



Trinity Catholic
High School

School  
Newsletter

Headmaster's Message

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Dear Parents & Students,

I can honestly say I have never known an academic year like this one. Talk about a rollercoaster experience! We have had lockdown, the closing of school, the opening of school, staggered times and a staggered timetable. The "Good Ship Trinity" has weathered all the storms. We know that out there, perhaps beyond the horizon, Covid-19, or one of its attendants, lurks and waits. However, we have battled through, thank God. I am very pleased at the way the school community has returned, as much as possible to normal life. The Eucharist, through who all good things come, is celebrated every morning and I am firmly convinced that this provides vital health, strength and support.

Our KS3 programme has developed from strength to strength. We have assessed its impact on students and, although very satisfying, we are committed to even further enhancement. KS4 and KS5, of course, have been dominated by the public exam system. In brief, we have had to run this exam system by ourselves. We have been exhorted to develop an assessment programme that is robust and transparent in every aspect. I truly believe we have achieved it. My heartfelt thanks to all who made this possible. Rest assured, both the staff and myself believe our vocation to serve your children remains unstinted. We do feel a deep compassion for what the students have been through and we have used our wisdom to achieve the very best for them.

The "Good Ship Trinity" is now turning to starboard and heading for port. I do thank everyone for everything. I do wish you and all whom you love a most enjoyable summer vacation. I thank you for reading this.

My best regards,

Dr. P.C. Doherty OBE
Headmaster

Catholic Ethos

The religious life and ethos of our school community remain at the centre of all aspects of school life and provide the foundation of our mission and vision as an outstanding Catholic school within the Diocese of Brentwood. Covid-19 has presented obstacles to the routine of our daily religious life, however this has been an opportunity to focus on that which is essential.

Religious Life & Collective Worship

Year 7 represents the school at Holy Mass each day

We are blessed to be able to celebrate Holy Mass each morning before school at 8:20am. The community of Friars at St Thomas of Canterbury parish are kind enough to join us each morning in order that we are able to start our day celebrating the Eucharist. Year 7 have been faithful each morning representing the school, with many staff also in attendance, and we look forward to opening this Mass up to the whole school once more in the new term.

The celebration of the Eucharist as the 'Source and Summit of our lives as Christians', remains of paramount importance. We continue to develop our Eucharistic tradition through regular holy hours each Friday where we pray for the intentions of the school community.



Assemblies

Assemblies have continued each week as part of our collective worship which includes scripture, prayer, worship, reflection and student participation. The theme of each assembly is linked to relevant Feast Days within the Catholic Liturgical Calendar with reference to a different fundamental British Value each week.



Lent and Easter 2021

Due to the pandemic, our regular sacramental programme was delivered slightly differently this year, with each class taking part in a penitential service, and the Sacrament of Reconciliation and Penance available to students and staff on request.



The Marian Month of May - Crowning of Our Lady

Each class once again prayed the Rosary together during the month of May in front of one of our Marian shrines. In the traditional Marian month of May, we held a Marian Procession with Year 7, with the crowning of the statue of Our Lady on the Feast of Mary, Mother of the Church, on 24 May 2021. This was a very prayerful and solemn occasion where the school was once again entrusted to the protection of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, and a tradition we hope to continue each year.

The praying of the Angelus before noon and 3 o'clock Mercy prayers remain part of our tradition.

Sacrament of Confirmation



Congratulations to many of our Year 10 students who received the Sacrament of Confirmation in recent weeks and months. Mr. Connolly was able to attend many of these Confirmation Masses in our parishes and we continue to hold in prayer those young people who have been confirmed in the faith. We are incredibly proud of you all.

Solemnity of the Ascension and St Peter and St Paul

On 26 May 2021, we celebrated the Solemnity of the Ascension, normally a Holy Day of Obligation, where Year 8 represented the entire school for their year group Mass celebrated by Fr Jean-Claude Selvini from Hainault. Students across the rest of the school were able to follow the Mass in their classrooms via live streaming.



On 29 June 2021, we celebrated the Solemnity of St Peter and St Paul, also normally a Holy Day of Obligation, where Year 10 represented the entire school for their year group Mass, celebrated by Canon John Harvey from Loughton.

Leavers' Masses

We have also celebrated Leavers' Masses for our Year 11 and 13 students as we bid them a prayerful farewell and thanked God for all they have brought to our community, with each of our students being gifted with a blessed Miraculous Medal and prayer card.



Looking Ahead

We are excited for the year ahead and plans are already underway for our pilgrimage and retreat programme in 2021/22, where each student will have the opportunity to go on retreat with our Diocesan Youth Service, in addition to our school pilgrimage in the summer term. As always, we are incredibly grateful to our clergy for their support throughout the year, and to the parents and members of our parishes, for continuing to support us in prayer.



Study Skills Seminars



During the summer term, students in Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 took part in an Elevate Study Skills Seminar on Memory and Mnemonics in preparation for their mock examinations and end of year assessments. For Year 10, guest speakers delivered the sessions whereas the sessions were hosted virtually for KS3 students.

The sessions covered techniques on how to overcome reliance upon rote learning, the role of attention in memory, managing distractions and semantic learning techniques for higher level memorisation. The workshops were highly beneficial for all of our students.

Please see below a selection of student feedback on these sessions.

99% of Year 10 students said they would recommend the programme to other students and 97% said they believe the time was well spent.

- “From the memory mnemonic presentation, I learnt to memorise notes by using the substitute word method, peg words and ‘the mental journey’.” *(Year 7 student)*
- “From the Memory Mnemonic presentation I learnt how to stay focused whilst completing homestudy and ways to remember key information for exams.” *(Year 7 student)*
- “I learnt about how your environment affects your ability to retain information, and techniques I can use to memorise information for upcoming exams.” *(Year 8 student)*
- “I learnt how the brain stores things in both short term and long term memory and ways to improve your memory.” *(Year 9 student)*
- “I learnt how to manage my time better so I do not become stressed with lots of work. Also, I learnt that to do short bursts of revision is more effective than to study for hours without taking a break.” *(Year 9 student)*
- “During this seminar I learnt about the top three points for fully remembering key facts. Attention, storage and retrieval. I learnt that creating stories using what you are trying to revise and making them fun and strange can help you to remember. Since then I have been using this technique to revise. I have recently created one story which involves a lawyer (‘avocat’ in French) who is in a murder case, defending an innocent Avocado. I am sure I will not forget that.” *(Year 10 student)*
- “The Elevate seminar was extremely interactive and engaging, making it fun and useful.” *(Year 10 student)*
- “I found the seminar very useful as I am able to remember more things and can now get prepared more easily for any upcoming tests.” *(Year 10 student)*
- “I learnt that even the simplest of change to my revision means I can memorise material more efficiently and do it even when walking to and from school.” *(Year 10 student)*



Reading at Trinity



50 Books a Year Challenge Almost 30 KS3 students have done particularly well in this year's '50 Books a Year Challenge'. 17 students have read 25 or more books and 12 students have exceeded 50 books! These students will be rewarded with certificates and Amazon vouchers at the end of term.

If the mountain will not come to Mohammed...

Despite the restrictions we have faced this year, ensuring our students have access to our library books is priority. Our library has been restocked over the past year and we have a fantastic range of award-winning books exploring a variety of genres and societal issues. Although library visits have not been possible at times this year, our librarian has brought pop-up libraries to students; these have proven very popular. Our librarian also created a video demonstrating how students could use our 'click and collect' service to reserve books from our library catalogue. This was shared during English lessons. Recommended read lists for KS3 have also been shared with students; these books are all in stock in our school library.



Competitions We have read some fantastic competition entries this term. 14 students submitted entries to the Redbridge Short Story and Poetry Competition. Congratulations to those who were shortlisted: Violet (7A), Julianna (9A), John (9E) and Yasmin (9B).

Improving Reading



Congratulations to the students who have taken part in Lexia Power Up reading intervention this year. Some amazing progress has been made, with reading ages improving by as much as 4 years and 10 months! A parent of a Year 7 student recently commented that 'the Lexia programme has transformed my daughter into a different person who now loves to read'.

Developing Vocabulary

Year 7, 8 and 9 students have been learning how to use the Frayer Model in English this term. This graphic organiser is an excellent way to explore the meanings of key words and embed them in long-term memory.

Definition	Characteristics
A patriarchy is a society where men have more power, authority and respect than women.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Men are paid more Men have more rights Men are considered superior Men have more privileges.
Examples	Non-examples
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Elizabethan society: fathers chose who their daughters wed. Saudi Arabia where every woman must have a male guardian who makes important decisions for her. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Matriarchy Reinism Equality

National Tutoring Programme

Since January 2021, Trinity has participated in the National Tutoring Programme to provide additional small group tuition to targeted KS4 English, Maths and History students. Our carefully selected tutoring partner, Connex Education, has



connex education a wealth of experience and their skilled teachers have liaised with our own Heads of Departments to provide synergy with our own lessons and support the most important areas of the GCSE courses.

Over 50 Year 11 students, the majority of whom had never before had the opportunity for private tuition, attended weekly online sessions with 100% of them citing the experience as "enjoyable and beneficial" and saying they would recommend the opportunity to others. Students reported that they gained confidence and made progress in the subjects, which allowed them to understand concepts they had previously found challenging and made it easier for them to complete classwork and homework.

"My tutor was able to provide me with tips and tricks and resources that helped me with my exams." Year 11 student

"Being in a relaxed environment without distraction really helped my child concentrate and focus on some aspects that she was having difficulty with." Year 11 Parent

Our own review of students' progress showed a notable increase in their attainment since their last assessments and staff have observed an improvement in students' motivation and engagement. Parents were also very enthusiastic about the success of the tutoring programme, highlighting the beneficial impact of the small group environment and the pace and clarity of the sessions.

In June, a targeted group of Year 10 students joined the tutoring programme and we intend to roll this out more widely in September.

Sixth Form at Trinity

Access to Higher Education

Adding breadth and depth to UCAS applications and personal statements

June 2021

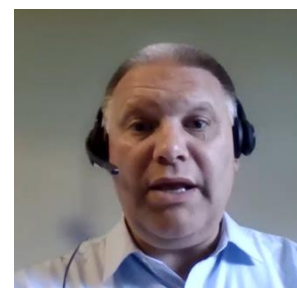


Virtual Higher Education Evening

On Wednesday 30 June our Virtual Higher Education Evening was held. The intention of the evening was to help parents/guardians/carers to aid their children with the higher education application process. During the evening, there were a number of speakers with expertise in all aspects of the application process. They presented at various points throughout the evening. The presentations have been recorded if parents missed any sessions. A letter with links to the presentations and answers to FAQ has been sent to parents and is available on request.

Our Keynote Speaker: Mr. Mike Nicolson

Mr. Nicholson is Director of Student Recruitment and Admissions at the University of Bath and a member of the Governing Body of UCAS. He is the UK Chair of the Higher Education Liaison Officers' Association (HELOA), a member of the UCAS Council, and serves on the OCR Qualifications Committee. He was previously Director of Undergraduate Admissions at the University of Oxford and will be taking up a similar role at the University of Cambridge from September 2021. He is a highly regarded and very experienced university admissions tutor. Mr. Nicholson has worked closely with Trinity for 29 years. He gave an overview of the university application process and spoke specifically about how to make the best UCAS application you can.



Miss Keegan, Director of Sixth Form at Trinity, spoke about a range of matters relating to higher education applications as well as student finance. Mr. McGrory, Head of Year 13 at Trinity, spoke about the higher education application process at Trinity, looking at key support, deadlines and Personal Statements. He also led a session on how these can be augmented to impress university admissions tutors who make decisions about the offer of places. He finally presented on the use of the platform Unifrog which has proved to be a real asset to our UCAS process.



Aiming Higher

Students in Year 12 are signposted to numerous opportunities that they can opt into to raise aspirations and to confirm their interest in higher education and in particular courses of study. Two students in Year 12, Elan and Pia, each describe the opportunities that they have engaged with, during this academic year, in preparation for higher education. Elan has engaged with the following opportunities: Step into Oxmed, KCL Medicine and Dentistry lectures and an Oxford University virtual open day.



Step into Oxmed: A fun and very informative virtual opportunity to learn more about the different specialties and areas in Medicine ranging from Genetics to Personal Medicine. All speakers are experts in their fields and are very keen and happy to answer any questions. A wonderful way to dedicate yourself to Medicine and gain wider knowledge, also a great super curricular activity to mention in personal statement.

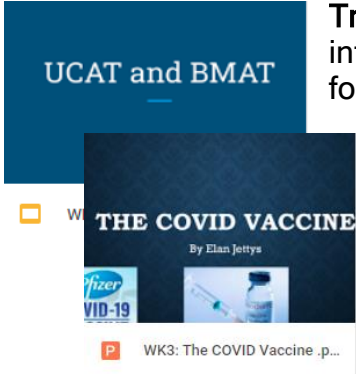
Oxford University virtual open day: A safe and interactive way to explore Oxford University with both live and pre-recorded events, which you can watch at your own leisure. Very informative and a fine way to discover colleges and subjects by hearing student and teacher experience.

KCL Medicine and Dentistry lectures: A very interactive and informative virtual lecture series covering medical students' experience, doctors' experience in a wide variety of specialties and great application tips. It is a great way to make yourself aware of different routes to medicine, what is required and the pathways into different specialties after graduation. Very good opportunity to reflect on what you learnt in lectures.



Pia has a particular focus on Medicine and writes about her role in setting up and leading Trinity's Medical Society in addition to her experience of attending a university taster day.

Trinity Medical Society - The aim is to assist students like myself who are interested in pursuing a career in Medicine. In this society, we meet every fortnight to discuss a variety of topics ranging from how each course structure differs in each university, to more controversial topics such as euthanasia. So far, we have had debates on: medical ethical dilemmas, euthanasia and current affairs; each student in the society has the opportunity to lead a presentation on a topic of their choice, this not only helps them develop transferrable skills that they can apply in the future, but also emphasises their passion for the course. All PowerPoints and resources used are later uploaded onto a shared google drive for those who were unable to attend. In the future, we aim to progress further and do more inclusive events i.e. setting up fundraisers, which will hopefully get more students involved. If you are interested in joining, please email Miss Keegan. We hope to see you there!



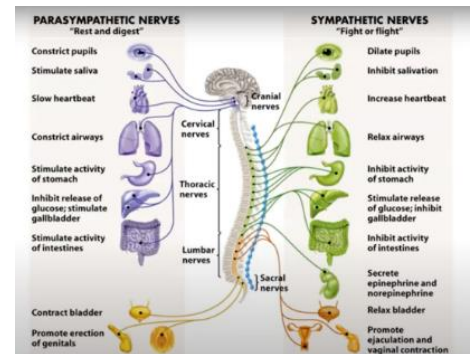
BMAT
BIOMEDICAL ADMISSIONS TEST



WK:6 Medical Ethics Debat..



University College London Medical Science Taster Lecture - Through attending UCL's medical science taster lectures on "Cardiovascular and Respiratory Function in Health and Disease", I learnt about the role of the autonomic nervous system in great depth. Before attending the lecture, I felt quite apprehensive as I was certain that I would be confused throughout. However, as soon as the lecturer arrived, he put me at ease and reminded me that everyone attending was in the same position. He taught the processes in a coherent manner giving me a clear understanding of the topic he was teaching; which made me feel much more confident. This experience has made me realise that I enjoy the challenge of attending external lectures and I was able to easily acquire the new information and concepts that were being taught. This has added depth to my understanding which will support my university applications and in meeting my aspirations.



Rising to Challenge

Linklaters Challenge Winner

We are extremely proud of Lorenzo, Year 12, whose amazing presentation secured him a place as a grand final finalist in the Linklaters competition. As such, he won a £1,000 prize money for our school.

The competition is designed to give Year 12 state-school students currently completing A-Levels the edge they need to become the commercial lawyers of the future, presenting and arguing their unique view on a business situation.

When interviewed, Lorenzo said of the Challenge: "It was a very exciting experience, in which I was able to represent the school. I

was motivated by the chance to interact with people in the law industry and to explore a possible career path for the future. I hope the earnings will be able to help enhance the school's business links and give a chance for students to get an insight into the working world through figures of successful businesses."

The prize money has indeed been put to good use by our "Careers Department" and it will be invaluable to develop further external links with businesses, which will benefit the whole school community, fueling our students' ambitions and success.

Ford I Accelerator Course in conjunction with EDI

Creating opportunities for diverse talent

Learn. Grow. Excel.

Trinity Sixth Form has worked in partnership with EDI for a number of years. EDI enables employers to communicate and engage with students from diverse backgrounds with a focus on students from African, Caribbean and Asian heritage including those from lower socio-economic groups and first generation into Higher Education. EDI provides a bridge between companies and diverse talent. During April 2021, Ford Plc partnered with EDI to create the Ford I Accelerator. Year 12 and Year 13 students had the opportunity to apply to participate in the programme for 5 days, learn about Ford, work on a live business challenge and gain valuable skills transferable to the workplace.

Rebecca, Year 12, summarises the experience below:



The Ford accelerator course was a really fun experience, it went better than I expected! There were lots of team projects and we also learnt a lot about product desirability and customer satisfaction. We were given a brief on how to make transport more accessible for those who are impaired. We thought of helping those who have hearing impairments and thought of how we could design an automotive vehicle. As well as the team projects, we were able to

hear from the top workers at Ford who shared their career journeys, gave us lots of information on interview and applying for apprenticeships. We learnt a lot of interviewing skills such as STARL, how to manage stress and that stress is actually a good thing. We also learnt a lot about how to manage time and how to work well as a team. Each day was different and each day I thankfully learnt something new and insightful. It was nice to see that everyone's career journey was very different but they all ended up happy and content with the jobs and careers they were doing and emphasised how important it is to work hard and most importantly do what makes you happy. I am grateful to have taken part in this experience and I am happy that I applied and learnt a lot of valuable skills that will help me not only in school but also in my future careers. I highly recommend it for anyone who is interested in a degree apprenticeship or just wants to develop and pick up new skills.

Bridging Curriculum and Transition

11-12 Curriculum

Current Year 11 students have access to the 11-12 transition curriculum on Office 365. This is an important process, which is designed to ensure that Year 11 students are prepared for the rigour of A-Level learning as well as developing skills to enhance their independence. Regardless of students' next steps, we advise the completion of this programme to ensure the best possible start for their learning journey.

This bridging curriculum contains tasks designed to help students understand the various demands of an A-Level curriculum, think about their futures beyond their time at Sixth Form and look at the developing of skills essential to succeeding in their studies, such as independence and resilience. Students can complete these daily tasks to facilitate the smoothest of transitions from KS4 to KS5. Students have been provided with a 'Don't Break the Chain' study mat. This contains a task a day and will include links to the activities that require completion for that day. Good luck to all of our Year 11 students and we look forward to welcoming you back in September.

12-13 Transition

The Year 12 students going into Year 13 will be given developmental tasks over the summer to ensure a smooth transition. The key is to ensure that students are fully equipped for their studies next academic year and that they continue to develop their independence over the course of the 6-week summer break.

This is an important process and the Sixth Form team and departments will be in touch to outline the details of these transition materials in due course. We wish students a relaxing and enjoyable break, but it is important to ensure that learning is spaced and that information is retained and developed going into the all-important final year of studies.

Welcome and Farewell

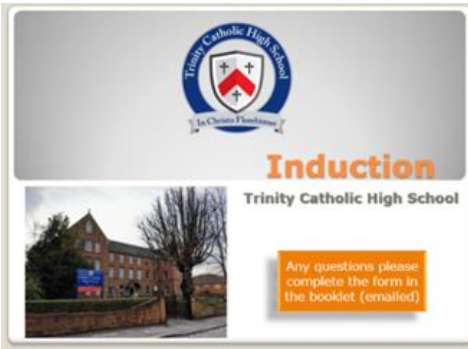
Year 12 Induction Week for Prospective Students

During the week 21-25 June all Year 11 students from Trinity, as well as external candidates, were invited to attend a whole week of live online induction sessions.

The main focus was to give an insight into life in the Sixth Form and help ensure students are fully prepared when they embark on this new chapter of their student life in September.

The Induction Week was launched with an address from the Headmaster followed by the opportunity to virtually meet key members of the Sixth Form team for an introduction to life in the Sixth

Form. This was followed by talks from various members of staff to find out about a range of extra-curricular activities available ranging from the “Luminaries” to the Hollywood trip and the Duke of Edinburgh award. The remainder of the week, students had the opportunity to virtually partake in live online lessons in all subjects on offer.



Sample feedback:

- “The teachers were enthusiastic and the taster sessions were fun and engaging.”
- “The friendliness of teachers and recognising the ability and knowledge that all students possess.”
- “I enjoyed getting to know what we would be learning specifically in each subject, as well as how interactive each lesson was.”
- “Learning about life at Trinity.”

Year 13 Leavers' Mass and BBQ

Our Year 13 virtual Leavers' Mass was held on Friday 11 June. Canon John Harvey celebrated Mass which was attended by Dr. Doherty, senior staff, the Sixth Form team and a selection of our Year 13 students. It was a very moving service and prayers were said for our Year 13 and the entire school community.

Unfortunately, our Year 13 students were unable to have a Prom this year for obvious reasons. With this in mind, the school wanted to provide an opportunity for the students to say goodbye and be together one last time. Dr. Doherty hosted our very first Leavers' BBQ in the orchard area on upper site. We were absolutely delighted to see so many of our students in attendance. The food was delicious and very little was left at the end. It was a really splendid occasion and it was absolutely lovely to see the students socialising together one last time. The event was a tremendous success and thankfully, the weather was kind to us!



Year 13 Leavers

Mass
of
Thanksgiving & Farewell

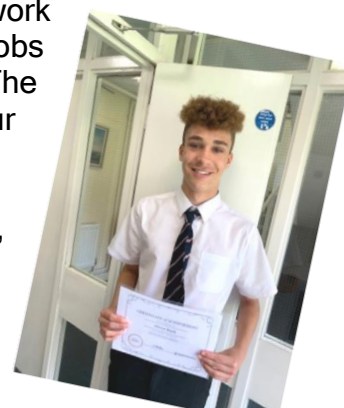


Careers Updates

Work Experience and Employability

The careers focus for this term has been work experience. Under normal circumstances students in Years 10 and 12 would have had the opportunity to spend time out of school within the workplace. As that could not happen this year, or last year for Year 11, due to the pandemic, our focus has been on virtual work experiences and bringing employers into the classroom.

During the Easter break a number of our Year 10, 11 and 12 students took part in virtual work experiences through Springpod and Speakers for Schools. Both platforms offer state school students the opportunity to take part in work experiences with industry-leading organisations such as Tesco, Spotify, Santander, RAF, NHS and L'Oreal. At the end of the experience students were awarded with a certificate which they can use as evidence of work experience when applying for jobs or further education courses. The most popular courses with our students were law, finance and film & TV.



In addition to the work experiences available during the school holidays, we also offered students the opportunity to complete assessed and certified work experiences through a newly created careers platform, VWES. The platform was created in response to the need for students to access work experience during the pandemic and allowed students to complete virtual work experiences in their own time. Oliver, Lorenzo and Joseph from Year 10 completed VWES virtual work experiences in: working as a detective, astrophysics and working on film sets.



Esther in Year 12 completed a number of VWES work experiences including cosmetic surgery, an area she is interested in going into in the future. This is what Esther had to say about the course.

I gained insight into what it would be like to work as a cosmetic surgeon, the environment I would be working in, the type of people I would meet and the reasons why people would want cosmetic surgery. I also found out that being a surgeon is more time consuming than I thought!

Haven House Enterprise Project

Next school year, from September- December 2021, the school will be taking part in an enterprise project for local schools. 10 local schools compete to raise money for Haven House Children's Hospice in Woodford.

Each team, which is made up of four Year 9 students and four Year 12 students, is tasked with creating an events start-up business and turning £50 seed capital into £1,500 over the course of the project. The project is sponsored by Galliard Homes which will provide mentors to support the teams and help them to develop project plans.

We are in the process of confirming the teams, more details on how you can help will follow early next school year!



Year 10 Careers Events

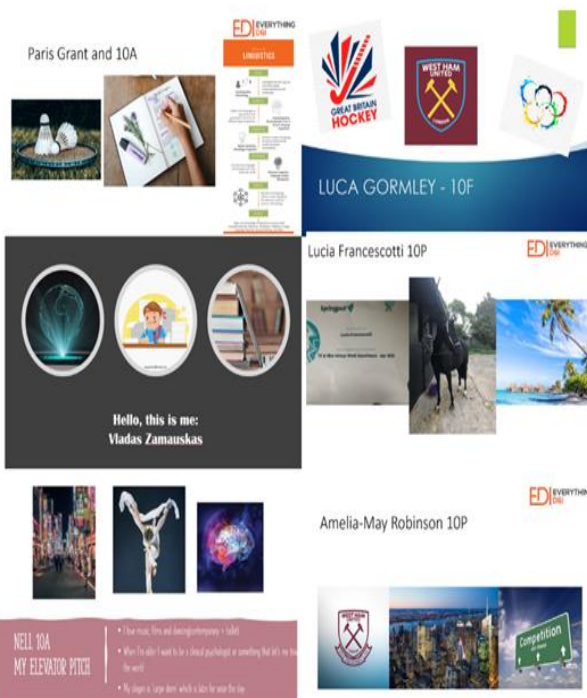
Year 10 have had access to a series of careers sessions during the summer term. The sessions included: an introduction to careers and work experience with Steph Easton, Trinity's Enterprise Advisor and VP of People at CHIP, a session on digital careers resources and a drop-down careers afternoon that focused on employability. The employability afternoon was sponsored and run by Frances Trought of Everything Diversity & Inclusion (EDI) and included careers, further education talks and an interactive session designed to help students build their communication skills.



During the afternoon students were given an introduction to employability by Frances and also heard from Carol Parillon, Chief Data Architect at Shell, about what employers are looking for. They also had the opportunity to listen to a panel of graduates, degree apprentices and undergraduates, including Jorrell Trought, a Trinity alumni student, who talked about the further education choices they had made and why.

The second part of the afternoon was an interactive session. Students were asked to prepare an elevator pitch – a 30-second summary of who they are, their aspirations and to come up with a personal slogan. To accompany their pitch, they were asked to provide a PowerPoint slide of 3 images that represented them - the results were fantastic!

Students were then given the opportunity to present their pitch to a professional, sourced by EDI. We were lucky enough to have professionals from Santander, Charles Stanley, Converse, Network Rail, Amazon, Microsoft and EY. A huge thank you to EDI for running the truly inspirational event for us!



Trinity's Enterprise Advisor



I would like to take this opportunity to introduce you to Steph Easton. Steph is working with Trinity as Enterprise Advisor. She is passionate about helping bridge the gap between schools and employers and is working closely with us on our careers programme across all year groups. She has worked in HR roles for over 15 years for a number of big brands like Estee Lauder, MAC Cosmetics, Harvey Nichols and London Marathon Events. She now works as VP of People for an app called CHIP and is a careers coach.

Legal Essay Writing Competition

I have emailed students in Years 10-13 about a legal essay writing competition that the University of Law are running over the summer holidays. This is an excellent opportunity for any students interested in studying law or related subjects. For more information please visit the website below.

<https://www.realworldquestions.com/>