

# THE TRINFORMER

Learning in Lockdown 3.0

NEXT WEEK IS WEEK...

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Edition No. 25: Friday 19th March 2021

## Heads-Up! A message from Mr. White Assistant Principal

Hello everyone,

Well, we are back, and it seems like we have never been away. Speaking to the staff this week we have been so pleased with the focused and mature way you have returned to school. Do remember that if you are feeling sensitive and need a helping hand it is always there for you whether it be the Speakeasy email, support from teachers, our brilliant Chaplain Rev. Ali or the wonderful staff in the learning support centre. We have are all here to support you and help you get the very best from your time at school.

Before long we will be breaking up for Easter and hopefully a holiday where we can have a little more freedom! I am looking forward to getting out on my bike and riding different roads to the ones I follow every morning and afternoon on my commute to school. We must, however remember that we are not out of the woods yet and the importance of staying safe and keeping others safe is just as

important as it has been over the past year.

Caring for others and putting their needs before our own should be at the forefront of our minds as Easter approaches, the sacrifice that Jesus made on the cross, was an act of love to all humanity that must never be forgotten. Our smaller acts of kindness and care may seem insignificant when set against the man we call our Saviour but by doing them we are showing that we remember what he did for us and we are living the way he taught.

Let us all take the time over the rest of the term to think about how we can show we care; for each other, for our families at home and our wider family at school. A simple smile if often enough to make someone feel special- even from behind a mask you can see a smile shining brightly.

Hope, Compassion, Forgiveness

**“There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Jesus Christ.”**

**Galatians 3.28**

Whilst the words above tell a simple truth they are also explosive in the power that this simple truth conveys. Throughout history, human beings have banded together in groups and defined themselves by that group. Safety, health, happiness comes from a sense of belonging and we all know that it takes many years before a human can live independently. Nobody pops out of the womb able to walk, talk, eat or even dress themselves – not even Jesus! It takes time to learn and understand, to feel confident and if you don't feel that you are an essential part of a family or community or group, then you are always going to feel anxious and distressed. How much, will of course depend on your 'personality', but the simple truth for existence is that we are all 'one', all equally loved unconditionally by God. Equality of course, simply means sharing...and some people are not very good at it! For some people can only cope with this idea as long as they themselves are acknowledged as superior beings. However, this superiority usually depends on what could be described as 'accidents of birth'. Skin colour, place, country, religion, gender, sexuality... being made in God's image cannot be reduced in its magnificence, by being limited in any way! Thus, St Paul who was writing a letter to the Galatian people was gently chiding them because then, as now, some of the 'pack' were thinking that they were a cut above everybody else and therefore being a right pain. Being 'special' in this new way of being did not depend on your nationality, your status or your gender, which the Galatians were relying on to make themselves feel superior.

This may sound straight forward to us, but given the events of the past weeks we all know that a shock, which causes us to rethink 'how then do we live with God working through us and with us' requires much soul searching. Thus, in many ways, we are no different from our friends from long ago, the Galatians. The terrible murder of Sarah Everard, and the circumstances surrounding it has caused great distress amongst our communities, including here at Trinity School. Whilst natural, understandable reactions to shock, can cause us to say and do things which generate 'more heat than light'. Meaning that in the heat of the moment, out of fear, we may scream and shout, or look for someone or something to blame, or hurt our closest friends because we feel suddenly powerless and transfer those horrible feelings onto our nearest and dearest, because they are too much for us to handle personally at the moment. This vicious circle can go on unchecked until there is no way back, unless we allow those who love and care for us to guide us when the going gets frustratingly tangled and we trip over what we fear are monsters in the dark.

Imagine how scared and hopeless the first disciples of Jesus must have felt immediately after Jesus's death on the cross. Even though Jesus had been preparing them for this throughout His ministry, they could not cope with the shock. Even though they had seen Him overturn the money lenders tables in the Temple at Jerusalem, furious at the traducing of its sacred function of prayer to the grubby realms of commerce! Even though when they argued about who was the greatest amongst them, and Jesus had told them that they had to accept the 'Kingdom' like a little child which subverted the disciple's arrogance. Even when Jesus told them directly that He would suffer and die, having been betrayed by friends...on and on they knew what was coming, but until it happened and they had time to process it, they could not make sense of it. A useful concept for us all to remember is that we have two ears and one mouth and that we should use them in accordance with this. That is to say that we should listen more than we talk to give our brains time to catch up. This is hard for many of us! Remember that Peter was the first to tell Jesus that Jesus was The Messiah but in the next breath was urging Jesus not to go to Jerusalem to die, causing Jesus to liken Peter to Satan! As Niemoller famously said in the Second World War:

**“First they came for the Communists, but I did not speak out because I was not a Communist. Then they came for the Socialists, but I did not speak out because I was not a Socialist. Then they came for the Trade Unionists, and I did not speak out because I was not a trade unionist. Then they came for the Jews, but I did not speak out because I was not a Jew. Then they came for me, and there was no one left to speak for me”.**

It is right therefore, that we do speak our truth to power and pray with hope, one of our values that the narrative will not ignore us; but we must trust that those with our best interests at heart will guide us to being the best that we can be. This is not just our Christian duty, but also our joy. Remember that Mother Julian of Norwich said:

**“All shall be well, and all manner of things shall be well.”  
Rev Ali Healy**



## Have you got “Street Smarts”?

### 10 ways to keep yourself safe when out and about!

1. Be aware of your surroundings. Don't walk along with your headphones on, hood up, looking down at your phone or rummaging in your bag. Use your ears and eyes.
2. Don't be an easy target. Keep your valuables out of sight and secure.
3. Stay in the safe zones. Sit near the driver on the bus, don't cut through dark or isolated alleys, keep to the well-lit roads and walk against the traffic.
4. Safety in numbers. Travel with others whenever possible.
5. Be prepared. Have your keys ready in your pocket before you reach your door.

6. Give people room. Don't invade others' personal space.
7. Avoid confrontation. Walk away and get on with your day.
8. Tell someone. Make sure people know where you are going.
9. Make a scene. If someone threatens you....be loud, shout for attention.
10. Trust your instincts. If a situation makes you feel uneasy- leave!

These are survival skills for life. Make them a habit now!

*“Gwnewch y pethau bychain mewn bywyd” is still a common saying in Wales. It means “Do the little things”. Small steps and little acts build up to a big positive effect!*

# THE LIBRARY

The Library has been busy handing out World Book Day Books to year 7 pupils over the last two weeks and everyone should have received a WBD Voucher. Some pupils have already shared their new books. Happy Reading!

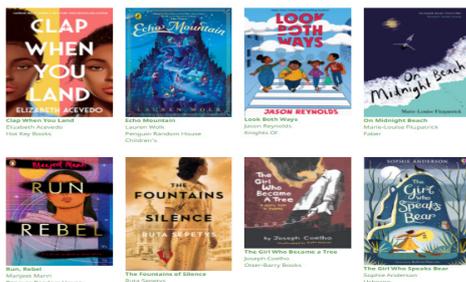
We have also been busy reserving books for pupils over the past two weeks. If you would like to reserve a book ready for the Easter holidays, here's how! <https://sway.office.com/2aqdpmbMWQjuFVFH?ref=Link>

In September we started using Accelerated Reader with Year 7 pupils. During the last lockdown, pupils were asked to do some quizzing, and I am pleased to tell you that 7A1 is the top class at the moment, with the most pupils taking and passing quizzes. Well done!! Keep up the reading! Who will be our First Word Millionaire, I wonder. Will it be you?

Talking of quizzes... Did you enter the Look who's Reading Quiz? We hope you enjoyed it! It was a big success, but a little bit tricky too. How well did you do? There were 148 entries and only 6 correct entries. The lucky winner, drawn from the correct entries is... (Drum Roll...)

## Tavish Bassi, Congratulations!

We have been eagerly awaiting news of the Carnegie Book Award short list, announced on the 18th March. I am pleased to say that we will have copies of these books available to borrow after the Easter Holidays. But if you are desperate to borrow one to read for the Holidays, speak to Mrs French and we will see what we can do! We have some of the Longlisted books available to borrow now.



## READING WELL

Reading Well is a collection of books designed to Reading help you to understand and manage your health and wellbeing using self-help reading.

The titles provide useful information to help you understand your condition as well as step-by-step strategies and techniques to make positive changes. All have been tried and tested and found to be useful by health professionals.

There are five book lists available from Bexley Libraries and the Young People collection is available from the school library to borrow too.

- [Reading Well for mental health](#)
- [Reading Well for young people](#)
- [Reading Well for children](#)
- [Reading Well for long-term conditions](#)
- [Reading Well for dementia](#)

Find out more on the [Reading Well website](#).

### Now for some Fun!

#### Animals in book titles quiz

[What is the title of the first book of the Alex Cross series written by James Patterson?](#)

[Which C. S. Lewis novel was adapted for the big screen and released in 2005?](#)

[Which voracious character's diet includes a pickle, apples, ice-cream and Swiss cheese?](#)

[What is the name of the third book in the series featuring heroine Katniss Everdeen?](#)

And finally...

Can you identify the classic title below?

WAONLDEIRLCANED

# Over to... Religious Education and Art

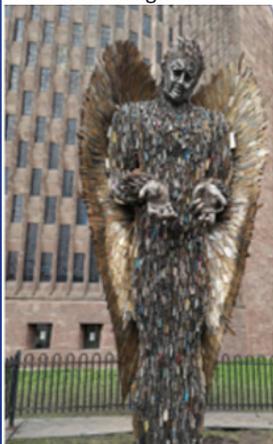
## Religious Education and Art and how two subjects work together

*'All religions, arts and sciences are branches of the same tree. All these aspirations are directed toward ennobling man's life, lifting it from the sphere of mere physical existence and leading the individual towards freedom.'* Albert Einstein

The core values of both RE and Art mirror each other in many ways. Both subjects foster an appreciation for the role faith, tradition, beliefs and values can play in making those connections with identity and culture.

Looking at art and forms of decoration is a powerful way in which to develop curiosity and questioning. People are quick to form opinions about what they see. Examining the history and importance of the artefacts and images used by different faiths, provides opportunities for pupils to express their own views and ideas about religious beliefs and ideals which can be considered and shared.

The visual imagery found across many different faiths can help people to develop a knowledge, appreciation and understanding of other faiths and communities within our society. Art and RE encourage collaborative thinking which in turn provides an opportunity for pupils to articulate their own views on a range of current issues. Collective worship and discussion about artwork can develop empathy and compassion towards others as pupils are taught to respect the opinions of others and a willingness to learn from their insights.



'The Knife Angel' by artist Alfie Bradley is also known as the National Monument against Violence and Aggression. It was completed in 2018. The Knife Angel is a powerful example of when different branches come together. In this case the Christian symbol of the angel, the creative skill of the artist and the strong feelings of society. When all three elements are combined, a

powerful voice can be heard, and some of our pupils were lucky enough to see this at Rochester Cathedral when it toured the UK.

The creative arts can enable spiritual development. Many places of worship are adorned with a vast range of images from abstract patterns and motifs to images of the human figure all reflecting the values and beliefs of a particular faith. These are often used as a form of communication and identity to all. Complex issues and theories are communicated through easily recognised forms.



The Queen's window Westminster Abbey by David Hockney Image from Guardian Newspaper

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At Renfield, in Glasgow St Stephen's, Church, artists Heidi and Peter Gardner have been creating inspiring art installations inside the Church for the last decade. One permanent installation is the Peacemakers loom, which has greeted thousands of people as they walk through the open door of the church, finding space to stop, weave, pray or meditate on peace.



<https://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/news-and-events/news/news-archive/2016/church-seeks-pioneer-minister-for-glasgow-arts-community>

For both RE and Art, there is not necessarily a right answer; it is about feelings, interpretation, personal understanding and freedom of expression. At Trinity, we allow our pupils to ask questions, to have a sense of awe and wonder, and to express themselves in many ways, allowing them to demonstrate the values of hope, compassion and forgiveness along the way, especially when we have had periods of remote learning recently. Pupils enjoy these subjects for these reasons, as well as because of new skills that they learn along the way.

## National Spirited Arts Competition

Year 7 are currently producing artwork for the national Spirited Arts competition where they can showcase good RE through the use of any form of art media. Art is not always about drawing or painting, but showing any creative side that they have. Before, our subjects have joined together to create pieces to be displayed in Rochester Cathedral, and we will continue to work together for the sake of our pupils. We allow for Einstein's escapism and allowing them to bloom into a better person and reach their personal freedoms. Here are some of last year's entries, from Ieva Roga, Nedyalko Hristozov, Harman Panesar and Chloe Springate:



Art has the power to educate. For example Secular art for centuries has been used to share and describe biblical events and views about Christianity. Some work is devotional and others are designed to make the viewer think deeply about their faith and beliefs. This approach has been used time and time again by artists to share stories, reflect opinions and highlight the attitudes and values of the society and world we live in.

## CILIP Carnegie Medal Longlist 2021



# Rights Respecting

## Bronze Committed

### International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination

Date: 21st March

What is it: It engages the public through #FightRacism, which aims to foster a global culture of tolerance, equality and anti-discrimination and calls on each and every one of us to stand up against racial prejudice and intolerant attitudes. It first started to recognise the day the police in Sharpeville, South Africa, opened fire and killed 69 people at a peaceful demonstration against apartheid in 1960. Since then the apartheid system in South Africa has been dismantled. And while progress has been made in many countries to abolish racist laws and practices, too many people all over the world still experience discrimination based on their race.



Rights Link: Article 2:  
Non-discrimination



Rights Link: Article 12  
Respect for the views of the child



Rights Link: Article 30:  
Children from minority or indigenous groups



The PE department would like to say a huge thank you to the TSA. They have provided funding to allow the purchase of football kits and posts in order that students can take part in local leagues and cups. We are incredibly grateful to them as it means that the school are able to enter in and play fixtures that they would otherwise not have been able to.

Here Georgie McMahon in Year 7 is making Cheese and bacon strata for his food and nutrition homework



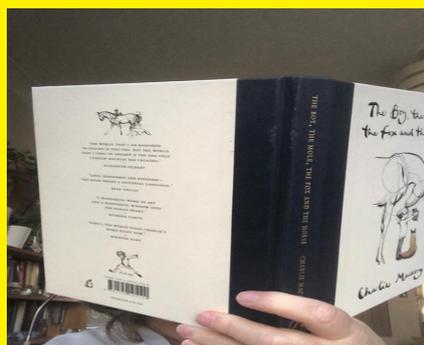
To all of those who took part in the Look Who's Reading Quiz. There were 148 entries, but only 6 correct entries. The lucky winner, drawn from the correct entries is...

**Tavish Bassi, Congratulations!**

Runners Up are:  
Russell Ziolk, Priya Lota and Charlie Woodhall.  
The winning Staff member is Mrs Gregory

There were some very tricky photos you had to guess from. The photo that received the most correct guesses was Mr McGee's. This was a

tricky one! Who is behind the book?



## Mailboxes

You can contact all departments via their direct mailbox as well as the fully monitored mailboxes at the foot of the page. All mailboxes end with ...@trinity.bexley.sch.uk

- Art:** art@trinity.bexley.sch.uk
- Business Studies:** business@trinity.bexley.sch.uk
- Computer Science:** computing@trinity.bexley.sch.uk
- English:** english@trinity.bexley.sch.uk
- EPQ/HPQ:** project@trinity.bexley.sch.uk
- Exams:** examinations@trinity.bexley.sch.uk
- Food & Nutrition / HSC:** food@trinity.bexley.sch.uk
- French & German:** mfl@trinity.bexley.sch.uk

- Geography:** geography@trinity.bexley.sch.uk
- History:** history@trinity.bexley.sch.uk
- Library:** library@trinity.bexley.sch.uk
- Mathematics:** maths@trinity.bexley.sch.uk
- Media Studies:** mediastudies@trinity.bexley.sch.uk
- Perf. Arts:** performingarts@trinity.bexley.sch.uk
- Physical Education:** pe@trinity.bexley.sch.uk
- Product Design:** design@trinity.bexley.sch.uk

- Psychology:** psychology@trinity.bexley.sch.uk
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