.

S2 LEARN TO ROW

6 S2 pupils have attended several Learn to Row Sessions over the past eight weeks at Glasgow Green Boathouse with coaching provided by Clydesdale Amateur Rowing Club. - each week they have developed their skills, worked collaboratively and have had some time on the water - who knows we might have the next Commonwealth Team Rower from Trinity High!

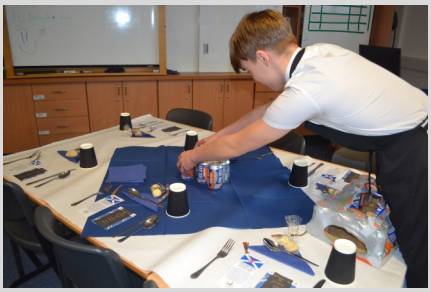
ST ANDREWS DAY LUNCH

Our St Andrew's Day Lunch, held on 27 November, was a wonderful success and warmly attended by parishioners from our associated parishes.

Our S4 Practical Cookery pupils demonstrated exceptional skill and effort in preparing a beautifully presented three-course meal. Guests were served lentil soup with a freshly baked bread roll, followed by a traditional steak pie accompanied by mashed potatoes and green beans. The meal concluded with a white chocolate and raspberry cheesecake, and guests were then treated to Tunnock's favourites, generously donated once again this year by Tunnock's.

As a token of appreciation, each guest received a handmade favour of Scottish shortbread and a St Andrew's Day bookmark, both crafted by our pupils. The afternoon's entertainment included a lively Scottish quiz, bingo, and a delightful performance of traditional music by our talented musicians, Imogen Miller and Oliver McCormack.

The event was enjoyed immensely by all and showcased the spirit, talent, and community of our school.



2025 IN TRINITY HIGH

Merry Christmas