



Our Guiding Light

Jesus said

"I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my Disciples, if you have love for one another. (John 13-34-35)

KEY INFORMATION FOR THE WEEK

Drawing on our Vision and News from Around the School:

Following the success of Book Week, our usual timetable has been reinstated this week and the children have enjoyed returning to topics they were studying before.

The big news from the beginning of the week relates to the Learning to Work's 'Ascot Racecourse and 1711 By Ascot Junior Bake Off Competition 2024'. This is a competition we have entered for the past two years, winning the first time we took part. The theme for the competition this year was 'A celebration of Royal Ascot with Berkshire sourced ingredients'. With this theme in mind, students were tasked with creating and baking a fitting tray bake, defined as "something sweet that has been baked in a rectangle tray or a square tray which can then be cut into individual portions". The Grand Final of the competition was held at Ascot Racecourse on Monday and involved the winning team from each school showcasing to a panel of judges:

- their completed 'tray bake' creation
- a team mood board showing their journey from sourcing local ingredients, to design, decoration and naming of their creation.

To get to this point, however, Cormorant Class took part in a number of rounds in school. In groups, recipes were tried out, taste tests were done and modifications were made until finally a winning entry was selected. The team selected to represent our school included Jack, Sean and Edward. The boys went along, having baked all weekend, and did a grand job setting up their display in the hope that they would impress the judges, one of whom was celebrated patissier, Eric Lanlard. They did just that! After a nail-biting wait while the judges spoke to all the children taking part, we were thrilled to be declared winners! In celebration of their triumph, their tray bake will be for sale on the retail menu at Ascot during the summer season of racing. The boys brought home prizes for themselves and our school which they were delighted to share with everyone in assembly the following day. It was a fabulous way to celebrate some spectacular teamwork! We were all immensely proud of the boys who went along and their class mates who were involved in the journey and supported them along the way.

On Tuesday we were thrilled that lay minister, Richard Simmonds, and Father Steve come to school to share in collective worship. While here, Richard presented the school with a beautiful framed picture of William Holman Hunt's painting 'Christ, the Light of the World'. It is soon to be hung in a prominent place where everyone can admire it. This visit was followed by one from our Diocesan advisor, Marion Standing, who also brought with her a gift. Year 3 enjoyed learning about the cycle of the church's calendar which Marion has created in crocheted form. Do take a look on our social media page to see how cleverly she has done this! There you will also find news of Wayne Dixon's visit to Year 6 on Monday when he led a session entitled, 'Easter Cracked'. The children spoke with enthusiasm about all they learnt.

Looking after our environment is high on our list of priorities and we are guided in how to do this by our Eco-Lead, Mrs. Weller, and her Eco-Council. On Wednesday Mrs. Weller arranged for Brian and John from Wild Cookham to come in and speak to the children about a summer project which I have written about before, the 'Big Cookham Wildlife Weekend'. The children were fascinated to learn about the wildlife right on our doorstep so we hope that when 22nd June comes around, many will join in this local initiative to take part in a 'holiday safari'. The flyer containing information about this has been sent to you again today.

Comic Relief:

Thank you for helping us support Comic Relief today. All the money we have raised, which amounted to £198.70 will be sent off to the charity to support them in their quest to create a just world free from poverty. We hope your child enjoyed taking part.

Parking:

I am enormously grateful to those of you who remain mindful and considerate of each other and our neighbours when dropping off or picking up your child(ren) from school. However, I continue to receive complaints when thought is not shown. I have been asked by a parent to remind everyone of the etiquette when collecting children from school clubs after a parent collecting from football club a couple of weeks ago parked directly outside the school blocking the road for other traffic users.

I appreciate it is only a tiny number who are causing consternation and upset for others but it is these incidents I hear about and have to spend a considerable amount of time dealing with. The local parish councillors are well aware of the problems we face because of our location along a narrow lane and I am led to believe they are working hard to try to find solutions but in the meantime, if you can help me by continuing to be mindful of the issues and gently reminding those who forget, I would be enormously grateful.

Sporting News:

It was unfortunate that the weather meant Tuesday's netball match was postponed but our football away game against Lowbrook went ahead yesterday. Unfortunately, despite playing well, the squad were defeated 4-1. This afternoon a selection of pupils from Year 5 travelled to Claire's Court with Mrs. Lucas for a football tournament. They got through to the quarter finals having played exceptional football where the passing and the goal scoring was beautiful to watch. In a nail-biting penalty shoot out they were just beaten but held their heads high and were valiant ambassadors of Holy Trinity.

With a number of matches scheduled for next week, do look out for letters which your child might bring home if selected to play.

Cookham Festival:

The programme for this year's Cookham Festival can be found on line. To book events go to: [Cookham Festival event tickets from TicketSource](#).

If your child would like to see Toscana Strings, who performed last Friday during Book Week, play again, they will be performing 'Monkey Puzzle' in the Odney Club on Saturday 11th May. To book, go to:

[Toscana Strings and Concertini present: Stories Set to Music - Monkey Puzzle at Sir Bernard Miller Centre event tickets from TicketSource](#)

Extra-Curricular activities:

For information about the clubs we are offering this term with details of club providers, please refer to the previous newsletter: [Newsletter 23_2_24 .pdf \(holyltrinitysch.co.uk\)](#)

With Easter approaching, we are being sent lots of flyers about activities your child might be interesting in taking part in during the holiday and in the Summer Term. Several were sent to you last week in the link to our newsletter and several have been sent out today.

This week we have been contacted by Jon Stewart, Director of Cricket at Cookham Dean CC informing us about his mini cricket program at the cricket club. He writes:

Our fun packed mini cricket program starts again on Friday 26th April. We run two dedicated sessions – reception and year one – on Friday afternoons at Cookham Dean Cricket Club.

During each session, players will go through a series of 4 or 5 cricket based stations or challenges with an excellent ratio of coaches to players. They will be kept fully engaged at all times, and will be constantly moving, throwing, catching, bowling and batting. Children are kept very well entertained for 40 mins whilst learning the basics of the game. There are always plenty of high 5s, smiles and some prizes too! We hope it gives the children a great first impression of the game – one they will fall in love with and move up through the colts age groups at the cricket club.

Details:

Start date: Fri 26th April – no obligation taster session.

Time: Reception 3.50pm to 4.30pm, Year one 4.30pm to 5.10pm.

Location: Cookham Dean Cricket Club (CDCC)

Cost: £90 for the course of 10 sessions. The first session is a no obligation taster. (i.e. no payment is required until after the first session).

Clothing / equipment: Players will not need any cricket equipment as all is supplied. Any appropriate sports clothing can be worn. Please bring a drinks bottle.

Contact: Jon Stewart on email: info@tvca.co.uk

The programme also entitles parents to use the club's facilities and Friday nights in particular are a great social occasion! The bar will be open for parents, with a BBQ for tea and of course the legendary sweet stand that the kids all love too!

Do let me know if you would like to register your son / daughter for the taster session on Fri 26th April. Please reply with your child's name and school year (reception or year one).

Thank you and we look forward to some fantastic Friday night fun!!

Do contact Jon if your child is interested.

Mothering Sunday:

Following last weekend's Mothering Sunday service at St John the Baptist Church at Cookham Dean, our thanks go to Angus, Y5, Daniel, Y4, Grace, Y3, Roderick, Y2, and Freddie in Y1 who took part in the service and representing our school superbly. A photo showing their involvement has been posted on our social media site.

Music Evening – 22nd May:

In case you missed the notification in last week's newsletter, this is a reminder that on 22nd May we will be holding a musical evening at which our choirs will perform. Mrs. Brown is looking for children who have lessons in playing a musical instrument to also entertain our audience. If your child would like to be part of our concert, now is the time for them to decide on which piece they might play. Auditions will be held at the end of April so there is still time for them to get it performance-ready.

Finally, I am delighted to introduce Mrs. Ali to you. Mrs. Ali has joined our team of teaching assistants and is already making a positive contribution especially to those children in Year 3. I am sure you will make her feel as welcome as the children and staff have this week.

Have a wonderful weekend and I hope to see you at the PTA meeting on Wednesday, details of which will be sent to you next week.
Anna Smith

CALENDAR DATES

18 th March	A and B team football matches vs White Waltham (home) - selected children informed by letter
20 th March	PTA Meeting (details tbc)
21 st March	Year 5/6 A and B team football matches vs Holyport (away) - selected children informed by letter
21 st March	B team netball match vs Courthouse Junior (home) - selected children informed by letter
23 rd March	Inter PTA Netball Tournament (details tbc)
27 th March	Rock Steady Concert – 9:30am
28 th March	Easter Service at Holy Trinity Church (tbc)
28 th March	End of Term – Easter break begins (normal finish time: 3:15pm)
29 th March - 12 th April	Easter Holiday
15 th April	Start of Summer Term
10 th May	Cookham Festival: Joint Concert with Cookham Schools
13 th May	EYFS Health Screening
13 th – 16 th May	KS2 SATs
22 nd May	Musical Evening at school 6:30pm
24 th May	Term ends for half term break (normal finish time: 3:15pm)
27 th – 31 st May	Half Term break
3 rd June	Term starts
3 rd June – 14 th June	Window for completion of Year 4 Multiplication Check
7 th June	PTA Disco (details tbc)
10 th – 14 th June	Arts and Culture Week
10 th – 14 th June	Window for completion of Year 1 Phonics Screening
22 nd – 23 rd June	The Big Cookham Wildlife Weekend
24 th – 28 th June	Y6 Residential Trip
26 th June	Junior Music Festival Year 3
24 th – 4 th July	Sports Week
5 th July	Sports Day
6 th July	HT Fest
9 th July	Spanish Assembly – 9:30am
19 th July	End of Term – Summer Holiday begins (normal finish time: 3:15pm)