

## HEADS UPDATE from Amanda Seager

Happy New Year everyone! I hope all our families had the chance to enjoy time together over the Christmas break. It has been lovely to welcome the children back, refreshed and ready to learn.

Although it has been a very short week for the children, the teaching staff have been back at work a little bit longer, with two training days to start off the year. Over the two days, we have covered different aspects of school life as part of our continuous development programme for the school. On Tuesday, our focus was subject leadership and reading and on Wednesday we were concentrating on spelling. Although we have subject specialists who deliver some of the teaching (Mrs Robertson for Spanish, Charlotte who teaches the Year 4 children the violin, and Mr Sing, everybody's favourite PE teacher) most of the time at this stage in education, children are taught everything by their class teacher. To support a strong curriculum, we have a leader for each subject and make sure that these leaders (our class teachers) have time to explore their subject in depth and to develop expertise which their colleagues can call upon. For the last few years, we have also made sure that our subject leaders have membership of the relevant subject association, which in turn allows them to have access to expertise as they seek to continue to develop teaching and learning in their subject here at Trinity. I am delighted that our subject leaders are really dedicated to the subject that they lead and work hard to ensure that it is planned and taught in the best way possible as this can only enhance the experience that the children have.

Tuesday afternoon was time for reading. As you know, we are thoroughly committed to doing everything we can to teach reading to as high a standard as possible, alongside encouraging a love of reading for pleasure in the children. To support this, I tasked the teaching staff with some research into current high quality texts which they can share with their classes as we know that the quality of the text can make a huge difference to the children's experience of it, but keeping abreast of all the top quality books coming onto the market is extremely time-consuming. Hopefully now, we have lots of ideas as a staff for books to inspire the children with! Mr Reid and I have also been carrying out research into the teaching of reading, so we will be looking at ways to adapt our processes to incorporate new ideas to help us be even more successful.

Spelling is one of those areas of learning that can often instil fear and dread into people so it was great to be able to welcome an excellent consultant to Trinity to work with the teaching staff on Wednesday to promote the joys of spelling with us! We know that English is a ridiculously complicated language and that this makes learning to spell so tricky for so many people. However, on Wednesday we focused on celebrating the quirks of our language and the importance of taking time to explore words, and their meanings and origins, to really support the children in developing the skills they need to become good spellers. We know that there are far more words in the English language than we are capable of learning to spell as separate units, so our attention was very much on how we can create in the children the mindset and skills needed to enable them to make increasingly accurate attempts at spelling the unfamiliar and complex words that we would like them to be comfortable and confident using in their writing. It was a really interesting training session, and we also had a lot of fun, which is possibly not what most people might have anticipated!

## DIARY DATES

### Term Dates 2023/2024



### January

Wed 17 <sup>th</sup>	Maple Share my Work
Wed 24 <sup>th</sup>	Oak Share my Work
Tue 16 <sup>th</sup>	Jasmine Share my Work
Tue 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Poppy Share my Work
Mon 15 <sup>th</sup>	Holly Share my Work
Mon 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Bramble Share my Work
Thur 18 <sup>th</sup>	Pine Share my Work
Thur 25 <sup>th</sup>	Gorse Share my Work
Fri 26 <sup>th</sup>	FOTFS School Disco R 5.15pm Y 3&4 6.15pm

### February

Fri 2 <sup>nd</sup>	FOTFS School Disco Y 1&2 5.30pm
Fri 9 <sup>th</sup>	End of Term 3
Mon 19 <sup>th</sup>	Start of Term 4
Mon 26 <sup>th</sup>	Parents Evenings
Thurs 29 <sup>th</sup>	Parents Evenings

### March

Thur 28<sup>th</sup> End of Term 4

### April

Mon 15<sup>th</sup> Start of Term 5

### May

Mon 6<sup>th</sup> Bank Holiday

Fri 24<sup>th</sup> End of Term 5

### June

Mon 3<sup>rd</sup> Start of Term 5

### July

Tue 23<sup>rd</sup> Break up for Summer

HAPPY NEW YEAR  
2024

Trinity School Newsletter 1 of the Spring Term – Friday 5 January 2024  
Tel: 01373 461949 Email: [office@trinityfirstfrome.co.uk](mailto:office@trinityfirstfrome.co.uk) Visit: [www.trinityfirstfrome.co.uk](http://www.trinityfirstfrome.co.uk)

## School News

### Poppy Class Teacher

We would like to give a warm welcome to Miss Hare who will be covering Miss Draws' maternity leave in Poppy Class.



### Congratulations



Congratulations to Miss Draws on the birth of her baby boy, who arrived a little earlier than expected on Christmas Day. Mum and baby are doing well and settling in to family life.

### Menu Change - Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> January

Thursday 18 January is School Census Day and to encourage more children to have school lunches on this day there is a change of menu just for this date. Instead of pasta there will be:

**Frankfurter Hotdog, Chips & Beans**  
or  
**Vegetarian Hotdog, Chips & Beans**



**Ice cream**



There will be still a choice of jacket potatoes and fillings, fruit and yoghurt.

Unfortunately, we cannot change the menu for that day on ParentPay. Therefore if you order main or vegetarian on that day you will be get either the Frankfurter Hotdog or Vegetarian Hotdog. If you order fruit crumble you will get ice-cream.

**We would like to encourage as many children as possible to take part in the lunch on Census Day as the school will benefit from additional funding if there is a bigger uptake on this day. Just a reminder that years Reception to Year 2 receive free school meals. If you don't normally book lunches, you can do so via ParentPay. If you have any problems booking, please contact the school office. Thank you**

## Regular Notices and Reminders

### Wraparound



### Wraparound

All bookings for Term 3 (Jan-Feb 2024) are open to all for new bookings, amends and cancellations.

**Kites** - Open until 10pm the day before to enable one-off bookings/cancellations.

**Trinity Plus** - Open until 8am on the day to enable one-off bookings/cancellations.

If you have any questions, please email [Sarah.Hockley@trinityfirstfrome.co.uk](mailto:Sarah.Hockley@trinityfirstfrome.co.uk) (working Wed 12.30-3.30pm and Fri 9am-3.30pm)

### Swimming - Year 3



Just a reminder for Year 3 (Holly and Bramble) parents that the children will resume swimming lessons in the new year on the first day back, Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> January. Payment for Term 3 (Jan-Feb) is now available to pay through [ParentPay](#). There is a £1 increase next term due to higher transport costs but we hope you are still able to support this. Any problems or questions, please contact the office. Thank you.

**WELCOME**

to the library

Trinity School

Open to families

3.15pm-4.00pm

Monday &

Wednesday



### School Lunch Menus



Deadline for meals w/c 15th January is midnight Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January. If the deadline is missed, a packed lunch from home will have to be provided.

### Old Newspapers

If you have any old newspapers at home, please can you bring them into school to be used as recyclable liners for our lunchtime food waste bin! Thank you.





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## Clubs

### Drama Club

More dramatic fun and creativity for years 2-4 with Kevin. Last term we created a story called The Little People. I plan to follow it up with Dead Eye, a story of the Wild, Wild West! There are a few places available! Click on the link below to book:

<https://dramakarma.co.uk/trinity/>



## Friends of Trinity First School

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS 23/24

TRINITY FIRST SCHOOL

	SCHOOL DISCO - RECEPTION	JAN 26
	5.15 - 6 PM	
JAN 26	SCHOOL DISCO - YR 3&4	
	6.15 - 7.30 PM	
	SCHOOL DISCO - YR 1&2	FEB 2
	5.30 - 6.45 PM	
MAR	EASTER FUN DAY	
	COLOUR RUN	MAY
JUN 29	SUMMER FAIR	

### Trinity First School - Songbirds

The first session shall commence Friday 12<sup>th</sup> January in Jasmine's classroom. The children shall be dismissed through the Jasmine class gate at the end of the session.



The club is now full so please contact the office to be put on the waiting list.



### Trinity First School - Recorders

Our school club, focusing on singing fun songs and learning key choral skills. The club shall run from 3.15pm - 4.00pm every Wednesday starting from 17<sup>th</sup> January until 27<sup>th</sup> March.

Children from year 2 and above are welcome to attend. Please can I respectfully request that you encourage your child to commit to the club by attending regularly.

The first session shall commence Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> January in Jasmine's classroom. The children shall be dismissed through the Jasmine class gate at the end of the session.

Please book your child's/ren space through the clubs section in ParentPay (the club is free). If there are no spaces, please contact the office to be put on the waiting list.

## Local Events

Swimming Lessons for Babies & Children 0-10 Years

Join our new classes in your area!

Swim at The Lakeside Pool in Evercreech, near Shepton Mallet!

Scan to view the full timetable of this programme at [www.trinityfirstfrome.co.uk](http://www.trinityfirstfrome.co.uk)

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**FREE** ADHD Awareness Courses  
 Online | January - March

Expand your knowledge and understanding of ADHD and neurodiversity. Learn about differences in the ADHD brain, challenges with mental health and executive functioning skills. Discover how to manage the challenges of ADHD whilst embracing the strengths. Come and learn for yourself and those you care for or work with. Everyone is welcome.

- What do I need to know?**
- ✓ For beginners and more experienced learners alike.
  - ✓ Zoom access required.
  - ✓ \*Please see our website for eligibility information.

Understanding ADHD - Starter: Wednesday 10th – 24<sup>th</sup> January 2024  
 5:00pm – 7:30pm | 3 Sessions



**FREE** Autism Awareness Courses  
 Online | January - March

Expand your knowledge and awareness of autism and neurodiversity. In each session you will learn about a different aspect of autism, including the key differences between the brains of neurotypical and autistic individuals, how autism affects executive functioning skills and how autism and anxiety are linked.

- What do I need to know?**
- ✓ For beginners and more experienced learners alike.
  - ✓ Zoom access required.
  - ✓ \*Please see our website for eligibility information.

Understanding Autism - Starter: Wednesday 10th – 24<sup>th</sup> January 2024  
 10:00am – 1:00pm | 3 Sessions