



#### 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)

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## KEY INFORMATION FOR THE WEEK

Welcome back to the start of a new term and the final few weeks of the academic year. I hope you and your family had a lovely half term break. After a busy week back at school, the holiday seems a distant memory; lots of exciting things have dominated our thoughts.

#### PTA Disco:

If your child is coming along to the PTA disco later, I hope they are looking forward to it. Booking for the event has now closed but for those of you who have pre-booked and perhaps missed my email earlier in the week, timings are as follows:

**EYFS & KS1 - 4.45 – 6pm:**

**KS2 - 6.15 -7.30**

Children in EYFS and KS1 should arrive at 4:45pm at the front entrance. **If your child is at Sewing Club, iPro football training or our new Computers Xplorers Club you are required to pick up your child from the club and then bring them back to school at the appropriate time.**

**If your child is going to WrapAroundCare before the disco, please inform Nina and her team who will ensure they are delivered to the event safely.**

**Children in EYFS and/or KS1 should be collected from the back door of the hall at 6:00pm.** We will be as quick as we can handing them over but it may take a little while. Thank you for your patience while we do this.

Once all the younger children have safely left, we will then open the doors at the front of school to allow KS2 children to come in at around 6:15pm. **They too should be collected from the back door of the hall at 7:30pm.**

We would be most grateful if you could discourage your child from bringing back to school unnecessary items which may get mislaid. **Please note, that the bringing of mobile phones is strictly prohibited and food items should not be brought either.** Thank you for your support.

#### HT Fest:

The next event that I am sure the children will enjoy is the PTA's HT Fest on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> July. On Wednesday Mrs. Jones, who is coordinating this year's event, spoke to the children in assembly about what they can expect on the day. She was ably supported by our PTA Junior Ambassadors, all excited about the Sugar Shack stall they will be running and some of the new events planned. If you are able, in any way, to help make the event a success, do contact your PTA class reps who will be glad to hear from you.

#### School Photographs:

The class photographs taken by the photographer on Monday are available for sale This is the link to see them and place an order:

<https://mariaashbygiles.gotphoto.co.uk/gc/kLmlYO7fzM3zLohloqpE>

The access code is HTClass26 and the QR code has been sent to you as an attachment. Please note, there is a discount of 10% on all orders over £25 and the batch delivery deadline is 21st June. The link to the Year 6 individual photos which were also taken on Monday has been emailed to those of you with children in the class today. Any queries, please contact Maria Ashby Giles directly.

#### Transition:

Our transition programme has continued this week with our Year 6 children who are going to John Hampden in September meeting with staff. They had an opportunity to ask questions as well as learn about the changes they can expect. It was a valuable experience.

#### Rotary Mathematical Competition:

Yesterday three children from Year 4, Tino Castiglione, James Ransome and Olivia Turner went to All Saints Junior School to take part in the Rotary Inter-Schools Mathematical Competition. They competed against 17 other schools on a range of puzzles and worked incredibly well as a team. We are proud of the way they represented our school.

#### Learning about the Eucharist:

Confirmation classes with Father Stephen began in school on Wednesday. The children who attended are now on the journey to becoming confirmed by the Bishop of Reading, Bishop Mary, in a special service at Holy Trinity Church on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> October. When the new year starts in September classes will again run for those children currently in Year 4 and Year 5.

### **Sporting News:**

On Thursday a selection of Year 4 children went along to Newlands School to take part in a Tennis Skills Festival. They participated in a range of drills all designed to help them master some of the skills of the sport. They enjoyed the experience.

### **Arts and Culture Week:**

We are all very excited at the prospect of Arts and Culture Week starting next week. Already this week two classes have visited the Stanley Spencer gallery and found interesting places in the village to sketch just as he did. Next week other classes will be doing the same thing.

Next week we will be inviting lots of visitors into school as well. We are enormously grateful to those of you who have offered to come in and share your interests and expertise. The children are in for a treat! Other workshop providers will also visit so we will share news of the things they have led on in next week's newsletter.

Of course, on Friday (12<sup>th</sup> June) you are all invited to our show. It will be on the field starting at 1:45, weather permitting, lasting until the end of the day. You should arrive at the front entrance at 1:30pm ready to make your way down to the field. Please note there will be no seating so you are very welcome to bring picnic rugs to sit on. When you arrive on the field you will see a stage marked with white lines and spaces where the children will sit to watch the performances of others. We ask that you position yourself facing the farmer's field behind these track lines.

On the day of our show, your child should come to school wearing their costume, details of which have been shared with you already on Google Classroom. Please speak to your child's teacher if you are unsure of the requirements. Next week we will be outside rehearsing so do send your child in with sunscreen. Throughout the week, up until Friday when they will be wearing their costume, they are permitted to come to school in PE ready to dance! Now all we need to do is pray for fine weather; keep your fingers crossed for us!

### **Dogs on Site:**

Thank you for not bringing dogs onto our school site and for avoiding tying them too close to gates where children are entering and exiting. Shortly there will be one exception to the rule. The Vilares family are raising a Guide Dog puppy who will be with them for the next 18 months. Part of the training involves her being introduced to the sights, sounds and smells of everyday life. Seeing lots of people, hearing lots of noise, experiencing traffic, are all vital and the key to successfully raising a Guide Dog puppy. To help with this Freckle will be coming to school at pick up from time to time. While she doesn't wear a harness, she does wear a Guide Dog branded collar and has a lead with a fluorescent flash on it which shows she's a trainee Guide Dog. As a working assistance animal, she is not to be petted when she sees people so it's important that the children and you know not to greet or stroke her while she's busy doing her training. Mia will be explaining this to everyone in assembly but I hope that by informing you today, you can reinforce the message at home. Thank you for your help in allowing Mia and her family to do such a valuable and special job.

### **Exposure in the Parish Magazine:**

If you have had an opportunity to read June's edition of the Cookham Parish Magazine, you will have seen a number of stories related to school. I must first congratulate Milo in Year 1 whose beautiful picture of a poison dart frog is featured. Do take a look. Along with an entry I make every month, this time it is lovely to see stories related to the 1st Cookham Squirrel Scouts and articles about our involvement in the Cookham Festival. There is a piece on the art work Year 5 did and the schools' cantata. Its definitely worth a read.

### **Royal Windsor Flower Show:**

Finally, tomorrow we will be joining other exhibitors at the York Club in Windsor Great Park for the Royal Windsor Flower Show. We will be showing the potatoes we have cultivated and our wheelbarrow full of plants grown from seed and decorated with items made by members of our Eco-Council. It looks spectacular. I hope to see some of you there.

Anna Smith

## **CALENDAR DATES**

While some key dates appear below, please continue to refer to this section in our newsletter throughout the year as new dates will be added on a regular basis as events come up. **Any new additions (or any changes and deadlines) are highlighted in blue.**

5 <sup>th</sup> June	PTA Disco
6 <sup>th</sup> June	Royal Windsor Flower Show at which EYFS will be exhibiting their wheelbarrow
8 <sup>th</sup> – 12 <sup>th</sup> June	Arts and Culture Week
12 <sup>th</sup> June	Arts and Culture Week Performance 1:45pm
16 <sup>th</sup> June	Rotary Mighty Maths Competition (selected Y2 children invited to attend)
17 <sup>th</sup> June	Arthur Burgin Exhibition (Year 6) pm
17 <sup>th</sup> June	Water Safety Workshop at Braywick for Y5 (please refer to letter previously sent)
19 <sup>th</sup> June	Junior Music Festival Rehearsal & Concert for Year 3 (please refer to letter previously sent)
22 <sup>nd</sup> – 26 <sup>th</sup> June	Y6 Residential Trip
22 <sup>nd</sup> – 2 <sup>nd</sup> July	Sports Fortnight
3 <sup>rd</sup> July	Sports Day (no after school clubs operating)
4 <sup>th</sup> July	HT Fest
8 <sup>th</sup> July	Steel Pan Afternoon Concert for parents of Y5 & Y6 tbc
<b>8<sup>th</sup> July</b>	<b>Berkshire School Games at Braywick Leisure Centre – Qualifying Y3 Golf Team to attend (letter to follow)</b>
10 <sup>th</sup> July	Spanish Assembly am
14 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 5 trip to the Swan Upping pm
16 <sup>th</sup> July	Last Day of Term – Leavers' Assembly (details tbc)