



## Holy Trinity C of E Primary School

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Head Teacher: Miss Anna Smith

April 2025

Dear Parents/ Carers,

I hope you had a happy Easter and welcome back now to the start of a new term! We are delighted to be in school again. These last two terms are important for the class, as we have SATs tests coming up very soon followed by lots of varied and fun events to round off their time at Holy Trinity.

### Curriculum

The statutory SATs tests which all Year 6 pupils are required to take are scheduled for the week commencing Monday 12<sup>th</sup> May. The test dates and the papers for each day are scheduled as follows:

- Monday 12<sup>th</sup> May = English grammar, punctuation and spelling papers 1 and 2
- Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> May = English Reading
- Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> May = Mathematics papers 1 and 2
- Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> May = Mathematics paper 3

You may wish to see for yourself the sample tests the Government have published so that you can understand how best to support your child by going to:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/national-curriculum-assessments-2016-sample-materials>

The expectations are high and the pace of learning will be fast this term.

To prepare the pupils appropriately, in English we will be teaching formal grammar lessons as well as exploring a range of genres in reading and writing sessions. We have already studied 'Macbeth', 'War Horse', 'The Firework-Maker's Daughter' and read some of 'Wonder' so far this year. SATs reading comprehension can be particularly challenging, so we will also be incorporating elements of Guided Reading and comprehension practice regularly. You can help us by exposing your child to a range of reading material at home. Along with their reading book, do they ever pick up a newspaper or could you subscribe to a child's magazine? We hope that by talking about, and giving them a variety of texts, they will become increasingly enthused and engaged with reading. They are constantly exposed to new genres and writing styles at school, but this can be further supported by your help at home.

In Maths we have covered most of the key areas of the curriculum, with only some elements of shape and position left to cover before SATs. Owing to this, there are several times throughout the week where we look back on content already covered and practise key skills. However, if you feel your child needs support in specific areas, please do not hesitate to contact us and we can arrange some additional support. This year there continues to be an even greater emphasis on investigative maths in order to deepen the pupils understanding of a range of topics.

While English and Maths are understandably a key focus, our Foundation topics are equally exciting. We will be returning to History and studying how individuals have influenced civil rights over time. This is sure to be a thought-provoking topic! Our theme for RE this term looks at our understanding of God through the lesson of Islam. In PSHE there will be a focus on transition to secondary school. In Art we are looking at expressing ourselves through a study of different artwork, while in Design and Technology we will be Navigating the World, creating digital technologies. Music continues to be provided by our steel pan expert, but there will also be some development of our own music using technology to create different music mixes. Computing this term will be developing the skills to produce music on iPads. Mrs Pow will continue to teach French as we prepare for the transition to foreign language lessons at secondary school although she plans to throw in a few Spanish lessons as requested by the children. P.E remains on the timetable for Tuesday afternoon and Thursday morning with Mr. Whittle. This term the children will be keeping active with dance and athletics. We are very fortunate to have Mrs Lucas, our dance specialist, working with the children at points developing a dance for a performance during our Art and Culture Week. We have two themed weeks coming up after half term. The first one is Arts and Culture, then, at the end of the year we will have out Sports Week.

Of course, perhaps the most exciting thing to look forward to this term is the Devon trip. Please feel free to contact us at any point if you have any concerns or queries about our residential.

With so much happening, it promises to be another busy and challenging term, but one that the pupils are facing with an excellent growth mindset attitude.

## **Transition**

Understandably, your child may have a mixture of feelings with regards to transitioning to secondary school. After SATs testing has taken place, we will shift some of our focus on preparing to transition to another school to support the class as best we can. Wayne Dixon returns to school to deliver his 'It's Your Move' session, which has been very popular in the past. Several secondary schools have already been in contact to arrange dates to visit and meet the pupils. In PSHE we will also complete some work on the theme of transition (this will take place in Summer term 2). If you have any concerns please feel free to contact us and we will do our best to support you. Ensuring your child has an enjoyable and smooth transition to secondary school is at the forefront of our thinking as the academic year draws to a close.

## **Classroom equipment**

Part of developing the children's independence, particularly before they hit secondary school, involves bringing to school, and taking responsibility for, their own equipment. It would be helpful, therefore, if the children were given:

2 x pencils (HB grade), rubber, sharpener, handwriting pen (not a biro or cartridge pen please), child-safe pair of scissors, glue stick, 30cm clear, rigid, ruler and colouring pencil crayons in an easily cleaned, plastic pencil case. They should also have a water bottle, a packed lunch (unless a school lunch has been ordered - please no nut or sesame products), reading book, a packet of tissues and some hand sanitiser.

The space that they have to hang their coats and bags during the day is limited so we would be grateful if you can still supervise them in bringing only these essential items to school in the smallest available bag.

## **Homework**

Homework tasks will continue to be set using Google Classroom. The work will be marked at school independently or by me. Generally, the activities will be given on a Thursday or Friday and homework books containing completed homework (whether these are printed sheets or written answers) should be handed back on Wednesday. With the transition to secondary school on the horizon, it is important the children are prepared for meeting high expectations. Your support in this is greatly appreciated.

## **End of day arrangements**

Finally, please note that if you would like your child to walk home independently, we require written confirmation of this. Thank you to nearly all of you who have already emailed or written in to confirm this! Year 6 pupils are also permitted to bring a mobile phone to school. At the start of the day mobiles are collected and are locked away securely. As part of safeguarding procedures, children are not allowed to use phones during the day. Mobiles are returned at 3:15pm as pupils leave school. The class group is officially dismissed at 3:15 pm.

If you require clarification on anything, or wish to contact me or any other member of staff in our team, please email the school office.

Yours sincerely,

*Thomas Redjel*

## **Useful websites:**

BBC Bitesize KS2

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks2/>

Study Ladder

[www.studyladder.co.uk](http://www.studyladder.co.uk)

Maths

[http://www.transum.org/Software/SW/Starter\\_of\\_the\\_day/](http://www.transum.org/Software/SW/Starter_of_the_day/)

Woodlands Junior Maths, Literacy and Science zones

<http://resources.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk/maths/>

<http://www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/literacy/>

<http://www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/revision/Science/>

Spelling games

<http://www.crickweb.co.uk/ks2literacy.html>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/national-curriculum-assessments-2016-sample-materials>