



December 2012

I am astounded yet again that we are already nearing the end of the Autumn term; a term which began with the amazing success of our Summer 2012 GCSE results and will end this week with the joyous celebrations leading up to Christmas.

This brief update celebrates just a sample of events that have taken place at Trinity since term began in September and shows how much hard work goes into all our extra-curricular activities by both staff and students.

I would like to thank all our pupils families for being so generous in helping towards our annual Cause hamper collection; this year our school and Sixth Form have been able to provide hampers for a total of 88 local families.

May I take this opportunity to wish you all a very holy and happy Christmas and I look forward to welcoming all our pupils and students back when we all return in 2013.



*Preparations being made for the CAUSE Christmas Hamper Assembly;
Monday 17th December*

Academy Status

A consultation period regarding the proposal for Trinity Catholic College and Sixth Form to become an Academy ended on Friday 16th November 2012. Following completion of the consultation period, Governors met and voted to go ahead with Academy conversion and form a Multi Academy Trust with a number of our Trinity Partnership primary schools. A very busy period of discussion and decision making lies ahead of us and parents will be kept informed of any developments.

Prefects 2012



Some of this year's successful Prefect candidates.

Our prefects for this academic year were recently chosen. They were each presented with their Prefects' ties and badges during a special assembly. Candidates had to write a letter of application to apply for a position as a Prefect and these were of an excellent standard. Our congratulations and thanks go out to each of our new prefects wish them lots of success in their new role.

The Year of Faith

The Year of Faith was launched in the Diocese in October. Around 30 pupils from Trinity Catholic College representing all years attended the Mass in the Cathedral.

A celebration of the Year of Faith is also being planned together with the primary schools of the Trinity Partnership.

Sport

Our sports / PE department have had another very successful run in a great variety of sports:

Our new Year 7 girls have shown a huge interest in their football team with the biggest number ever turning up for trials. Our Y8 girls team came 3rd in the Middlesbrough Schools Tournament. Our Y8 Boys went to the top of the league and got through to the 2nd round of the County Cup. The Y11 team are currently sporting a new kit which they hope will bring them much success this term.

A 240 mile round trip was made by our Y10 BTEC Sports group to see Manchester United play in September; a great time was had by all even waiting in traffic with the other 46,000 supporters to get home!

Our Year 8 volleyball team were recently 2nd in the Middlesbrough schools competition; the team are really improving with each game.

Gambia & Bikes 4 Africa

2013 will see Trinity Catholic College embarking on their most challenging charity event to date. Staff will take a group of students to Gambia in a culmination of the Bikes 4 Africa project. The project aims to find unwanted, second-hand bikes; re-furbish them to a high standard and then ship them to Africa where they are given to children living in remote areas to enable them to attend school on a regular basis.

Many African children live in remote communities, a long way from their nearest school. Without reliable, affordable, motorised transport the only way these children can get to school is to walk. In searing heat, their journey, is a daily epic mission. Having a bicycle makes a world of difference for these children and for their families and communities too. bikes4Africa refurbishes donated second-hand bikes and delivers them from the UK to African schools, where they enable children to...

- get to school, and arrive on time, instead of being late
- begin the school day alert, instead of exhausted
- stay for extra lessons at the end of the school day
- remain safe by travelling home from school in daylight
- reach higher academic achievement

The number of students at rural schools in The Gambia who gained 5 or more credits [entry requirement for university] has more than doubled as a direct result of the bicycles. Also, students at rural schools are achieving Aggregate Scores of 6 [TOP MARKS] for the first time in the country's history. Bikes4Africa is a simple

programme delivering reconditioned bicycles from the UK to schools in Africa. It is in Africa that these bicycles are born again, now enabling children to reach their education that would otherwise be difficult at best and impossible at worst.

Redundant donated bicycles, meeting **Bikes 4Africa criteria, arrive from a variety** of donors, including individuals, the police, recycling centres and leisure companies. A significant and important element in this supply chain are the bikes collected on **bikes4Africa Days. With a current need to gather more than 200** bikes every 4 weeks, to meet their schedule, that importance is all too clear. Trinity Catholic College currently aims to raise £9000 to help towards the trip to Gambia but students who are part of the trip need to pay part of it



themselves. There are already many fundraising events planned throughout the year including a Christmas carol service, cake sales, Walking the Stations of The Cross and a coast to coast bike ride by members of staff.

Musical Events

The evening of the 21st November saw our very first 'student own choice' concert.

33 students from every year group (Y7-Y13) performed 18 pieces of music by composers ranging from Chopin to Taylor Swift. Around 100 guests came to watch and listen. This was the first event of its kind and we plan to hold similar events on a regular basis.

The music department will be providing music for the forthcoming drama/music Christmas event on Wednesday 19th December. This event will be free but admission will be by ticket only due to restricted numbers. Tickets are available from main reception.

2013 Holiday Dates

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY

MONDAY 24TH DECEMBER-
FRIDAY 4TH JANUARY 2013

Spring Term

Monday 7th January 2013-
Thursday 28th March

HALF-TERM HOLIDAY

Monday 18th February-
Friday 22nd February

EASTER HOLIDAY

Friday 29th March -
Friday 12th April

Summer Term

Monday 15th April-
Friday 19th July (**inclusive**)

MAY BANK HOLIDAY

Monday 6th May

HALF-TERM HOLIDAY

Monday 27th May-
Friday 31st May

School breaks up for the Summer holidays on Friday 19th July 2013