



School Lane
Cookham
Berkshire
SL6 9QJ

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

Enhancing the Curriculum:

This week a couple of classes have benefitted from trips to places of interest all designed to enhance our delivery of the curriculum. On Wednesday Year 6 went to Bletchley Park. They enjoyed a guided tour of the site and a workshop during which they learnt about the important of the secret work that was carried out there during the war. The gentleman who showed them round, David a retired secondary school teacher, commented on their impeccable behaviour and their high level of engagement. He was equally impressed with their knowledge.

Today, after studying *'Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone'* and using it in class as a stimulus for writing, Year 5 visited the Warner Bros Studios in Watford where they immersed themselves in everything Harry Potter related. We wait for their return to learn what their favourite part of the day has been. If you are collecting your child, their expected time of arrival is 5:30pm but an email will be sent out to you approximately 30 minutes before.

With only two weeks to go before the end of term, there are lots of other events planned for the children. Do have a glance at our calendar dates below and keep a look out for emails.

Sporting Fixture:

Yesterday our squad went to Courthouse School for a football match. Despite a 4-0 loss with 2 goals being scored by the opposition in the last couple of minutes, our team put up an excellent fight. We were proud of them.

Collective Worship Visitors:

Yesterday we were joined by the Open the Book team who, in leading collective worship, told the children the Christmas story in a way that had them fully involved. This was after Father Stephen's visit on Wednesday when he spoke about Advent. The children left school with an Advent chocolate which he kindly gave out.

Thank you Flowerland:

Our thanks go this year to Flowerland in Bourne End who have kindly given us a Christmas tree which is looking splendid in our hall. If you're over there do let them know how much we are enjoying it!

Nativity:

I trust you saw the email from the office earlier in the week indicating how you go about requesting tickets for our Nativity performances next week.

Next week, prior to each show, we will send out emails giving you precise details about each performance. Whichever performance you are attending, please note, you will need to bring your ticket with you; they will go out in book bags on Monday. Unfortunately, children under the age of 11 are not permitted to attend. Siblings of those performing will see the show on Monday afternoon. If, however, you would like to use one of your two allocated tickets for an older child to come along, you are welcome to do so but, as already stated, they will need a ticket. We have limited capacity in the hall and to meet fire safety regulations we cannot go over a certain number. We politely ask that you do not arrive without a ticket as we will not be able to let you in.

During the show the cast request that you remain seated and **do not stand in aisles at either side of the seating area or at the back of the hall**. At points during the performance, they will come off the stage and travel up the sides of the room, round the back of the hall and down the front aisle. Keeping these spaces free will allow them the space they need to move. Thank you.

During the performance you may, if you wish, take photographs but these ideally should be of your own child and strictly for your use only. If you capture an image of another child, it **must NOT be shared or posted on any social media site**. Please be considerate of the performers and other audience members if taking photos. Thank you.

Finally, this year after each performance there will be a retiring collection for Barnardos. Do bring some loose change to drop into our buckets if you are coming along.

Carols with The Choirs:

A week on Monday our annual 'Carols with the Choirs' concert will be in Holy Trinity Church at 6:30pm. Everyone is invited to attend; tickets for this event are not required. Next week, weather permitting, we plan to walk the children who are performing over to church for a rehearsal.

Christmas Church Service:

On the penultimate day of term we will walk to Holy Trinity Church for our Christmas service which will start at 10:30am. The day before, if any of you are able to drop into the church after pick up around 4pm we would be most grateful for your help in moving the chairs out of the nave to make space for the children to sit. I appreciate that many of you will be in school setting up for Carols in the Courtyard but if any of you can spare 15 minutes round at the church it would really help. Do let the office know if you are available. Thank you.

Parking:

Following a complaint this week, I write to remind you that the zig-zag lines outside school should not be used as a space for stopping or parking. Thank you for being mindful of our neighbours.

Finally, if you are coming along to the Cookham Christmas Street Fayre on Sunday, I hope to see you there.

Have a wonderful weekend.

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.**

7 th December	Cookham Christmas Street Fayre
9 th December	EYFS & KS1 Nativity Performance 2pm
10 th December	EYFS & KS1 Nativity Performance 6pm
11 th December	A team football match v St Edmund Campion (away), selected children informed by letter
15 th December	Carols with the Choirs in Holy Trinity Church 6:30pm
16 th December	Christmas Lunch (please book via ScoPay) & Christmas Jumper Day in aid of Save the Children UK
17 th December	Rock Steady Concert, school hall 9:30am
17 th December	EYFS & KS1 Christmas Party (details to follow)
17 th December	PTA Carols in the Courtyard
18 th December	Christmas Service in Holy Trinity Church 10:30am
18 th December	EYFS & KS1 trip to the pantomime in the Wycombe Swan pm
18 th December	KS2 Christmas Party (details to follow)

22nd December – 2nd Jan Christmas Holiday

28 th January	Netball Match v Cookham Dean away (selected children to be informed by letter)
12 th February	Borough Dance Festival (Year 4 participating – details to follow)
2 nd – 6 th March	Book week
3 rd March	Virtual Parent Consultations
5 th March	Virtual Parent Consultations
14 th March	PTA Ball
18 th March	Ascot Bake-Off Finals (Year 5 participating – details to follow)
25 th March	Rock Steady Concert, school hall 9:30am

30th March – 10th April Easter Holiday

8 th May	Cookham Festival Schools' Event (tbc)
11 th – 14 th May	KS2 SATs
19 th May	Scholastic Book Fair arriving
5 th June	PTA Disco
8 th – 12 th June	Arts and Culture Week
12 th June	Arts and Culture Week Performance pm
17 th June	Arthur Burgin Exhibition (Year 6)
22 nd – 26 th June	Y6 Residential Trip
22 nd – 2 nd July	Sports Fortnight
3 rd July	Sports Day
4 th July	HT Fest
10 th July	Spanish Assembly
16 th July	Last Day of Term – Leavers' Assembly (details tbc)