

May Half-Term Update



A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRINCIPAL MICHAEL FITZSIMONS



There has been a sense of nervous anticipation and excitement within the college as the summer examinations have started. There is a sweet spot between nervousness and being relaxed in my opinion, a sort of optimal arousal level which gives us a competitive edge under challenging circumstances. It has been really wonderful to see the students as they go into the examination rooms, looking focused, often a little more tense and with a steely look of determination on their faces. What follows a few hours later is a more relaxed and often jovial version of the same person. This is it for us, this is what we have all worked so hard for over the last two years. It is normal to feel nervous and for our nerves to sometimes get the better of us. We set a target of developing 'Life ready' young people and that is what we will measure ourselves against. As students finish their exams next term, we reflect on whether we have met our goal. I am confident that our group of Year 13 students, will go on to be wonderful people who will lead meaningful and fulfilling lives. All will always be welcome back at TSFA.

Challenge breeds excellence and it will not be long until we announce this year's winners of the Professional Standards Awards, with successful students cementing their names in the history of the college through appearing on our wall of fame (it is in reception if you ever want to see it!).

I am also very excited to announce that term 6 will bring with it the re-launch of face-to-face enrichment and super curricular opportunities for Year 12. We can also look forwards to celebrating their achievements at our annual Year 12 Graduation ceremony at the Minster and I am also excited to welcome in our newly formed Pupil Leadership Group. I look forward to working with you all.

In keeping with my tradition of finishing with a quote, I have chosen CS Lewis this term in recognition of the journey that our students are now embarking on at this pivotal moment:

"You can't go back and change the beginning, but you can start where you are and change the ending."

DATES FOR THE DIARY & UPCOMING TRIPS

Key Dates:

- Term commences** - Monday 3 June
 - Y13 Leavers Event** - Friday 21 June
 - Parent Information Evening for London Residential Trip** - Tuesday 25 June
 - Y13 Prom** - Thursday 27 June
 - Y12 Graduation Ceremony at Halifax Minster** - Thursday 11 July
- ### Upcoming Trips:
- Reward Trip to Alton Towers** - Thursday 6 June
 - Duke of Edinburgh Practice** - Tuesday 18 June to Thursday 20 June
 - UCAS Discovery Event in Leeds** - Wednesday 19 June
 - Duke of Edinburgh Assessed - Gold** - Monday 1 July to Thursday 4 July
 - Duke of Edinburgh Assessed - Silver** - Tuesday 2 July to Thursday 4 July
 - London Residential for Y12** - Tuesday 9 July to Wednesday 10 July

Polite Notice....ongoing request

In an effort to co-operate with the local community and council, we would kindly ask that parents refrain from using the disabled parking layby as a pick up/drop off point as it does prevent disabled drivers utilising the spaces. We would also like to remind parent/carers to avoid pulling up on to the pavement outside the college due to the safety hazard this creates.

Thank you for your continued support.

ASPIRATIONS

This half term a number of our Year 12 students completed work experience with Calderdale and Huddersfield NHS Foundation Trust. With placements in a variety of wards such as Accident and Emergency, the students gained valuable insight into the challenges and rewards associated with working in the healthcare profession as well as an understanding of the different roles within the NHS.

As our Year 12 students begin to consider their next steps after College, so begins the season of University trips and visits! This term, a group of our Year 12 students enjoyed a campus visit to Huddersfield University where they took part in subject taster sessions and had the opportunity to speak with current university students as well as tour the campus. We also look forward to trips to the University of Leeds and Leeds Beckett University next term!

For the remainder of the summer term, the focus for our Year 12 students in Trinity+ will be researching opportunities and making applications (whether that be for university, an apprenticeship or employment). As students consider how to make themselves "stand out from the crowd" in their applications, we continue to advertise a wide range of super curricular activities through our careers bulletin and look forward to our College enrichment programme next term which has a super curricular focus!

TRINITY SCHOLARS

As we enter the summer term, our Trinity Scholars begin to turn their attention to the early October deadline for their university applications. This term, our Scholars have begun work on their personal statements, which form part of their university applications, as well as intense preparation for the UCAT (University Clinical Aptitude Test) necessary for entry to medical and dental degree courses. Alongside all this hard work, we also eagerly await our Trinity Scholars trip to the University of Oxford next term!

TRINITY ENRICH

The football team played one game this term and recorded another win, this time over at Savile Park. The team managed to come through a tough game against Crossley Heath 2v1 thanks to goals from Alex Pierre and Tom Pratt. George Broadbent was awarded man of the match due to his work ethic throughout the game.



HALIFAX PARK RUN TAKEOVER

This term a group of students and staff came together to take part in Halifax Park run. Participants trained hard for this event. We were also joined by a number of spectators including two of our students who volunteer weekly at Park run events as part of the Duke of Edinburgh volunteering programme. Well done to everyone involved, it was a very hilly and warm one. Thank you to our Physical Health PLG who supported the event.



DUKE OF EDINBURGH



A fabulous day at Buckingham Palace for some of our TSFA Duke of Edinburgh Alumni from the class of 2023. Collecting their Gold Awards were Freya, Erin, Josh and Callum alongside Mr Davies who is our assessor for the expedition section of the award. An amazing achievement for all of our Award holders.



DUKE OF EDINBURGH TRAINING WALK

Our Year 12 Silver and Gold Duke of Edinburgh students went out on their first training walk before their practice expedition. Our Year 12 Duke of Edinburgh cohort navigated Beacon Hill after a long day at college. Luckily the weather was on our side. Our students are preparing hard for their fast approaching practice expedition in June.



DUKE OF EDINBURGH RESIDENTIAL PRESENTATION

As part of her DofE Gold programme, Aleesha Lacey was funded by Brighthouse Rotary Club to take part in the Rotary Youth Leadership Awards Residential. Aleesha was away for 5 days and 4 nights and developed a variety of skills such as communication, problem solving and teamwork skills. More importantly she developed her ability to take on a leadership role and lead others. The feedback we have received from the rotary regarding Aleesha's performance on the residential and with her presentation is commendable. Well done Aleesha.



PUPIL LEADERSHIP GROUP

Earthshot PLG - Primary Days

In collaboration with fellow Trinity MAT schools, and to celebrate the launch of primary labs, Earthshot PLG was given the opportunity to lead interactive science-based workshops, promoting critical thinking and teamwork to various primary classes.

At Trinity St Chad's, these workshops included dental hygiene and raft building. They involved trial-and-error and creative thinking as the children worked in small groups to create the most effective toothpaste and to build the best rafts. We then prompted them to discuss their varying results, aiding them in creating conclusions using their newly gained knowledge. This was a simple introduction to doing science practicals and following specific methods, which will benefit them in further experiments.

At Trinity Akroydon, workshops on different kinds of waves were taught. These encouraged the children to think more about what sound is by using instruments and different objects to create a variety of sounds. By discussing these concepts with the children, it allowed them to broaden their understanding of physics at a primary level whilst keeping them engaged and interested. It was a really enjoyable experience all round! Hopefully we have inspired some scientists of the future (and maybe even a new generation of Earthshot members!)

Charity PLG - Talent Show

Our charity PLG put on our first ever TSFA Talent show this term which was a great success. We had a variety of singers and performers performing live in our Trinity Eats area at lunchtime. Well done to all our performers and a special congratulations to Katelyn Baines who won the event.



Diversity PLG - Charity Week

This term saw our Charity PLG put on our annual Culture week and it was fantastic. The PLG decided to celebrate different continents each day leading up to the big celebration on the Friday. Throughout the week we had a variety of cultural music playing throughout the building, we had a variety of cultural activities such as hair braiding, boxing, henna, hijab workshops, Romanian dancing as well as Trinity+ sessions on celebrating diversity. The big Celebration day saw our TSFA students arrive in their cultural clothing and the whole college came together in our Trinity Eats area for a celebration lunch full of music, dancing and a variety of cultural cuisines. We also had our first every live band performance from three of our very own talented musicians. The week was a great tribute to the diversity and inclusivity of the culture here at Trinity Sixth Form Academy. Thank you to the Diversity PLG for planning and delivering such an outstanding week.



STUDENT AMBASSADORS

Thank you to our Year 13 Student Ambassadors who supported the Year 12 Parents Evening. As always you acted with the upmost professionalism and were a credit to the college - thank you.

