

## TrinityLearning Volunteer Newsletter, April 2025

Spring term went by in a flash as we were focused largely on our flagship event – Experience Easter. Every year sees a team of staff and fantastic volunteers working away on everything from plasticine cutting and rolling for school packs, to ‘transforming’ Trinity Church into a series of Easter stations, and sharing the Easter story with local school children. This term continues to be just as busy with a refurbishment of Carswell School’s Peace Garden with a team of volunteers from Dalton Barracks, our week-long Toolkit for Happiness project in Larkmead school during July as well as our annual Volunteer Celebration event taking place in June.



**Experience Easter** – This year’s Experience Easter was a joy to run! Many schools visiting last year brought two or more year groups to the event but less children visiting in person this year allowed us to tweak and develop the workshops to bring them to more diverse groups.

This year’s visitors included two Beaver Packs and four groups from Kingfisher school as well as classes from both church and state primary schools. Overall, around 360 children took part either online or live in Trinity Church.

Most of our live workshop visitors walked for up to half an hour to reach us. As children enter the church they sit and pause in the entrance area to hear an introduction to the story and receive their individual pack to take on the journey. We then open the doors to reveal the church which is specially decorated for the event. Many children who visit have little experience of entering a church so we often hear a gasp of wonder as the doors are opened!

The children are taken around the church to areas decorated to set the scene for different aspects of the Holy Week story. They hear a section of the story and take part in a reflective activity in each area.

We received some really wonderful feedback from teaching staff who attended the live Experience Easter: “Really a great morning. Clearly well thought through with many hands-on activities which the children all enjoyed. It brought the Easter story to life. Amazingly organized. Engaging and interactive. Inclusive and adapted to children’s needs.”

As always, the event would not have run without all the wonderful and dedicated volunteers who are key to all the preparations and delivery. This year was an exceptional year for our craft preparation as, in addition to our regular craft preparers, a wonderful team from All Saints Church Abingdon met several times to chat over coffee whilst slicing plasticine, threading beads and filling the small activity packs given to each child. This all meant that we were ready in record breaking time so we are deeply grateful for all their work and the efforts of all our volunteers from across Abingdon.



**DBS Update service** - A few volunteers have received messages about the DBS Update service recently and have had to log in to the Update Service to update their DBS. If you get an email about this please could you get in touch with Nicola immediately at [nic.trinitylearning@gmail.com](mailto:nic.trinitylearning@gmail.com)? It is not difficult to update, but is essential that it's acted on fairly quickly so we can help with simple instructions or more practical help if needed.

**TrinityLearning's AGM** - our fourth AGM was held online in January. We were delighted to welcome volunteers and supporters as we explored the work TrinityLearning carried out between September 2023 to August 2024. Nicola, and Katie Doney, our Chair explained it had been a productive year for TrinityLearning with new and ongoing projects. One of our favourite projects was the Kingfisher School Sensory Christmas Service which was a joy and ran a total of five times to pupils from 11 different classes both in church and in the school. [Read or download Annual Report 2023 – 2024.](#)



**Join us for our annual Volunteer Celebration event 19<sup>th</sup> June from 4 – 6pm** Come and join us on as we celebrate our fantastic volunteers and all the brilliant ways they support our work. Tea, cake and chat in the Conduit Centre Hall from 4 till 6pm and all volunteers (past, present and future) and TrinityLearning friends welcome. RSVP to [nic.trinitylearning@gmail.com](mailto:nic.trinitylearning@gmail.com) please.



**Crafty Volunteers needed** - We are looking for confident crocheters and knitters to help make tiny toys for several of our packs. Over the years some of our fantastic volunteers have created tiny teddies and rabbits for our TrinityLearning Packs. These packs are designed for adults working with bereaved children or children experiencing parental divorce or separation. We send one bear or rabbit out with each pack and the packs have been very well received by schools. TrinityLearning will provide all the materials needed.

**Call for Thinking Books volunteers** - Thinking Books is Trinity Learning's volunteer mentoring project. Trained volunteers meet children weekly in school for 10 sessions to discuss character's emotions using carefully chosen books. We are now recruiting for volunteers to start the project this September.

Please email Nicola at [nic.trinitylearning@gmail.com](mailto:nic.trinitylearning@gmail.com) if you would like to know more about any of these projects or about our other volunteer opportunities.

**Stay in the know:** Our [TrinityLearning Facebook page](#) has new posts added regularly, so it's a great place to keep up to date with news in between our volunteer newsletters.

**Thank you as always to all our volunteers for their amazing support! We look forward to seeing lots of you in June at our Celebration event.**

Best wishes, Nicola W, Taz, and Nicola S