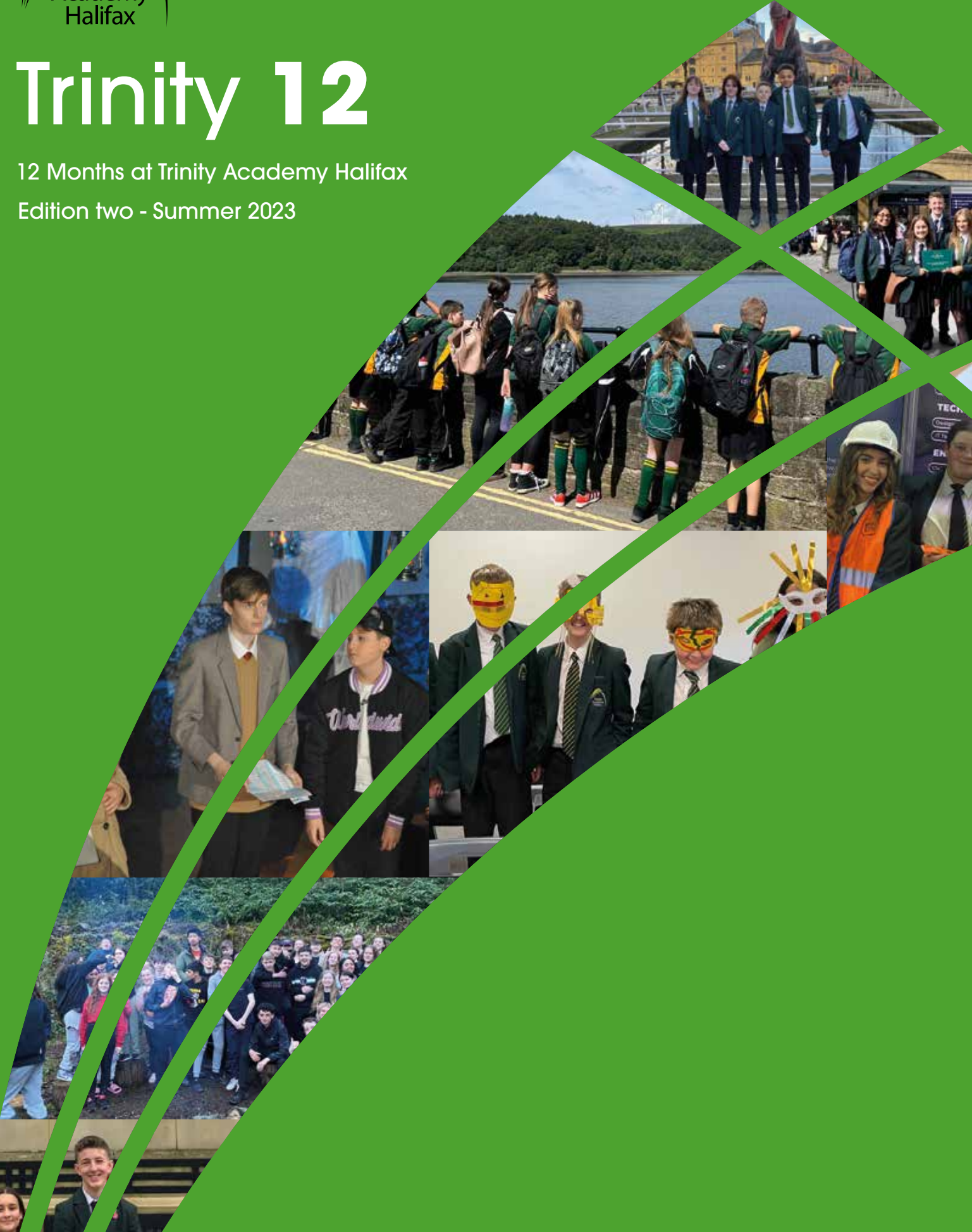




# Trinity 12

12 Months at Trinity Academy Halifax

Edition two - Summer 2023





## Principal's Address

Welcome to our second edition of the Trinity12! This magazine was introduced last academic year to provide a brief summary of all the amazing things our students have been involved in over the last 12 months. I am sure that you will agree with me, it has been very eventful.

Twelve months takes us back to July 2022, when our Year 7 (Year 6 at the time) students came for their three week transition. My personal highlights from this were the Wonderdome in Science, the picnics around Ogden Water and the Noise Academy workshops. But the students also got a chance to meet key staff; settle into their VT groups; make new friends and find their way around our wonderful building. They were exceptional from the moment they joined us and have continued to impress us throughout the year – not least on the residential in the Spring term which we are pleased to see return after the three-year hiatus due to COVID restrictions.

Year 8 students have worked hard, shown resilience and participated fully in lots of clubs and events to become the strongest Graduation cohort we have ever had! We had to move to 4 separate ceremonies to fit all the graduates in. This year group also took part in the first annual Amazon competition to design a school of the future. Our winning group then were taken to the company's headquarters in London to pitch to their executives – they came away victorious, and we could not be prouder of everyone's efforts.

Year 9 have started their creative GCSE option with great enthusiasm, taken part in the National Enterprise Challenge, again with the winning group travelling to London for the National Finals, and participated in the Trinity Challenge. As part of this a large number of students have also managed to complete the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh award – so many in fact that we have become the largest single provider of the award in the country!

Year 10 have started their GCSE courses in earnest and have been making impressive strides across the curriculum. They have also been participating in the Competitive Edge speaker visits after school with

the majority of students attending every single one! Over 70 Year 10 students went on to complete the Silver Duke of Edinburgh award – the largest number we have ever had.

Year 11 have enjoyed Competitive Edge days with opportunities to hone their interview techniques, meet inspirational speakers and have taster sessions for future courses or careers. They have also demonstrated exceptional resilience and professionalism throughout their GCSE exams and were able to celebrate together at the Prom with over 300 people attending!

Along side all of this there has been an Art exhibition; an amazing school production of The Addams Family; sports days; bringing home the rugby trophy; runners up in the football; many other sports fixtures and successes; reading trips; visits to the Houses of Parliament; meeting writers and poets and commemorating as a school through the Christmas service and Remebrance service. All this while marking the Queen's funeral and King's coronation. It has been a momentous, memorable and successful year for our students. The pages of this magazine give a snap shot of the vast and varied opportunities that a very dedicated team of teachers and support staff have offered to our world class students. I hope that you enjoy reading about what we have been up to, nearly as much as we enjoyed experiencing these opportunities with your children. I wish everyone a safe, restful and enjoyable summer, and look forward to what the next 12 months has to offer.





## Remembrance

It was a privilege to be back all together for our act of Remembrance after two years of marking it in our separate classrooms. All the students and staff gathered in the open spaces and corridors to listen as the choir sang, Head Boy and Head Girl read as well as hearing from Mrs Case and Miss Walker and marking the two-minute silence. Afterwards wreaths were laid both at the academy and in town.

## Staff Introduction - Miss Walker, Chaplain

I can't quite believe that I am already at the end of my first whole year at TAH, and what a year it's been. This year we have launched our new Christian vision as a school that "Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms." (1 Peter 4:10), and I have seen this played out time and time again across the academy. From the hard work achieved daily in the classroom and on the sports field, to the academy performance, concerts and charity work that the students have got involved with as well as those things that have happened outside of the school gates. Earthshot and Next Gen Leaders have also played a huge part in this as students have gone above and beyond to be faithful stewards of what they have been given. This year we have also been able to bring back the whole school Act of Remembrance; College Christmas services, where pass-the-parcel helped us to understand the Christmas story; and year group Easter services when we thought about how the multiple uses of the cross symbol can tell us about why Jesus died.

As we finish this year, I am already looking forward to the next one and all that might happen as we continue to each identify the different gifts we have and how we can best use them to help others.

## Safety Net

Safety Net the academy's own wellbeing website, continues to be an invaluable source of support for students in the academy. New links on managing exam stress, getting enough sleep, understanding anxiety and many more have been added in response to student voice feedback and the results of our EHNA wellbeing survey that all students in years 7 and 10 complete once per academic year. We have also made it easier to access Safety Net by creating a student log-in slide showcasing every possible way to find support at school. This appears each time a student logs onto their school computer and students can click on the Safety Net icon and it takes them straight to the website. A group of students helped us to design the log in slide and student feedback has been really positive.

The most popular links on Safety Net this year have been for sleep hygiene and anxiety. So we contacted parents and carers to offer them the chance to come into the academy and meet with the Mental Health in Schools support team for a support session in school. We hope that the parents and carers who attended found it as useful as we did. We aim to run more parent and carer support sessions in the next academic year so watch this space!

## World Class Schools

On 6 July 2022, Trinity Academy Halifax was re-accredited as a World Class School following a rigorous year of assessment. We were one of only 27 secondary schools and 3 primary schools to be re-accredited and we couldn't have been prouder of our students for the hard work they put into the school evaluation task and assessment centre. Their resilience, teamwork skills and work ethic were incredible. The World Class School Award shows that we are a school that has gone beyond the limits of national inspection frameworks and is solely focused on student achievements. Whereas staff and students participate in national inspections to prove the school's status, the World Class award is a student only assessment framework and proves without doubt that our students are some of the very best in the country.

We have a secret to share with you all, too! For the past 18 months, we have been working towards Multi Academy Trust world class status! We are honoured to be one of just 6 Multi-Academy Trusts to be accredited as World Class by World Class Schools Quality Mark.





## DFE Club

It has been a busy start to C&E's new Digital Future Explorers Club. In the first term the students focussed on improving their coding skills by using Scratch. Students had fun creating their own rock bands and coding the musician instruments to play notes in their designed sequences. Students then went on to practice their sensing and selection skills by creating a maze game where they had to direct the boat to the desert island whilst avoiding the tricky obstacles.

The DFE club also enjoyed taking part in the Mission Zero which is part of the ASTRO Pi Challenge The ASTRO Pi Challenge is a project run in collaboration with the Raspberry Pi Foundation.

Teams were challenged to create a simple python program which will display a welcome message, a personalised image and make use of the colour and luminosity sensor to set the colour of the background. The theme for Mission Zero 2022/23 is 'Flora and Fauna'. Students created a range of pixel-based images including animals, flowers and trees.

These messages will be displayed on the Astro Pi computers based on the ISS for the astronauts to use when completing their daily tasks. All students who have successfully submitted an eligible entry will receive a participation certificate which will show the exact data, time and location of the ISS when the program was run.

In the winter term students were hard at work creating a stop frame animation for the Step into the NHS Competition. Our students were challenged to choose an NHS career that interests them and create a fun and lively job advertisement to appeal to their peers.

## Ada Lovelace Day

In October the C&E department celebrated Ada Lovelace Day. Ada Lovelace Day (ALD) is an international celebration of the achievements of women in science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM). It aims to increase the profile of women in STEM and, in doing so, create new role models who will encourage more girls into STEM careers and support women already working in STEM. Ada Lovelace worked with Charles Babbage who invented what he called an Analytical Machine, an early type of computer. Ada understood that this machine could be used for doing more than just arithmetic. She is classed as the first computer programmer.

Students were inspired by the work of Ada Lovelace and created some artwork to celebrate her success in the computer science field.

## Bebras

In November our Year 9 students took part in the Bebras Challenge which runs in over 40 countries worldwide. Students had to complete a number of quizzes and tasks that tested their computational thinking skills and problem solving skills. The top 10% of students nationally were invited to enter the TCS Oxford Computing Challenge in January. Congratulations to all the students who participated.

### Results

#### Top 10% Nationally

1. Isabelle H
2. Szymon K
3. Adrian G
4. Thomas H
5. Clayton C

## Black History Month Competition

In October the C&E department celebrated Black History Month in our Year 7 lessons. Black History Month always provides a fantastic opportunity for us to recognise the outstanding contributions people of African and Caribbean descent have made to our country over many generations. Students were challenged to create a piece of "artwork" to celebrate a computing hero from African and Caribbean descent. We had some amazing entries ranging from paintings to poems.

### Winners

- Arron B - Katherine Johnson Painting
- Anna T - Annie Easly - Digital Potrait
- Kaiyan T
- Millie O

## Computer Science Project

This year in GCSE Computer Science, students participated in developing a business proposal with detailed information on how the owner would set up her computer and network systems in order to run her business successfully. We are really excited to announce our Computer Scientist winners at Trinity Academy Halifax who came 1st in their Computer Science Projects.

All students developed a business proposal, where they independently and successfully recommended a computer system along with systems software, network security and legal & ethical considerations.

## Cyberfirst Girls To Complete

In November, a group of Year 8 girls took part in the CyberFirst Girls competition. The competition was set up by GCHQ's National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC), in an important step to knock down barriers preventing women from joining the fight against online crime.

The students had to complete a series of challenges set to test their cyber security skills. The challenges involved cryptography, logic and networks. The girls worked hard to complete the complex challenges which included breaking ciphers, decrypting passwords and debugging code.

Well done to all the girls involved.





## Battlefields Trip - France and Belgium - October 2022

In the last week of Term 1, 45 Year 10 students along with Miss Reed, Miss Bridge, Mr Winspear, Miss Dyson, and Mr Bennett took part in our Battlefields trip to France and Belgium. This was a special opportunity in which students travelled to two different countries and saw a multitude of sites which enriched their understanding of the First World War.

After a long drive and ferry ride (and all the duty-free chocolate that the coach could carry) we arrived in our accommodation in Langemark, Belgium. That evening after a hearty meal, students took part in some fantastic games. We have some serious basketball, football, and table-tennis stars in our midst!

The first day commenced with a trip to France, with a focus on the Somme battlefields. To begin with we visited the Canadian site, Newfoundland Park. This site encompasses 74 acres of preserved trenches, cemeteries, craters, and memorial statues. Here we met our tour guide, Lucy who was from Halifax... Canada! Like many of the sites we visited, it was also home to a guest book where visitors could record their thoughts and pay their respects. Lewis M wrote a message on behalf of Trinity Academy Halifax which said simply but poignantly 'Lest We Forget'. We then visited Thiepval Memorial, also known as the Memorial to the Missing of the Somme. Our students were able to spend time reading some of the 72,000 names of men from the UK and South Africa who died in the Somme but had no known grave. At Thiepval, students heard a talk from a curator who told the story of one man who had gone missing on 13th October 1916, exactly 106 years before. This one personal story brought the names of the 72,000 missing into perspective for our students, who asked the curator some pertinent and perceptive questions. A particular mention goes to Joseph who bought a fabulously detailed book about the Battle of the Somme from the shop in Thiepval! After Thiepval we visited La-Boiselle which is home to Lochnagar Crater. Well done to all the students who remembered that this crater was 100 metres wide and 30 metres deep during our quiz later that evening! The crater was created by British soldiers who dug underground and detonated four mines

on the first day of the Somme. The boom from this explosion could be heard in London. At this memorial site students could walk on the planks around the crater, each plank was dedicated to one person who fought in the Somme. Our penultimate visit of the day was to Devonshire Cemetery, where we learnt the tragic tale of the 163 men of the Devonshire regiment who all lost their lives on the first day of the Somme. It was at this site where our student Ella G bravely read a poem, 'Before Action', written by Lieutenant Noel Hodgson the night before he was killed. Students listened to his poignant words whilst gathered around his resting place. Ella read the poem beautifully and gave her peers a chance to reflect on the thoughts and fears of WW1 soldiers. Our last stop of the day took us to Vimy Ridge. This was a strategic win at a high point of land for the Canadians in 1917. The memorial is truly breath-taking, it is 30 metres high and stood in an eerie and atmospheric fog on the day we visited. We were lucky enough to get this memorial to ourselves which gave students a chance to read some of the 11,285 names and explore the land around the statues.

That evening students took part in a brilliant quiz hosted by Miss Dyson. We had general knowledge, karaoke, ball games, an impressions round, and the after eight challenge. Special shout outs go to Joseph N, Lewis M, Kady E, Harry M, Noah M, and Axel R for their fabulous efforts on all of the above! We were all glad we had the hotel to ourselves during the karaoke round. There also needs to be a special mention for Mr Winspear, who cracked the hardest round of all! Our groups were given the task of ripping a piece of paper into a circle that an entire person can fit through. Mr Winspear's mathematical mind helped us crack the quiz in the end!

The second day was a trip into Belgium, to see the many sites of the Battles of Ypres. Our first stop was to Langemark German War Cemetery, where over 44,000 men are buried under the cover of oak trees. This was a moving visit for our students as we saw that 15% of the burials here were children of school age who fought in the war. We are so proud of a group of students who took the time to tidy leaves away from graves and clean up areas that had become murky and muddy. This showed a deep level of respect and empathy, something we highly value and celebrate at Trinity. We then visited Tyne Cot cemetery of the dead and missing, which is an iconic site in Belgium where over 11,000 white crosses stand in memory of Allied soldiers. After Tyne Cot, our next visit was to Essex Farm, used as a basic hospital and burial site during the war. This

site is where several soldiers from West Yorkshire were buried, one grave read simply "not gone from memory or from love". The dressing stations are still in situ and will support our students with their understanding of medicine during WW1, a topic which they covered in Year 9. John McCrae is buried here, and our student Lewis M read McCrae's famous poem 'In Flanders Field', which McCrae is said to have written in the place we were standing. We then visited Hooze (pronounced hoo-ga) Crater, which despite its name is actually not a crater! Here our students got the chance to visit a museum which was home to trench art, weaponry, real uniforms, and many other artefacts left after the war. We also explored a replica trench with a fire step, sandbags, duckboards, and barbed wire. We then travelled into Ypres and gave our students a chance to explore the fantastic 'In Flanders Field' museum, where Erika C discovered that her relative William Garlick who fought in the BEF has his name inscribed on the Menin Gate. A great honour indeed and one which we are so pleased that Erika discovered.

That afternoon, students had time to hit the shops in Ypres, grab an ice-cream, and restock the chocolate stash. We had a busy evening ahead as the group returned to Ypres after dinner to take part in the Last Post, a ceremony which takes place at the Menin Gate every evening. We were really impressed that two of our students, Alfie-Lee C and Maddison C put themselves forward to lay a wreath on behalf of Trinity Academy Halifax. In full Trinity uniform, these students walked before a crowd of thousands to lay our wreath. Iona W wrote a stanza of 'In Flanders Field' to go on our wreath. "We are the dead. Short days ago. We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow, Loved and were loved, and now we lie, In Flanders fields."

Our students rose far above and beyond the expectations we had of them whilst we were away. A particular well done goes to Libby M, Erika C, Alana R, and Skye C who won the 'tidiest room' award, which consisted of yet more chocolates. The behaviour and conduct of our students was exemplary and a testament to their great understanding of the significance of the past. We were exceptionally proud of all our students for taking these opportunities to see new sites, learn plenty of history, and make memories with one another which will last a lifetime.



## Board Games Club

Jenga, Cluedo, and that old classic... Monopoly! The maths department's famous Board Games Club takes place every Wednesday after school. With their game faces on, students in Years 7 & 8, compete in a variety of games including Beetle Drive, Yahtzee and Chess. Students build on their general knowledge whilst honing those logical, reasoning and problem-solving skills, to give them the competitive edge and be crowned "Winner". Resilience and holding your nerve are key to success but we are proud to say that we have forged new friendships too! Students have even enjoyed working as a team to create new games that we have then played together and have learned how to play some new games too.

Board game donations are very welcome! Please just drop off at the Maths office.

## Open Evening Probability Fair

In September, students in Year 10 studied probability in their maths lessons, looking at chance and evaluating how some of their favourite games used maths to create competition, excitement and fairness. From this, students designed and created their own funfair style games using probability skills developed in their maths lessons.

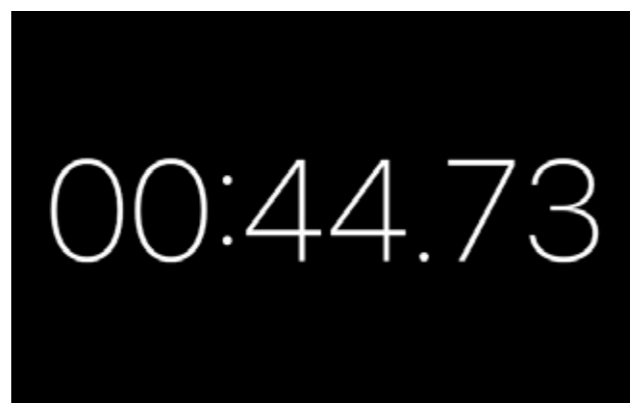
The games were so brilliant, students were invited to display these at our Year 6 Open Evening at the academy, to show off their creations and what they had learned in lessons. The Probability Fair was a huge success; there was a huge buzz down the maths corridor all evening long. Everyone was a real credit to the academy and gave such a good impression to our visitors.

## Maths Academy

The box was found lying abandoned on the floor of the vault, empty... except for a small slip of paper carrying nine mysterious characters. There is only one team in the world that can crack this mystery... the Maths Academy Team!

Maths Academy is an extra-curricular club that is home to some of the most elite mathematicians within Trinity Academy Halifax. Over the past term, students have signed up for the national competition called 'The Empty Vault' hosted by the University of Southampton. It is a national ciphering challenge in which students complete a series of challenges, cracking codes and puzzles to solve the mystery of the empty vault. Students are currently working hard and will continue work on this over the next term.

Aside from ciphering codes and solving mysteries, Maths Academy is a club where students have fun experimenting with different mathematical problems and puzzles, including the frog puzzle and the mammoth task of designing their own farm! Our students have also taken on some of their own challenges such as the Rubik's Cube Challenge, as seen in the picture, Sufyan in Year 7 managed it in just over 44 seconds! Could you beat him?





## NorthStar- Stem Careers Trip - Gulliver's Valley

On the 23 November, 10 students from Year 8 and 9 were given the chance to listen to an exciting virtual welcome from Professor Brian Cox. This included some mind-blowing images taken very recently from the James Webb telescope, showing some of the earliest galaxies to have ever been formed after the big bang. They attended a series of 30-minute workshops run by current STEM employers, showcasing their roles in their different business. Students got a chance to have some hands on experience at some of the tasks that might be carried out day to day at these companies. Students also had the opportunity to hear some guest speaker telling them about current opportunities that are available through apprenticeships. They got a chance to hear from current and past apprentices about their experiences and why they chose the path they did.



## Competitive Edge

In September 2022, we launched the start of our 'Competitive Edge' programme for our Year 10 students. This programme will provide a range of inspirational, diverse and empowering speakers over each of the six terms for our young people. This aims to convey both support and guidance through real life experiences connected with resilience, ambition, determination, empathy and success.

We were very lucky to host the ex-England, Leeds and Bradford Rugby player Jamie Peacock. He presented an exceptional talk for our students, followed by an informative Q&A session. Students were truly inspired by the key messages and experiences Jamie shared, and were very excited to have their questions answered, a photo opportunity and autograph session at the end of the talk!

We are very excited to meet our next speaker in November, who has a very different but inspirational message for our students.



## Mock Interview Day

On Tuesday 27 September TAH welcomed 45 employers to the academy to support our Year 11 students with their Year 11 Mock Interview Day. Delegates from a diverse range of fields, medicine, to the Navy, insurance to teaching all supported the event. Students had prepared prior to the event completing both CVs and covering letter in English, in addition to guidance on how best to perform at interview.

The feedback from both employers and students was phenomenal! Our students thoroughly enjoyed and valued the experience. Some described the event as 'the best day I ever had!'

We are incredibly proud of all our students who demonstrated their mature, respectful and intelligent manner throughout the day.





## Geography Residential Trip to Wales March 2023

In March 2023, 46 Year 9 and 10 Geography students joined Ms Mortimer, Ms Singleton, Ms Hill and Mr Perry for an exhilarating three-day residential trip to Rhyd-y-creuau, a Field Studies Centre, set in the beautiful, rugged landscape of the Snowdonia National Park in Wales.

As soon as we arrived everyone began exploring the 2.2 hectare site which included a beautiful woodland, biodiversity garden, streams and ponds outside, as well as a common room and games room to relax in inside. Once we had settled into our rooms and unpacked, it was time to begin our programme of adventurous geography activities. In the afternoon we walked through an ancient woodland to discover an orienteering course. Students used their map skills to navigate a challenging course to find clues and race to be the first team back. While we were there, we learnt about the different tree species that grow and how the types of lichen indicate the air quality – which was excellent. Once we arrived back at the site we got changed out of our wet clothes and enjoyed a hearty evening meal to warm up. In the evening students broke off into different groups and completed ten fun team building challenges around the site, including a blind folded obstacle course!

On the second day we began with a hot breakfast and got back on to the coach for the short drive to Criccieth, a small seaside town on the east coast of Wales. Here students learnt about the different coastal processes which affect the land and how the local council have tried to prevent erosion. Students got to grips with a range of fieldwork equipment to measure the gradient of the beach including ranging poles and tape measures, they also used Power's scale of roundness to examine the effects of attrition on pebble size and judged the effectiveness of a range of coastal defence strategies. After all that hard work students enjoyed fish and chips and an ice cream while overlooking beautiful views of the Irish Sea. Back at the site students spent the evening exploring the grounds and enjoying games around a campfire.

On the last day students had their final breakfast before getting changed into some safety kit to prepare for a challenging gorge scramble. The gorge was a short drive away along a winding mountain path followed by a walk along a peaceful lake. But the gorge was anything but peaceful! Students overcame their fears as they traversed narrow ledges and scrambled over large boulders, all while battling the power of the water as it quickly flowed down the gorge. Everyone was brilliant and students showed real teamwork and support in helping each other to the top! Once back at the centre it was time for a quick shower and lunch before we said our goodbyes and had a rather sleepy coach journey back to the academy.



## Amazon's 'School of the Future' Competition

On Friday 17 March, five students from Year 8 were invited to Amazon HQ in London to represent Trinity Academy Halifax in Amazon's 'School of the Future' competition. Following a rigorous internal competition, these students were selected out of their year group after designing and presenting their ideas on an advanced and innovative educational product.

Out of thousands of students across the MAT, our students won the most-prestigious award of the day: the 'Amazon Think Big' award! The judges were incredibly impressed with not only the students' presentation skills, but also the depth and detail of their unique design! The students all deservedly received Amazon merchandise and gift vouchers, before spending the rest of the day sightseeing and celebrating at Hard Rock Cafe!

We are incredibly proud of our future entrepreneurs!







## Stem trip - Uni of Bradford

13 Year 10 engineering students were invited to a Go Higher West Yorkshire STEM outreach event at University of Bradford. They worked collaboratively on the stage design, sustainability and financial aspects of planning a music festival, which they then presented to a panel of judges. They also had an introduction to the architecture courses and observed the research for decomposable polymers for sequins.

## STEM Manga

Year 9 students attended the Get Up To Speed With STEM, which is Yorkshire's largest annual employer-inspired science, technology, engineering, manufacturing (STEM) and construction showcase for young people at Magna in Rotherham.

The event is a chance to see some of the UK's most exciting STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) inventions, and meet the people who design, build and operate them. Students at Trinity Academy Halifax really enjoyed the chance to sit in a high-performance car and speak to different ambassadors for different STEM careers.

## Leeds University Medicine and Dentistry trip

13 students from Year 7 and 8 were given the opportunity to visit Leeds University as part of a medicine and dentistry careers session. The day started with a session from a 4th year medicine student discussing university life and studying medicine. Students then took part in an interactive anatomy lesson and had the chance to use a stethoscope on one another. Following this, students were taken to the dentistry labs where they were taught how to take a mould of the inside of a patient's mouth that could be used to make dentures/ braces/ crowns etc. In the afternoon, they were then shown how this mould could be used to make the complimentary mould, students were then able to make their own. The day concluded with students being trained in how to fit and shape a crown in a tooth to compliment the original shape.



## TTRS Graduation Club

TTRS Graduation club was up and running in for Year 7 and 8 throughout the year. Knowing your times tables is the single most important skill required to pass your GCSE maths qualification. TTRS Club looks at the times tables in more detail than can usually be covered in a maths lesson. Students identify the exact questions that they are struggling with whilst trying to spot the patterns in each times table in order to learn them more effectively.

Students then support each other through cooperative learning and questioning, and the whole process is backed up with extensive use of the award-winning Times Tables Rock Stars website.



## STEM Army

Year 8 students joined the Army STEM ambassadors in discovering how to support during a natural disaster. They learnt how to build, programme and operate their LEGO™ Mind-storm robots to undertake a series of engineering and logistical challenges in order to deliver life-saving humanitarian aid.

They also took on the role of Commanding Officer to stop a cyber-attack on the British Army headquarters. They worked with soldiers from the Royal Signals and Intelligence Corps and analysed the evidence to identify which of the five suspects was behind this planned attack to stop the hacker in their tracks to defend confidential documents and protect national security.



## MFL Summary

This year in the Modern Foreign Languages (MFL) department, students have been actively engaged in various exciting activities and initiatives.

Our Language Ambassador programme allows students to express their enthusiasm for languages as a group, they also help us as teachers with how learning languages can be the best for students here at Trinity Academy Halifax. Currently our team consists of about 30 passionate students, and we are hoping to expand this next year with the addition of more Year 7 and 8 students! In January, 10 of our language ambassadors visited Trinity Sixth Form Academy. Students at the sixth form shared their experiences and offered guidance to our students and the initiative inspired and motivated students to continue their language studies, creating a supportive environment for their language learning journey. Our language ambassadors also attended a foreign film screening in the lecture theatre – keep your eyes peeled for more of this next year!

Some of our Year 7 and 8 students also attended the MFL graduation club, which has focused on German and Swahili this year. The club provided

an opportunity for students with an interest in languages to explore a different culture in a more informal and interactive setting. Through engaging activities, such as games, films, crafts and discussions, club members had the chance to enhance their cultural awareness and appreciation. For example, students had a look at some African art and had a go at making their own African masks!

It is also noteworthy that Year 10 students have had their first speaking assessments, which marked a significant milestone in their GCSE course. The Year 10 students eagerly prepared themselves for these assessments, demonstrating their progress in French and Spanish. These assessments allowed students to showcase their speaking skills and put their knowledge into practice. They also provided valuable feedback to students, helping them identify areas for improvement and boosting their confidence in using the language. Revision for the speaking exams will be crucial for Year 11 – students will bring revision flashcards home and we always encourage parents to support students with their preparations. Well done on a great start Year 10, keep it up!

## MFL Y10 Speaking assessments - JSD

Well done to Year 10 Languages students, who completed their first GCSE style speaking assessment this term. Students had to write and memorise answers to three questions and take part in a short conversation with their teachers. Students created flashcards to support their revision and to quiz each other. We're really proud of the effort they have made in the first step of their GCSE journey. Great effort Year 10!

## MFL Graduation Club - Swahili MLG

In MFL Graduation club we have been learning Swahili. We learnt about various aspects of African culture, as well as some of the language. Our favourite phrase that we learnt was 'lala salama' which means 'good night'. We also had a look at some African art and had a go at making our own African Masks. There were some fantastic creations!

## MFL Language Ambassadors Trip - MLG

In January, our Language Ambassadors got the chance to visit the Modern Foreign Languages department at Trinity Sixth Form Academy in Halifax. While we were there, we got to meet some students in Year 13 and ask them lots of questions about what it is like to study languages at A-Level. We also had a tour of the building and had a go at some challenging Danish numbers. Our Language Ambassadors behaved impeccably, and we learnt so much about what options there are for a future in languages!



## Detective Assembly - Y7

As part of their study of Hound of the Baskervilles, Year 7 were delivered an assembly by a Detective Chief Inspector from West Yorkshire Police. Throughout their studies, students have been encouraged to 'become' detectives themselves to solve who committed the crime alongside the fictional detective, Sherlock Holmes.

The Detective Chief Inspector discussed how solving crime has evolved since the late 1800s (when Hound of the Baskervilles is set). Students were shocked to learn that things such as CCTV were only a recent development in crime solving! He also highlighted the vast array of careers that are available within the Police Force and told students about the different routes into becoming a Police Officer and a Detective like himself.

Students asked many, many questions throughout the assembly and it created a huge amount of excitement in their English lessons when they finally discovered who committed the crime...

## Real World Writing Club - For Year 7 Nurture Students

In Term 3 students competed in a mini apprentice scheme, finding ways that we could upgrade the school for the future, with a focus on getting students to lessons quicker. We had ideas from moving walkways to Heelys. In Term 4, students have been inventing their own businesses by filling in a business plan. These business plans included what product or service they would sell, who their target market was, where they would set up their business and they created an advert for their product or service. The rationale for this was to link their English writing skills to a real scenario that they could face in the future. More prominently, Year 7 have been working on their persuasive techniques in English and this gave us a platform to use those taught skills in practice. The students had an insight into why learning English is an important subject and this club aims at diminishing reluctance for reading and writing.

## Media Club

As part of the students work towards their graduation, Year 7 and 8 students are expected to take part in one of the excellent clubs that are on offer at Trinity Academy Halifax. One club on offer to them is Media Club - which allows students to take part in a variety of interesting and unique activities which will also support their English skills.

So far this year, Year 8 students have been invited to take part in a non-fiction module which centred around them becoming journalists and newscasters. Year 7 students took part in a film module focused on the hit film Coraline.

During the non-fiction news module, Year 8 students wrote and filmed their own news stories which included weather, a beginner's guide to life at Trinity Academy Halifax, articles about P.E activities and a photo journal about the grounds of the school. After filming, the students used bespoke editing software to knit all their clips together, like a real news programme! They also recorded themselves speaking over some of the videos to make it as professional and true to life as possible. The students have said about this module: "my favourite thing about this club is going round and filming different parts of the school and then putting it on the computer".

More recently, the film module focussing on Coraline was highly popular. The students chose Coraline as the focus for the term's work. Their first job was to rewatch the film, making note of any interesting uses of staging, lighting or props. Then, the students got to work re-creating scenes from the stop-motion film, using plasticine. The term's work culminated in creating a review of the film and some ideas of what could be the subject of a Coraline sequel.



## Year 9 Debate Club

The English department hosted the Year 9 Debate club during Term 3. Students were able to build up their understanding of a formal debate and examine the elements involved. We focused on opening arguments and effective research strategies.

The first topic up for debate was focused on book adaptations- whether these were true reflection of the original text or enhanced them. Facts and figures flew about: cinema seat sales vs book sales, author involvement in adaptations for screenplays and we have several Gryffindors championing the Potter book and film franchise!

The second topic explored the relevance of Shakespeare texts still being compulsory on the English National Curriculum. Being the one of the most well known authors in the world didn't save the bard from some keen criticism such as not allowing contemporary authors to shine!

Throughout the term, Year 9s demonstrated an excellent understanding of effective speech strategies, care with their commentaries to help each other improve.

## Summary

This year saw the second running of Trinity Talks to all Phase One students. Trinity Talks is a programme completed by all Year 7 and 8 students with the aim of supporting the development of important spoken language skills.

Over the course of the year, we have continued to invite guests into the academy to showcase their specialist spoken language skills and provide a model of best practice to our students. After completing each Trinity Talks week, students who stood out for their confidence, bravery and teamwork have been rewarded with several trips and prizes to celebrate their skills.

Across the curriculum, students have; taken part in debates, entered national competitions for poetry, presented formal presentations, and practised speaking fluently in another language!

Following a debate on veganism in science, our standout debaters were invited on a trip to London to meet our local MP Holly Lynch at Westminster Palace. Students had a private tour of the Houses of Parliament and were able to view a live debate in the House of Commons where they could see MPs using the skills they had practiced in school. After this, students directed questions to Holly herself about her role as our MP, mental health in Halifax, the impact of regeneration in boosting Halifax's economy and her priorities for the year ahead. Holly was blown away by the quality of the questions students asked and we were so proud of students' engagement in the trip.





## Literacy & World Book Day



At Trinity we passionately believe that literacy is the key to success. We want students to be able to read, write and speak fluently, and so we have invested hugely across the academy to put this at the heart of everything we do.

Last year, we launched our new library, and this year it has gone from strength to strength with golden tickets available to students who have excelled in their literacy. As a result, we have given away over 500 free books.

We also wanted to expand our library spaces out so that they were accessible all over the school. We therefore opened two new library spaces in the building. We now have 3 libraries in our school (our main library, humanities library and our upper school building library). In addition to this, our full-time librarian takes his trolley of books around classes every day to ensure that students always have access to books.



We also wanted to make a visual splash, and so turned our English corridor in to a celebration of reading. The whole corridor has been turned into one huge celebration of books, plays and poetry selected by the English department to show the many options available to students. Students are now treated to this huge floor to ceiling display down the whole of the Redgrave corridor.

Thursday 2 March saw us celebrate World Book Day. This year we went bigger and better than ever, hiding hundreds of free books around the school, wrapped and ready to be found and kept by students. Students listened to a thrilling murder mystery story told by Mr Rush for the first 10 minutes of their lessons throughout the day, only finding out who the murderer was at the end of the day. Students also had the chance to take part in a graphic novel writing competition. As well as special English lessons, Mr Kirwan, our librarian, dressed as Harry Potter and our classroom doors were decorated in our favourite books. It was a great celebration of books



## Summary

Within science our aim is to not only cover all curriculum content but to spark a sense of enquiry within our students. Our curriculum has a spiral nature which means that ideas first introduced in Phase 1 are revisited and built upon through Phase 2 and 3. Additionally, all of our teaching centres around the 5 golden threads of particles, cells, interdependence, forces and energy.

For example, when students begin their study in Year 7 they are introduced to the concept that living things are made of cells, they learn about structures inside of cells and view them using microscopes. These ideas are revisited in further topics in Phase 1 where specialised cells are described in various systems, and even more so in Phase 2 and 3 where students explore the functions of cells in plants, the blood, the nervous system and more.

As a practical subject we also support our students to carry out scientific investigations, and analyse the results they collect. This year students have explored the identification of chemicals through various testing including pH, calculating rates of reaction and gas testing. They have built circuits and investigated the resistance of wires, explored how light behaves

and proven that energy is transferred between stores in different systems. They have also investigated themselves and their peers, collecting data on eye colour, breathing rate during exercise and reaction times.

Alongside our curriculum offer Phase 1 students have also had the opportunity to take part in our STEM club, which has now completed the application phase for the STEM club quality mark gold status. In the STEM club students have explored STEM careers and completed a wide range of activities including a visit from a STEM ambassador for engineering, a visit from Calder bricks who explored engineering using Lego and creating their own soap. Student have also completed activities which feed in to our Earthshot pledges including being part of the Great Science Share investigating plastic recycling, and the Big Bang challenge where they focussed on clean water through filtration. All of these work towards our sustainable development goals.

## Butterfly Release

During British Science Week 2023, we were lucky enough to watch as caterpillar turned into chrysalides and emerged as butterflies. Some of Y7 students then released them to add to the biodiversity in our local area. This celebrates and works towards our Earthshot Pledges. The students got to work re-creating scenes from the stop-motion film, using plasticine. The term's work culminated in creating a review of the film and some ideas of what could be the subject of a Cordline sequel.

## Transition

Trinity Academy Halifax are proud to do things a little differently when it comes to transition. Unlike many other schools, we begin our transition process at the start of July which means that students have three full weeks to immerse themselves into life at Trinity.

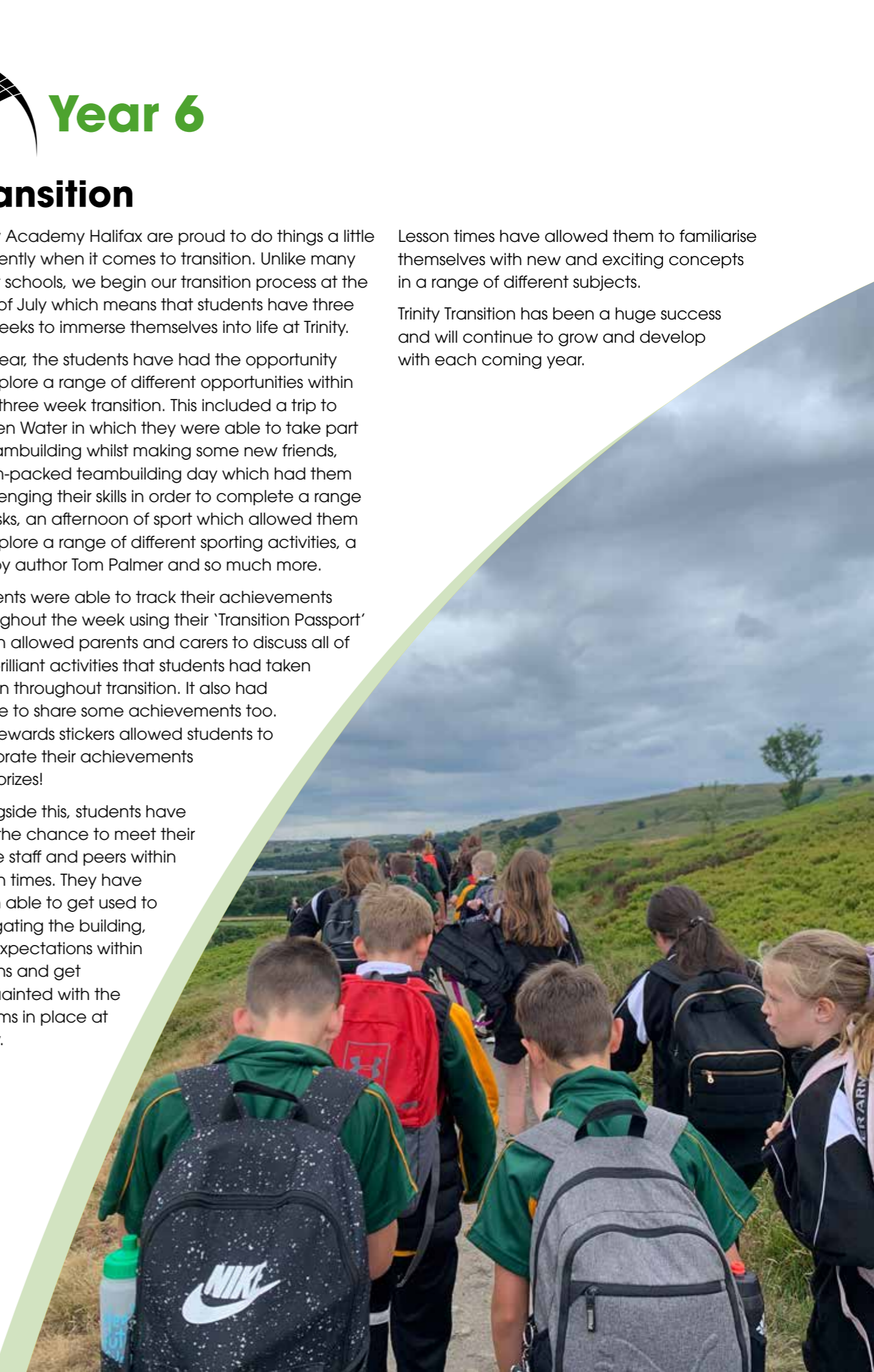
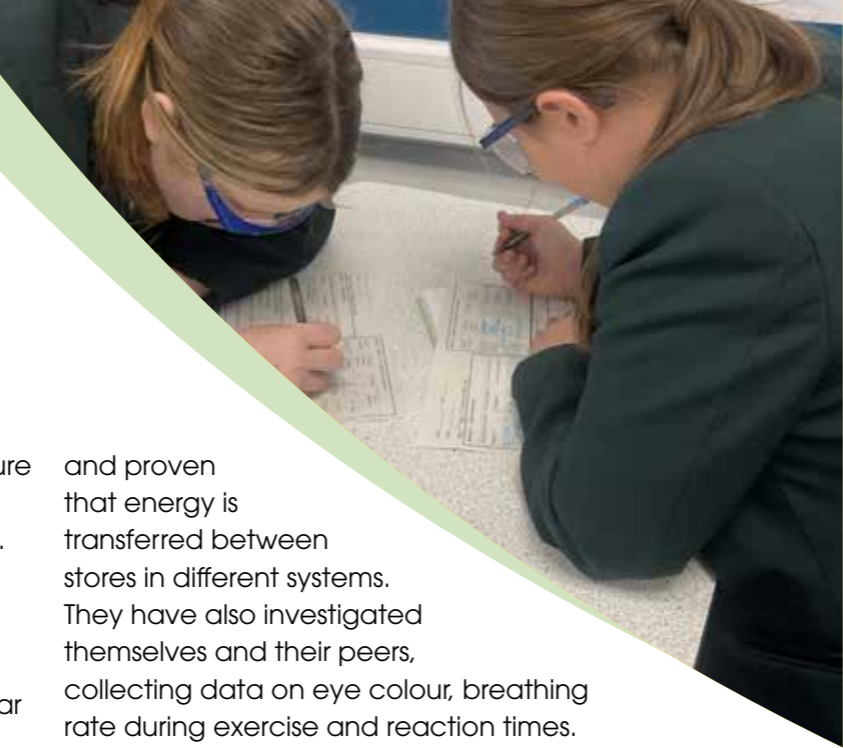
This year, the students have had the opportunity to explore a range of different opportunities within their three week transition. This included a trip to Odgen Water in which they were able to take part in teambuilding whilst making some new friends, a jam-packed teambuilding day which had them challenging their skills in order to complete a range of tasks, an afternoon of sport which allowed them to explore a range of different sporting activities, a visit by author Tom Palmer and so much more.

Students were able to track their achievements throughout the week using their 'Transition Passport' which allowed parents and carers to discuss all of the brilliant activities that students had taken part in throughout transition. It also had space to share some achievements too. Our rewards stickers allowed students to celebrate their achievements with prizes!

Alongside this, students have had the chance to meet their future staff and peers within lesson times. They have been able to get used to navigating the building, the expectations within lessons and get acquainted with the systems in place at Trinity.

Lesson times have allowed them to familiarise themselves with new and exciting concepts in a range of different subjects.

Trinity Transition has been a huge success and will continue to grow and develop with each coming year.





## Student Leadership

### Head Boy - Toby

Being Head Boy has been a unique experience, and one which I have found both enjoyable and educational. Whether it is the organisational skills needed to help arrange this year's Prom, or the leadership skills required to act as a voice for the student body, this role has provided me with a number of necessary life skills which I will need in the future, and for that I am very grateful. Events such as leading the Remembrance Day service allowed me to develop in terms of both confidence and my speaking skills. If you are a person who: enjoys being pushed outside of their comfort zone, has a desire to lead and represent others and most importantly, act as a role model for the younger students of Trinity Academy Halifax, then I would highly recommend you apply for the role of Head Boy/Girl.



### Head Girl - Hannah

Being Head Girl this year has allowed me the opportunity to improve my communication and public speaking skills. I have forged great relationships within the wider academy body through student voice, which has allowed me to relay students' views on key decisions and policies. Events such as the Christmas service have allowed me to push myself out of my comfort zone and master my public speaking skills – something I know will come in handy in my adult years. Being Head Girl has been a truly enjoyable experience and one which I will never forget. I've had interactions with our local MP, homeless charities, and mental health support representatives. I would urge anyone in the upcoming Year 11 cohort to apply for the role as it will allow you a chance to shape the student experience at Trinity Academy Halifax.





# Performing Arts & Dance

## The Addams Family

This year's show took us on a ghoulish journey into the lives of The Addams Family. We were very excited to present Trinity Academy Halifax's 9th production, bringing you kooky characters with an affinity of all things macabre in this musical comedy.

Our talented and dedicated team of staff had been working extremely hard behind the scenes with our students in rehearsals and in creating our incredible props, set and costumes.

I think you will agree that we are fortunate to be a part of a collaborative and artist community and we would like to thank you for supporting our students in their musical endeavors.

We received incredible audience feedback, which included "best show yet!", "we loved the production of the show, the costumes and make-up were so effective under the lighting", "it was so funny, the characters were so engaging and entertaining".

Look out for promotion of next year's production in February 2024 on our Instagram Performers\_trinity.

## The Big Dance Show

In May this year we celebrated our Trinity dancers in a showcase of their classwork and extra-curricular performances, this includes various styles of dance and numbers from musicals. Students were professional on the night and demonstrated dedication and hard work in rehearsals. Miss Ludi was so proud of what the students from all year groups have achieved.

## Year 10 performances

Our students have devised some exciting original pieces of theatre and choreographed dances to a set brief in groups. They have shown commitment, time management, teamwork whilst applying performing skills imaginatively to inspire their target audiences. .

## Year 11 performances

Our current Year 11 Performing Arts students were awarded their grade 6 acting certificates from Trinity College London, these prestigious exams are highly regarded in the industry and carry UCAS points for their future applications. These trailblazers are paving the way for all our students to achieve great things in Performing Arts.

## Arts for Success

Our annual 'Arts for Success' conference was held in March this year which invited industry professionals to talk about their career path, to inspire our students to follow their passions and how to set aspirational goals for their own journey. Our guests included; alumni students in acting and dance, RAME dance school leaders, a musician and a film maker. We were joined by Embrace's drummer Mike Heaton to tell his story of fame and success. Our students were excited and grateful of their time and stories, one student told us "I am so inspired by how they got to where they are, I find it interesting to hear how they overcome challenges, I learnt a lot about how your character and who I become, can be used to gain success, that it is not just about talent".

## Arts Mark Certification

We are in the process of working towards our Arts Mark certification, this is about embracing the arts within the curriculum and beyond. We are passionate about the arts and thrive to achieve so many of our goals, so far some include; offering various clubs, trips and workshops, the dance for maths project with Year 7 and performing at the Senior Leaders Diocese Conference. We are proud of our creative vision and successes and are planning more exciting projects for next year.



## Girls football

Girls football has really taken off this year at TAH. We have entered numerous Calderdale Tournaments and have also had many fixtures against other local schools. We have worked closely with Calderdale College, Crossley Belles and Huddersfield Town in a variety of training sessions, tournaments, matches and coaching classes.

U12's - 2nd place Calderdale Tournament

U14's - 3rd place Calderdale Tournament (winter season) 2nd place Calderdale Tournament (spring season)

U12's fixtures - drew against Rastrick & Todmorden, loss against Brooksbank and Ryburn.

We have had a great turn out at all girls football club on Thursdays after school where students have developed their confidence and knowledge of the game, whilst also building on skills and technique.

A huge shout out to 3 of our students who have been put forward to represent the Calderdale Girls Football Team next season. Evie T(Y10), Edith C and Shayenna S (Y8).

We look forward to seeing girls football take off even further next year and welcoming more players to our teams and training sessions.

## PE Success Stories

SEND Bowling Event – A range of students from Year 7-9 took part in a Calderdale Bowling competition and all were incredible. The standout performer was Sam in Year 9 who got a strike on his first bowl

SEND Multi-skills event – A range of students from Year 7-9 took part in a Calderdale SEND sport event at Calderdale College where students had the opportunity to play Boccia, New Age Curling, Alternative Tennis as well as a number of other adapted and target games. All students had a fantastic day and came home with a medal and certificate at the end.

### Calderdale Cross Country Competition

Paige R Y7 – 4th

Charlotte H Y7 – 8th

Tyrese M Y7 – 4th

Ruby W Y8 – 20th Competing with Year 8s and Year 9s!

Lucas M Y8 – 18th Competing with Year 8s and Year 9s!

Olivia P – Y10 14th Competing with Year 10s and Year 11s

### U15's Rugby

Year 10 Rugby team finish an incredible season with Calderdale Cup success.

What an incredible journey the team have been on this year. Due to their results last year, they qualified for the Yorkshire Cup this year and progressed out of their group stage to successfully win the quarter final, only to fall short in the semi-final against a very strong Hull team.

Due to the successful Yorkshire Cup run, they qualified for the National Cup which saw them travel away to a very powerful Wigan side. Despite not winning this game, they displayed incredible effort, enthusiasm, resilience, and togetherness. The opposition teacher commented on what an amazing bunch of lads we have at Trinity.

To round the season off, the team made it to the Calderdale Cup Final at Heath RUFC against a strong Brooksbank outfit. They were in control from the start,

every single player stepped up to the occasion and played their part in a special win for the team. The game finished 42-20 which saw the team lift the trophy for the first time in

A special thank you to parents and staff who gave up their time to support the team.

The rugby season has also seen a number of individuals experience success as they begin their journey into the professional game. Kai I, Hughie T, Wade W & Tom R are all completing their first year at Leeds Rhinos Scholarship and are making great progress both on and off the field. To find out more about their Leeds Rhinos Scholarship journey "getting to know" videos can be found on Leeds Rhinos YouTube page.

### Girls Football

Year 7 girls came runners up in the Calderdale tournament against the other schools in Calderdale. They were absolutely fantastic! With 3 wins, 1 draw and 1 loss the girls were over the moon with the results. Goal scorers were Ava A, Emily F and Evie B with a player of the tournament award going to Ferne G for her exceptional goal keeping performance.

Year 8 girls also came runners up in the Calderdale tournament against the other schools in Calderdale. With 2 wins, 2 draws and 1 loss the girls were over the moon with the results. A standout performance from Maddy L, representing the academy for the first time. Well done girls!





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ALL YEAR ROUND.**

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