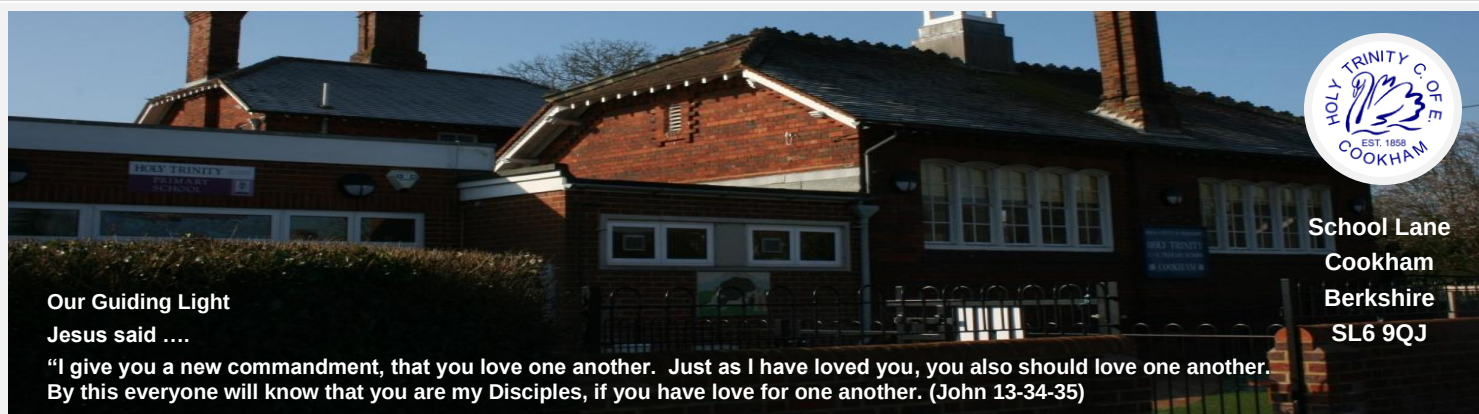




KEY INFORMATION FOR THE WEEK

After a busy week with lots happening to engage, motivate and excite the children, I begin with news of a wonderful service in Holy Trinity Church last Sunday when the Rt Revd Mary Gregory, Bishop of Reading, confirmed three former and five current pupils in front of a packed congregation. It was a truly special occasion which I hope will live in the memories of those present.

On Wednesday, Father Stephen was in school leading collective worship. During his assembly in which kindness was the theme, the success of the confirmation candidates was celebrated. To see the assembly Father Stephen delivered, go to the Collective Worship section of Google Classroom.

Open the Book Assembly:

Coming together for collective worship is a very special part of school life. Throughout the week there are almost daily opportunities to do this. Occasionally we invite visitors in and yesterday we did just that. The Open the Book team, who visited regularly last year, came in and, with lots of audience participation, they told the story of *The Ethiopian Treasurer*. We are looking forward to seeing them again next term.

Celebrating Black History Month:

Every year we mark Black History Month which this year has the theme, 'Honouring our Communities'. On Thursday a number of classes joined a live stream to learn more about the event. The children were asked three questions which sparked lots of kind responses. We ended the session with some key messages:

- *You don't have to be famous to make history.*
- *Big change starts with small acts of kindness.*
- *Go out, lift others up and make history in our community.*



Macmillan Cake Sale:

Last Friday's cake sale was enormously successful in raising £294.65 for Macmillan Cancer Support. The left-over cakes went on sale again on Monday and the total we will now be sending off to the charity has risen to £320.65. Thank you for helping us make this possible.

Cycling Proficiency:

Year 6 have had a wonderful week learning how to cycle safely on the road. The instructors from BeSpoke Cycling Instruction Ltd who have worked with the children had nothing but positive comments to share on their cycling skills and also their ability to listen, take instruction and support each other. For the most part we were blessed with good weather but on Wednesday when it rained, spirits were not dampened. As testament to their resilience, they still ventured out onto the roads of Cookham and enjoyed experiencing different cycling conditions. They end the course with badges as a record of their achievement.

If you are yet to take your child's bicycle home, we would be grateful if you could collect it early next week in order to leave space in our bicycle rack for the children who regularly cycle to school. Thank you.

Henley Literary Festival:

Year 2 and Year 3 took part in interesting workshops this week as part of Henley's Literary Festival. Both classes joined virtual sessions meeting authors Olaf Falafel and Joseph Coelho in events that were fully interactive. As well as listening to the authors regale interesting tales, the children drew characters from their books and asked questions.

Crime and Punishment in the Victorian Era:

In another online session this week, Year 6 linked up with historian, Edward, who works at The National Archives in London. This term they are exploring crime and punishment so, diving into the Victorian era, they learnt more about life in a Victorian prison and the hard labour prisoners undertook. It was a fascinating session.

Meeting a Rock Expert:

Year 3 were lucky enough to meet an expert in geology this week when Izzy's grandfather came in to talk to them about rocks. They learnt about volcanoes and carried out tests to see which type of rock is most permeable. It really supported the work they are doing in science.

Learning about Fire Safety:

Every year we invite the fire service to come into school. With the help of Green Watch from the Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service, the children learnt what to do in the event of a fire and were told the importance of checking smoke alarms. They were given work books with key information in. As an unexpected treat, they had time to explore the fire engine and squirt the water hoses.

[Home | Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service](#)

Marking World Space Week:

Did you know that this week is World Space Week? With this year's theme being 'Rocket Revolution', Cygnets have been busy cutting and sticking shapes to make rockets. In just over a week's time, we have our Open House event when you can visit classrooms, meet staff and see the work your child has been doing. We will have our rockets on display!

Science and Technology Week:

Next week we have an exciting schedule of events to mark Science and Technology Week. We are thrilled that so many of you are joining us and we're looking forward to welcoming in a number of external workshop providers. On Monday 'Wonderdome' will be with us as will Wild Cookham throughout the week. We are particularly excited that midweek we will have micro pigs on our field. The children will be invited to pet them in sessions throughout the morning! **If your child has allergies, in particular to animal hair, and you would rather they didn't meet the pigs, please let us know in writing before Tuesday and we will make alternative provision.** Equally, when Wild Cookham are here, in some of their sessions they will have owl pellets for the children to dissect. The team have informed us that the pellets have been heat treated and therefore sterilised, having been sent to a laboratory for testing to ensure they are safe to handle. **However, again if you would rather your child does not take part in the session, please inform us in writing by Monday.**

On Google Classroom I hope you have seen a design technology challenge that the children have been set as a homework project. Tasks range from building parachutes and boats to marble runs and periscopes. Before long they will be asked to bring in their creations ready for testing. Take a look at Google Classroom for specific details.

Like trips to places away from school, these activities come at a cost so it is for this reason that we ask for a contribution. If you have already made payment, thank you very much. If not, we would be most grateful if you could do so by Friday 23rd October via your Scopay account. Please refer to the letter you have been sent before about themed weeks.

Parents' Evening:

Next week you are invited to our virtual parents' evening in order to speak to your child's class teacher and discuss how he/she has settled in. Please note, no after school clubs, other than Wrap Around Care will run on Tuesday and Thursday.

On Wednesday you were emailed instructions on how to book an appointment which hopefully you've been able to do. While this is a virtual meeting, there will be other opportunities during the year for you to speak to your child's teacher face to face. The first opportunity falls just before the half term holiday when you are invited to our Open House event to see your child's books. The dates are listed below. In addition, as always, we operate an open-door policy with staff available at pick-up to answer any questions and address any issues you may have.

SEN Support Plans:

Yesterday SEND Support Plans were emailed out to parents with children on our SEND register. If you received one, do take a moment to read the latest information which has been added to them in purple. You will find a review of last term's targets, a new set of targets for this term and, in the section which captures pupil voice, an update on what your child has to say about school. Your input is important so do take a moment to read your child's plan ahead of Parents' Evening.

For all SEND matters, we continue to use the send@holyltrinitysch.co.uk email address.

New Statutory Guidance Around Managing Allergies:

After the information I shared last week about our new approach to managing allergies in school, I urge you to look out for an email next week explaining how you should liaise with club providers if your child requires specific medication. Our new Allergy Safety Policy can be found on our website: [Policies | Holy Trinity C. of E. Primary School](#)

Shoe Box Appeal:

Today in assembly the children learnt about the shoe box appeal run by the charity, Blythswood: [Shoe Box Appeal | Blythswood](#) which we have decided to support again this year.

Last year the charity sent over 85,000 shoeboxes to eight different countries – Albania, Bulgaria, Hungary, Kosovo, Moldova, Romania, Serbia and Ukraine and since their first Shoe Box Appeal in 1993 they have sent more than 2.8 million boxes – each one different, each one personal, each one an expression of care and kindness towards a stranger in need.

If your child would like to get involved, they should fill a shoe box with small, new and practical items such as toiletries, stationery, and clothing. Small toys are also welcome. The details can be found in the leaflet your child has brought home this evening. We need the boxes back in school by Friday 23rd October so they can be collected in time to be packaged up and sent off to countries across Europe ready for Christmas. We do hope you will get involved; the children certainly seemed excited about the project when we filled a shoe box together earlier. Thank you.

Lost Property:

Still a lot of lost property remains on the wooden posts outside the Year 2 classroom at the top of the playground, all unnamed. Please can we ask again that you regularly check that any property your child brings into school is clearly named. Any lost items which are found and named are immediately returned to their owner. Thank you.

In the meantime, if you are short of any uniform, you are welcome to take away any of the unnamed property.

Flu Vaccinations:

Please refer to the letter you have previously been sent about booking a flu vaccination for your child. There is a deadline by which this must be done.

Using the Trim Trail:

It is lovely to see the children enjoying the trim trail at the end of the day. Thank you for your close supervision of them. If you choose to stay behind, we would be most grateful if you could start to make your way up from the trim trail at 3:25pm so that the gate can be locked promptly at 3:30pm to safeguard the children still on site in after school clubs. **Please note, the trim trail is not available for use on Thursday afternoon to avoid disturbing netball club which meets on the playground.**

Parking Considerately:

Please can I ask that when you arrive at school for drop off and pick up, if you need to use the lane and park your vehicle, you do so considerately. Please do not park over the drive way of our neighbours all of whom need access in and out of their property. Thank you

PTA Quiz Night:

Finally, if you are coming back to school later for the PTA Quiz Night, the staff team will be waiting to greet you. We are looking forward to what promises to be a fun evening.

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 are added in order to keep abreast of what is coming up in school. Any additions or any changes highlighted in blue.

9 th October	PTA Quiz 7:30pm
12 th October	Start of Science and Technology Week
13 th October	Parent Consultations
15 th October	Parent Consultations
20 th October	Flu Vaccinations
20 th October	KS2 Open House 3:15pm
21 st October	EYFS 'Stay and Play' 2:45pm
21 st October	KS1 Open House 3:15pm
21 st October	School Photos
21 st October	Netball match vs Cookham Dean (away) selected children informed by letter
26 th October to 30 th October	Half Term Break
2 nd November	Start of Term 2
5 th November	Boys A and Girls A team football matches vs Oldfield (home) selected children informed by letter
9 th November	Year 1 Trip to Windsor Castle
11 th November	Whole School Remembrance Service at the War Memorial
11 th November	PTA AGM 7:30pm (see accompanying letter sent out 09.10.26)
16 th November	Start of Maths and Computing Week
18 th November	Open Evening
20 th November	Children in Need
24 th November	Choirs performing at the Royal Albert Hall
27 th November	PTA Popcorn and Pyjama Party
8 th December 2pm	Nativity Performance
9 th December 6pm	Nativity Performance
9 th December	Rock Steady Concert 9:30am
15 th December	Final swimming lesson for Y3
15 th December	Carols with the Choirs 6:30pm
16 th December	EYFS & KS1 Trip to the pantomime at the Wycombe Swan
16 th December	KS2 Christmas Party
16 th December	PTA Carols in the Courtyard
17 th December	Christmas Service at Holy Trinity Church 10am
17 th December	EYFS & KS1 Christmas Party
18 th December	Last day of term
21 st December to 1 st January	Christmas Holiday
4 th January	Start of Term 3
29 th January	PTA Disco
2 nd February	KS2 Open House
3 rd February	EYFS & KS1 Open House
10 th February	Safer Internet Day
15 th February to 19 th February	Half Term Break

22 nd February	Start of Term 4
27 th February	PTA Black Tie Ball
1 st March	Start of Book Week
1 st March	Year 5 Trip to Warner Bros Studios
2 nd March	Parent Consultations
4 th March	Parent Consultations
4 th March	World Book Day
5 th March	Book Week Dress-Up Day
19 th March	Comic Relief
24 th March	Rock Steady Concert 9:30am
25 th March	PTA Make the Rules Day and Easter Trail
26 th March to 9 th April	Easter Holiday
12 th April	Start of Term 5
22 nd April	Earth Day
27 th April	KS2 Open House
28 th April	EYFS & KS1 Open House
3 rd May	Bank Holiday
10 th May to 13 th May	KS2 SATs
17 th May	Start of National Walk to School Week
31 st May to 4 th June	Half Term Break
7 th June	Start of Term 6
11 th June	PTA Disco
14 th June	Start of Arts and Culture Week
18 th June	Arts and Culture Week Show
21 st June	Y6 Residential Trip
28 th June	Start of Sports Week
2 nd July	Sports Day
3 rd June	HT Fest
14 th July	Rock Steady Concert
15 th July	Y6 Leavers' Service 10am
15 th July	Last Day of Term