



Holy Trinity Catholic School Newsletter:
Spring Term

Update for parents and carers: Start date – March 2026



Holy Trinity Catholic School

A partner in the St Teresa of Calcutta MAC

Learn to Love. Love to Learn.

Dream. Believe. Achieve.

Message from the Headteacher: Mrs Daw



Welcome to the latest copy of our school newsletter! Following your positive feedback we are continuing with our digital format for our newsletter. If you would prefer a paper copy please do contact the main reception.

Holy Trinity pupils and staff continue to pray for all refugees and those who are suffering and displaced around the world. During this Holy Season of Lent we also continue to pray for peace and disarmament to be replaced by greater dialogue and discussion between world leaders.

We remember the beautiful words of the prayer to St Francis of Assisi:

Lord, make me an instrument of Your peace.

Where there is hatred, let me sow love;

Where there is injury, pardon;

Where there is doubt, faith;

Where there is despair, hope;

Where there is darkness, light;

Where there is sadness, joy.

O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek

To be consoled as to console,

To be understood as to understand,

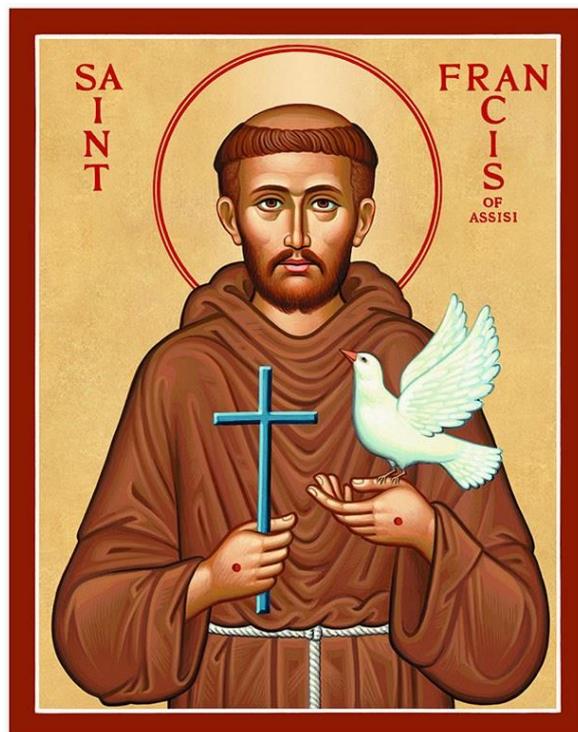
To be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive,

It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,

And it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

Amen.



Holy Trinity sows seeds of hope



At Holy Trinity, we are 'Pilgrims of Hope' by being reflective and self-aware people who are considerate towards the needs of others. We sow seeds of hope when we follow our vision and Mission of Catholic Social Teaching in Action. We always keep our doors 'open' to those who are most in need and continue to welcome young people and families of all faiths, ethnic groups and those seeking sanctuary in our school.

During this year, and our Holy season of Lent our school continues to support to the young, elderly and sick through acts of love and charity. We endeavour to promote the 'common good' in our learning and example and strive for 'distributive justice' to be achieved at all levels. Through the example of Jesus Christ, we are be a 'lighthouse' of hope that guides, comforts and inspires the community of central Birmingham and beyond. Holy Trinity continues to 'cultivate' a climate of 'hope' through thought, word and action.

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

We are children of God

We are Christ-centred

We are a conscious community

A busy Easter of development at Holy Trinity:

We are delighted that extensive refurbishment work is to commence on St Mary's teaching block during the Easter break. Following on from phase one, we are delighted that the upper floor will get the necessary redevelopment needed to ensure that your child learns in the best facilities possible. It is clear that the first phase has created an environment much more conducive to impactful and effective learning.

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 process for raising formal complaints.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs J. Daw

Headteacher: Holy Trinity Catholic School

Date of publication: Friday 27th March 2026

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

Enrichment & Extra Tuition Update- Mr Woolgar



Envision

Our Envision programme is going well once again. Our Year 9 Autumn cohort worked extremely well together and with their mentors, creating a social action project around equipment and the cost of living crisis. The aim was to put black and green pens in each classroom to make it easier for resources to be distributed. This is to help the teacher but most importantly the pupil. They worked with Atkins Realis (Engineering company in the city centre) and were exposed to the world of work. They have all flourished in this environment, culminating in a presentation to a panel of judges and other schools to discuss their project. The project has had a profound impact on all of them, teaching them about leadership, teamwork, aspiration, and resilience. I am very proud of all of them.

The new Spring cohort are working with Mrs Khan, and have made a really positive start and contribution to the programme. We are excited to see what their social action project will be and how it will benefit the school community.



Kings Trust

We had 15 Year 7 pupils take part in Kings Trust in the Autumn term. They work with volunteers around aspects such as self-awareness, aspiration, growth mindset and careers. All pupils worked hard during the programme, and received a certificate which will be really useful for any future college applications and career interviews. We then had the pleasure of taking the group to Aston Villa FC for a world of work visit. This involved looking at employability within the football sector, and a coaching session in the academy facilities. The pupils were brilliant!



HipHop Healing Brum studios – Mr Bennett took pupils for a recording opportunity at Brum Studios. The pupils loved the process! Also as part of the HipHop Healing Project, pupils had the opportunity to meet a local boxer and train with them.



Year 8 Maths Competition:

Year 8 mathematicians showcased their skills at the Catholic Schools Maths Competition at Bishop Challenor Catholic College. They worked hard and represented our school brilliantly—well done to all involved!

Citizenship talks:

Mrs Wragg has recently invited speakers in as part of the Citizenship Y10 curriculum. This has involved a talk on animal protection and how we can support the welfare of animals. There has been stop and search workshops from the police. Both of these talks have really supported pupils.



Year 8 Harvington Hall retreats:

In February, our Year 8 pupils visited Harvington Hall on a Catholic retreat. This was a brilliant opportunity to see a beautiful hall dating back to the 1500's, touring the rooms and listening to interesting stories. This involved a mass where pupils behaved really respectfully.

More in store... We have lots more to look forward to this academic year, including a Switzerland trip in July for some lucky Y9 and 10 pupils.



Extra Tuition

Year 11 extra tuition started again after the mocks at the end of January. Pupils have been focused, engaged and utilising this opportunity. The current attendance figure is an average of 88%. Pupils have been resilient and really dedicated to their studies. If pupils continue with this positive attitude alongside usual curriculum time, our Year 11 will be very successful this academic year, and this is exactly what they deserve! Well done to Year 11.

I would like to thank Mrs Chan (Head of Year 11) for her continued support.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all the members of staff for giving up their time after school, and for those who delivered tuition sessions during the February half term break. We also look forward to having Year 11 in during the Easter period. Pupils will have received a letter highlighting what session they should attend.

The extra tuition programme will continue as normal after the current round of mock exams, and you will receive the usual updates every day via text message.

Quality of Education Update: Mrs Wall



Another term filled with a love of learning across all subjects. Pupils have committed themselves fully to their learning in school and out of school, and this is so wonderful to see. Their developments have been inspiring as they take on the challenges of new learning while at the same time having to recall prior learning, modelling their excellent recall skills, their aspirations to succeed, and the development of them as young people. As well as new learning, they have been challenged with complex assessments to track their progress overtime and have been positive and ready in their approach to this.

Year 11 has shown excellent resilience to their learning and assessment as they have been very busy completing their mock examinations as their real GCSEs are so close now and only a number of weeks away.

Well done to all pupils - with confidence and passion, they are thriving.



Holy Trinity Sports Update



Boys Football

Year 7 football

Our year 7 football team have continued their great form in the BSFA league with a 2-0 win away at Moseley followed by a 3-2 win away at St. Albans. As well as this they also recently

won the school partnership football tournament which was hosted at Christchurch school.
Well done boys and keep up the good work!



Year 8 football

The year 8 football team continue to work hard and shown resilience after coming back from a disappointing cup exit against Ark Victoria to return to winning ways in the league with an excellent 4-2 win away at Waverley.



Year 9 football

We still have really impressive turn outs for year 9 extra curricular club and despite some disappointing results this year the team are really working hard to have a strong end to the season with some important matches coming up.

Year 10 football

We have had an amazing run of results with our year 10 football team which includes a fantastic performance against Ark Boulton to progress to the semi final of the Jeff Hall Trophy. They have also continued their great form in the league picking up 6 points from two very tough away games against Moseley and KESH.



Year 11 football

The year 11 football team have made yet another final. And have won every game they have played since the end of year 9! They are look to being back to back cup winners with a final against Small Heath Scheduled in April.

[Other Sports News](#)

The PE department would like to congratulate and thank all students that attend extra curricular clubs and represent the school in sport fixtures!

Year 7 and 8 athletics competition:

In January, a number of year 7 and 8 students went to compete in an indoor athletics competition at Billesley tennis club. The lads worked extremely hard in a number of different track and field events and were a credit to the school with their behaviour throughout the day!

Dance Competition:

A massive well done to all that took part in the Holy Trinity Dance competition this term.

The girls showed great confidence, sportsmanship, creativity and passion. They were amazing!

1st place winners – **Raysa Dinu & Neriah Lee**

2nd place winner – **Shaely- Rose Nsiku Alexandre**

3rd place winners – **Kindness Nwabueze, Fiyinfoluwa Ojo & Praise Peters**

Holy Trinity Dancer of the night – **Neriah Lee**



Literacy & Oracy update- Mrs Smith

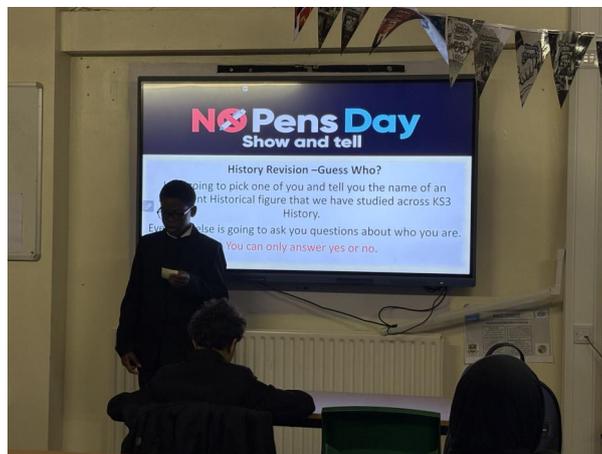


It has been a fantastic term for Literacy and Oracy across the school, with so many opportunities for students to develop their confidence, creativity, and love of reading.

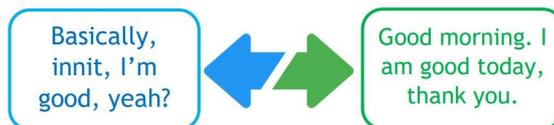
Oracy Focus Month

We always aim to help students become confident communicators, and Oracy Focus Month in January put an extra spotlight on this. Across the month, students had plenty of chances to practise speaking clearly and confidently, with Code Switching posters guiding them to use clear, academic language in their ideas.

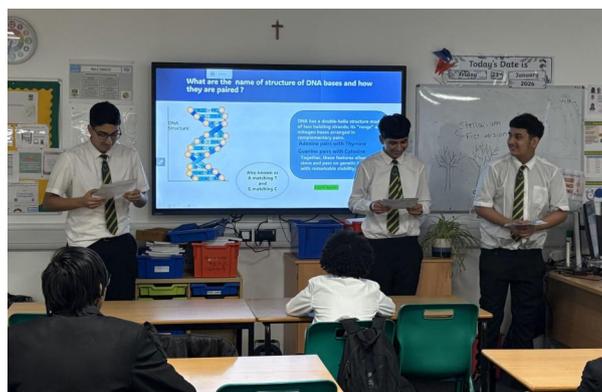
A highlight of the month was **No Pens Day**, where students spent the day learning through discussion, debate, presentations, and collaborative challenges rather than writing. Activities included quizzes, word games, debates, creative performances, and team challenges, and students described the day as *fun, interactive, and inspiring*.



CODE SWITCHING



❌ In this classroom we use **Academic Code** ✅



We were also incredibly proud of Abdulrahman and Fetah, who represented the school in the **Catholic Partnership KS4 Public Speaking Competition**, showing courage and confidence in front of a large audience. We were delighted to host the competition again this year, welcoming students and staff from other Catholic schools and celebrating the talent and dedication of all involved.

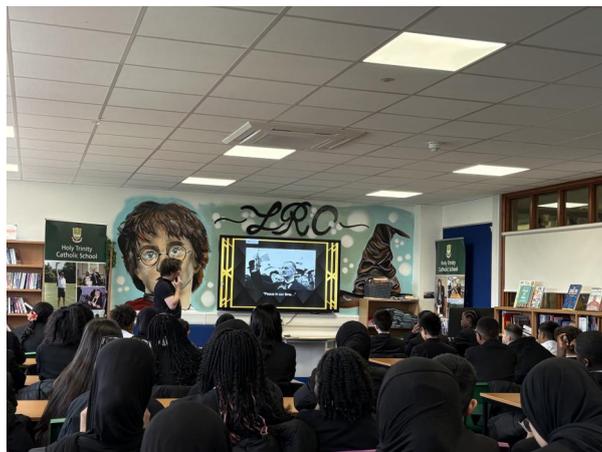


World Book Day- Our Best Yet!

This year's World Book Day celebrations were bigger and better than ever. With 2026 being the **National Year of Reading**, we wanted to create a real buzz around books – and the whole school got involved.

In the lead-up to the day, assemblies highlighted that reading comes in many forms and there is no single “right” way to read. Sometimes, it only takes one book- the right book at the right moment- to make a real impact. Our message to students was clear: we are all readers, each in our own way.

We were delighted to welcome **Matt Killeen**, author of *Orphan Monster Spy & Devil Darling Spy*, who worked with students across the day. Some KS3 groups attended a talk on Heroes, Resistance and Nazi Germany, while KS4 took part in creative writing workshops.





World Book Day itself was packed with activities celebrating reading:

- **Form competitions** showing students' love of reading
- **Bookmark-making competition**
- **Teacher fancy dress scavenger hunt**
- **Finders Keepers**, searching for hidden books
- **Pop-up book swap** with tokens and free books
- **Footy and Booky quiz** at lunchtime
- **Split Story**, revealed in five parts across the day

Departments joined in with themed costumes: Maths became *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*, Science transformed into *Roald Dahl's inventors*, English dressed as *The Witches*, and Humanities became *Where's Wally*. So many students and staff took part, creating a brilliant buzz around reading. It truly felt like our best World Book Day yet.







Looking Ahead – Reading for Pleasure

We are continuing to promote reading for pleasure as part of the National Year of Reading. Students will complete surveys about the books they enjoy, helping us ensure the library is full of books they want to read.

In May, we will celebrate Share-A-Story Month, with lots of activities and competitions to get students sharing their love of books and reading. Our annual trip to the Library of Birmingham will take place in the Summer Term, and it's always a wonderful treat for students to explore new books and experiences.

Pupil Progress update: Mrs Pritchard



This term, Year 11 have successfully completed two sets of 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. We celebrated the effort of many students who have gone above and beyond and also celebrated many top grades and students that achieved on or above their minimum expected grade. It is evident that Year 11 are committed to their own success. Keep up the strong work ethic you have built in the coming weeks leading up to the final GCSE's.

Inclusion update: Mrs Sian



We would like to extend a warm welcome to all our families and thank you for your continued support.

At our school, we are committed to ensuring that every child with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) receives high-quality provision. We continue to work closely with a range of external agencies and maintain strong links with ADHD and Autism support teams to ensure we are meeting the individual needs of our pupils and providing the right support.

As we move through the year, we are beginning to prepare for key transition points. This includes supporting pupils with upcoming transitions, as well as welcoming primary visits to help children feel confident and ready for the next stage of their education.

We are also beginning to prepare for the GCSE examination period. We are supporting students who may need access arrangements and are offering additional revision support, as well as providing a quiet and supportive space for those who need it.

We remain committed to continually developing and improving our SEND provision to ensure that all pupils feel supported, included, and able to achieve their full potential.



Catholic Life Update- Mr Bayliss & Ms McKiernan



This term has seen a wonderful range of activities that reflect our school mission of being *Children of God, Christ-centred, and a conscious community*.

We also recently welcomed our Catholic School Inspection team into school; we look forward to sharing the outcomes of this process with you in a full report after Easter.

Students have taken part in the CAFOD Walk for Lent, raising awareness and funds for those in need, alongside supporting charities such as Islamic Relief. Our Easter preparations also include an Easter egg raffle and donations to Tabor House, continuing our strong tradition of outreach and care for the most vulnerable.





We are currently working towards the CAFOD Live Simply Award, encouraging our school community to live more simply, sustainably and in solidarity with others. This reflects our call to be a conscious community, taking responsibility for the world around us. Linked to this, we have exciting plans to improve sustainability across the school through the Let's Go Zero campaign. Students are already putting faith into action by using reusable water bottles and helping to reduce plastic waste, living out the principles of Catholic Social Teaching.

Our commitment to caring for creation is also reflected in our uniform swap shop initiative. Year 11 students are encouraged to donate ties and blazers after their exams, supporting reuse, reducing waste and helping others in our community.



Student leadership continues to flourish through our Student Voice groups, with representatives from each year group actively contributing ideas to improve school life. Our Chaplaincy Team continues to play a central role in nurturing the spiritual life of the school. They have led meaningful services for the World Day of Prayer for the Sick and the World Day of Prayer for Peace, as well as supporting prayer, liturgy and charitable initiatives across the school. Their work helps ensure we remain truly Christ-centred in all that we do. We are proud of the many ways our students live out their identity as Children of God, making a positive difference both within our school and beyond.

Attendance and Punctuality Update: Ms Backhouse



At Holy Trinity Catholic School, we are proud of our pupils' commitment to learning every day. Regular attendance makes a huge difference to progress, confidence, and friendships. On average if a child's attendance is 96% and above they are more likely to achieve 1 grade higher than expected when completing their GCSE's!

Current Whole-School Attendance: 90.7%

Thank you to families for your continued support however this is significantly lower than where we would like to be as a school.



Celebrating Success

Highest attending year group:

Year 7 — 94.6% Fantastic commitment well done!

Top forms in each year group:

7E- 96%

8P- 94.3%

9S- 94.3%

10A- 93.4%

11E 92.5%

We encourage all families to continue working with us to keep attendance as high as possible. We are aiming for an attendance of 96%+ for each child and in order to do that we need your support ensuring your child is in school. Please contact the school

promptly if your child is unwell, and keep us informed of any issues that may affect your child's ability to attend. Our Attendance Team is always available to support you.

It is never too late for your child to improve their attendance. Every week counts, no matter where they are on their attendance journey.

A key reminder about punctuality to school

School starts at 8.30am. If your child is late, they will receive a late mark and L3 detention. If your child arrives after 9am they will be marked with the 'U' code and lose their AM mark. This will have a negative impact on their overall attendance. Please remind your child about the importance of attending school on time. Tutor time is an essential part of the school day where your child meets with their tutor for a positive start to the day. We also have a vibrant curriculum that runs through tutor time including valuable time for prayer and reflection. Arriving on time also builds good habits for future employment and career opportunities.

Missing school results in your child missing out! Please continue to encourage them into school every day. If you have any concerns or need support or advice, please contact the attendance team.



A Reminder of our High Standards and Expectations



Standards reminder:

- 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 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.
- No jewellery.

- 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.

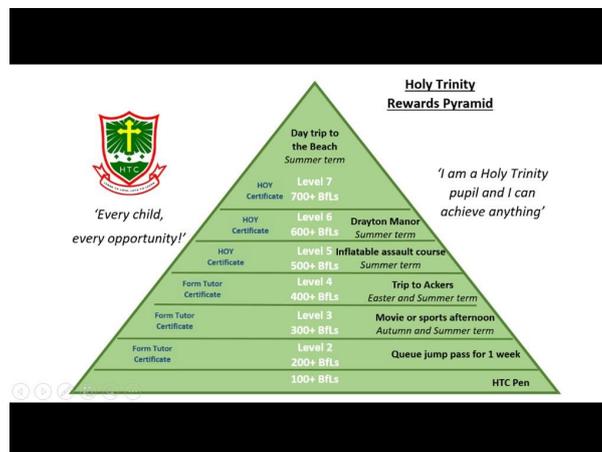
Mobile phones

As you will be aware there are likely to be changes to mobile phone policies in all schools, in light of recent DfE guidance. It is almost certain that school policy will change significantly as a result of this. Further communications will be shared with parents in the summer months. However, a reminder for parents and all children of our current phone expectations:

If pupils chose to bring phones to school, school cannot be held responsible for any loss or damage

Mobile phones should not be out in lessons or inside the building and or corridors at any time. They may be used outside of the building at lunch or break time- to listen to music- under no circumstances should any phone be used to take photos, record or video any pupil or staff member on the school site at any time.

Pupil Rewards at Holy Trinity

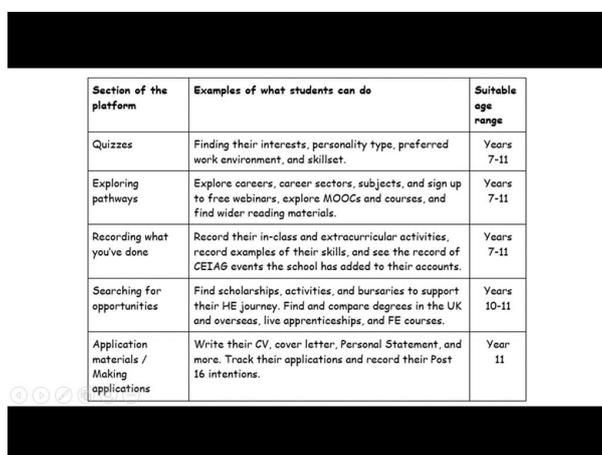


The rewards pyramid continues to thrive! Due to the overwhelming success of our rewards pyramid, we are continuing to challenge the students to work hard and give maximum effort to secure the exciting opportunities above. Already we have over 250 students on Level 1 achieving 100 BfLs!!! Keep encouraging your child to demonstrate positive and courteous behaviour; complete homework and give that extra effort and I am sure they will be enjoying a trip to the beach in summer 2025!



In keeping with our commitment to provide pupils with outstanding careers guidance and tailored support when choosing their next steps after school, we will now be using **Unifrog**.

Unifrog is the universal destinations platform, designed to support learners in making the most informed decisions about their futures, and has a range of tools that are suitable for all year groups. Each pupil has their own account where they can explore all the career and next step options available to them and find information on everything from managing their workload to writing a winning CV:

A screenshot of the Unifrog platform interface, showing a table with three columns: 'Section of the platform', 'Examples of what students can do', and 'Suitable age range'. The table lists various features like Quizzes, Exploring pathways, Recording what you've done, Searching for opportunities, and Application materials / Making applications, along with their descriptions and age ranges.

Section of the platform	Examples of what students can do	Suitable age range
Quizzes	Finding their interests, personality type, preferred work environment, and skillset.	Years 7-11
Exploring pathways	Explore careers, career sectors, subjects, and sign up to free webinars, explore MOOGs and courses, and find wider reading materials.	Years 7-11
Recording what you've done	Record their in-class and extracurricular activities, record examples of their skills, and see the record of CEIAG events the school has added to their accounts.	Years 7-11
Searching for opportunities	Find scholarships, activities, and bursaries to support their HE journey. Find and compare degrees in the UK and overseas, live apprenticeships, and FE courses.	Years 10-11
Application materials / Making applications	Write their CV, cover letter, Personal Statement, and more. Track their applications and record their Post 16 intentions.	Year 11

Parents can also have your own **Unifrog** account. You'll be able to research careers, attend webinars delivered by employers and universities to learn more about their opportunities, and compare pathways so you can support your child in making an informed decision about their next steps.

You can sign up here: www.unifrog.org/code

The sign up code you need is: HLTCparents

For more information, go to www.unifrog.org or contact Miss Backhouse or your child's Head of Year

'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.

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 & key stakeholders 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.



Calendar Dates:

April

Monday 13th April - Inset Day - No school for pupils

Tuesday 14th April - Pupils return to school opens for pupils 8.30am as usual

30th April - Year 8 Parents Evening

May

4th May - May Bank Holiday - School closed

8th May - GCSEs start for Year 11

11th May - Year 10 Information Evening

22nd May - School finishes for half term

June

1st June - School open 8.30am as usual

26th June - Year 7 Parents Evening

July

Friday 17th July - School breaks up for Summer holidays

Curriculum & Safeguarding Update: Mrs Henvey



St. Mary's Catholic Centre
27th November 2018

Statue of Our Blessed Lord
and His Mother in prayer
Created by Raymond Kelly, St. Mary's Centre
27th November 2018

Curriculum Update

Year 9 Options Week was a great success, with assemblies, Unifrog sessions, pitches from our faculty leaders, advice from our current KS4 pupils and a parental talk in the Dance Studio. We are delighted to reintroduce Hospitality and Catering as a course and to again have two Art groups. Well done to Year 9 for approaching the whole options process with such maturity, to Mr Elia for his ongoing support, high standards and expectations, and to Mr Morton for helping make this year's process so personalised to the year group. We have now received all of your forms back and can start to plan your timetable for next year!

Safeguarding Update

Pupils are reminded of our 'no hands' policy which is in place to protect the safety of all.

Holy Trinity is a Gold 'Rights Respecting' and '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' 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. As a Rights Respecting Gold Award school, we continue to instil this daily in our work within school and the local community. 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 morale purpose in their decisions and actions- those who can be the voice and hand of good and the voice of the voiceless. We work tirelessly to ensure that the principles of Catholic social teaching are at the heart of our daily work and Mission.

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). Please check the safeguarding section of our website [here](#), for further information.

Safety within the community

Water Safety

As the weather improves, there are greater opportunities to access open water. Please find below a link to information about water safety from the Royal Life Saving Society.

<https://www.rlss.org.uk/pages/category/water-safety-information>

It is important that parents and carers familiarise themselves with the information shared here and that they make their children fully aware of the dangers of water.



Rail Safety

A reminder to all parents and carers that any form of trespassing on railways lines is illegal and clearly poses a significant risk to those who choose to do so. Network rail share useful safety tips for children and parents around general and specific rail safety and travel on their website- <https://www.networkrail.co.uk/communities/safety-in-the-community/safety-education/>.



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

We ask our parents to remind their children to make sensible and safe choices during as the days become longer. We are aware that sometimes there may be risks posed by other children and or adults linked to violence, grooming and exploitation. If you have any concerns about your child's safety when outside of school during the holidays, please contact local police (if a crime has been committed, 999 in an emergency and 101 to discuss none urgent incidents) Additional information around exploitation can be found at the link below.

<https://parents.actionforchildren.org.uk/feelings-behaviour/safety-wellbeing/child-exploitation/>.

Parents can also seek help from the *Early Help* support team:

[Getting help for my family \(Early Help\) | I need help with... | Birmingham Children's Trust](#)

Parents can also contact *Birmingham Children's Trust*,

[Information for families and carers | Birmingham Children's Trust](#)

As you will be aware, the carrying of any offensive weapons and or bladed articles is a criminal offence. Schools works closely with WM police and partner school officers to ensure that our school is a safe learning environment. *West Midland's Police* also provide valuable updates and information linked to youth violence and knife crime and this is the following link.

[LifeOrKnife | West Midlands Police](#)

As of February 2026, the law in England and Wales regarding a child found in school with a knife has become significantly stricter, introducing mandatory, immediate intervention plans to stop reoffending. It is a criminal offence to possess a knife, bladed article, or offensive weapon on school premises without good reason or lawful authority.



Developing and understanding risks of the online world.

We continue to remind parents and carers of the importance of monitoring the digital usage of their children, including the internet and social media usage. 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.

[e Safety - Holy Trinity Catholic School](#)

It is important that all understand that online behaviour should always remain civil. There is never any excuse for any behaviour, which might be verbally threatening, abusive or intimidating. All children have the right to be safe inside and outside of school. Key to this is to remind children and parents that no inappropriate or threatening images and or videos should be created and or shared online with others. Such matter and content crosses the threshold into criminal behaviour. If you are concerned that your child is sending or has received inappropriate messages, videos and or images do not hesitate to contact your child's Head Of year the first instance. We will always seek to educate, support and to signpost. CEOP (Child Exploitation Online) offer some useful resources and signposts for parents including information and advice on keeping children safe and how to report incidents. See below for this useful link.

<https://www.ceopeducation.co.uk/parents/>

Fake News and Social Media

In this climate it is often very challenging to navigate the digital world with significant amounts of fake news accessible to young people. It is always worth remembering to reinforce with your children the importance of not communicating with strangers and also reminding them that the world of digital media. Messaging and platforms remains largely unregulated. Parents should monitor carefully their child's usage and regularly check through sites which are accessed. Support for parents which highlights how you may discuss this issue can be found at the link below:

<https://www.ceopeducation.co.uk/parents/>

Promoting positive mental health and wellbeing



At Holy Trinity, 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 in the first instance.

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. Pause in Birmingham also offer a drop in clinic available to parents and children over the break. Click on the link for further information- <https://forwardthinkingbirmingham.nhs.uk/pause/>.

Additional support around positive mental health and wellbeing can be found on the following links:

<https://www.mind.org.uk/for-young-people/information-for-parents/>

<https://www.mind.org.uk/information-support/tips-for-everyday-living/parenting-and-mental-health/>

Early Help for Families

If anyone in your family needs more help from public services or community groups, they can contact voluntary sector local leads from the ten areas, which can then connect families to support across the city.

Early Help teams can offer support and signposting around finance issues, parenting, housing, Domestic Abuse. You can also contact school and ask to speak with one of the DSL team who can signpost or make a referral.

The link below for Family Lives has a range of online supports and signposts, which may also be of use.

[Parenting and Family Support | Family Lives](#)

Early Help Parent toolkit

[Parents and Carers - Birmingham Safeguarding Children Partnership](#)

Domestic Abuse

If you or a family member are suffering Domestic Abuse please contact *Women's Aid* <https://bswaid.org/>, Call 0808 800 0028- web chat is also available, Monday to Friday 10am-4pm by clicking onto the website.

Further information and support is also available from Birmingham council:

[Help an adult or child experiencing domestic abuse | Help for friends or family of domestic abuse victims | Birmingham City Council](#)

Support for males suffering from Domestic Abuse is at Respect, <https://mensadviceline.org.uk/>. Telephone, Freephone 08088018327

In the instance of any imminent and or significant harm, police should always be contacted as an emergency using the 999 number.

Understanding Exploitation- A public Safety message to protect young peoples and ensure that parents/ carers are alert.

Child exploitation is something you might hear a lot about on the news. It can be worrying for parents and carers to think about it. By understanding what child exploitation means, you can be more prepared to protect your child if you ever think they're in danger.

Exploitation is when someone takes advantage of a child for their own profit or gain. It can take different forms.

Child criminal exploitation- When a child is manipulated or pressured to take part in criminal activity, including selling drugs. This is sometimes called county lines. Please see the link below for further information:

<https://parents.actionforchildren.org.uk/feelings-behaviour/safety-wellbeing/what-is-county-lines-drug-trafficking/>

Child sexual exploitation- A type of sexual abuse where someone is coerced, manipulated or pressured into sexual activity online or offline. This might be in exchange for gifts, affection, money or social status.

Both types of exploitation can be hard for a child to recognise and they may not understand that they are being coerced. They may think they are working or in a relationship. Or they might enjoy the attention and the feeling of belonging. The website below will give further information about how you can talk with your child and educate them in the most sensitive topics:

<https://parents.actionforchildren.org.uk/feelings-behaviour/safety-wellbeing/child-exploitation/>

We provide this information for parents to be alert and signposted to expert information in order to support their children and to be alert to some of the risks which young people may face in society. Please contact your child's Head of Year in the first instance if you have any concerns.

Supporting our Pupils during Ramadan.

Over the past month, we are aware that many of our Muslim students have been fasting. We would reassure parents and carers that the PE curriculum is modified to ensure that intense physical activity is not being expected of our students during this important time and that reasonable adjustment has been made in order to ensure that students who are fasting do not lose out on their entitlement to the PE curriculum. As a school, the health and safety of all students is a priority at all times and especially for our Year 11 students who will be sitting their GCSE examinations over the coming months.

Info shared by Birmingham City Council:

"While bringing many benefits, strict fasting throughout Ramadan is likely to impact on pupils' overall well-being and their cognitive performance.

It's important to note that no child younger than 'the age of puberty' is obliged or expected to fast – there are, however, two views on this issue:

- 1. The 'biological maturity' view holds that children should begin the practice of fasting at the age of 15 (i.e. the age of puberty)*
- 2. Under the 'intellectual maturity' view, children should begin fasting between the ages of 16 to 19 (i.e. the age of intellectual capacity). However, younger children (i.e. those at primary or secondary schools) may practise short periods of fasting to prepare them for adulthood. School staff need to recognise that unless there are genuine safeguarding concerns, they should not interfere with how young Muslim pupils observe Ramadan. That said, Islamic law does offer children the opportunity to*

delay or exempt themselves from fasting and late-night prayers if they believe it may adversely impact their performance at school, especially if they are facing the prospect of taking exams.”

Medical interventions/ emergencies.

In a medical emergency, should emergency medication or fluids need to be administered to any student, we will follow all guidance in line with duty of care to ensure that the safety of all students' remains a priority at all times. We will endeavour to seek consent in all instances and in the event that this is unobtainable will always act in the best interests of the health of the child. School will always intervene to provide care for a pupil when there's a risk to their health, welfare or safety. If you have any concerns with regards to any of the above, please do not hesitate to contact your son/ daughters Head of Year who can be reached via reception. Further information can be found on the school website. We are seeing an increase in students calling home to be collected due to illness without first going to Medical. Please remind your child that if they feel unwell, they must report to the School Nurse, who will assess them and contact you if they need to go home. Parents should only come to school if contacted by the Nurse. Otherwise, your child may not have been seen or may not be deemed unwell enough to leave, which could result in a wasted journey. Thank you for your support.

Food bank and support with food parcels.

School is fortunate to have sourced regular donations of food and toiletries during term time delivered via an external company. School is also able to offer signposting and referrals into to Early Help and Support as part of Birmingham Children's Trust. If you require support during the holidays, families can self-refer. Further information about a range of support is available at the following link,

[Food Justice Network Map, Birmingham. Hosted by The Active Wellbeing Society – Google My Maps](#)

Tesco 'Fruit for schools'

School has received a grant to allow fresh fruit for to pupils free of charge throughout the term. Pupils are able to access a range of fruit free of charge to be eaten on site throughout the day. We would like to thank Tesco for this award. As part of our campaign to 'eat five a day' and to encourage, young people to maintain a healthy diet this fresh fruit will allow our pupils to enjoy these benefits in and around school. We hope that our pupils are benefitting from and enjoyable this fruit and that it impacts on their health, wellbeing and progress in school.



Keep in Touch



For further school information, please visit the school website:

<https://www.holytrc.bham.sch.uk/>

For updates on our school life, please follow us on X: [Holy Trinity Catholic School \(@HolyTrinityCol\)](https://twitter.com/HolyTrinityCol) / X

Please complete a short survey on the new format of our school newsletter, all answers will be anonymous. All feedback gratefully received: <https://forms.office.com/e/J7rkyJftbs>