



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

Happy New Year and welcome back to the start of the Spring Term. I hope you have had a lovely Christmas break and that your child has enjoyed being back in school this week. It has been a happy week with lots of positive things happening including our youngest children dressing up as Super Heroes to launch their new topic, ‘Super Heroes and People Who Help Us’!

To help you understand a little more about the subjects your child will be covering over the next few weeks, we hope you find the class newsletters, which you have been sent today as attachments, useful. If they throw up any questions, you will have an opportunity to ask them at next week’s parent workshops.

Online Parent Workshops – to supporting your child through the curriculum:

Next week we will be running short workshops with a focus on the curriculum and what you can do to support your child on the learning journey. These will be virtual meetings which you can access via Google Classroom using your child’s account as you did for Meet the Teacher meetings at the beginning of the year.

At the start of next week, a link to the Google Meet session will be posted in the ‘Stream’ section of Google Classroom by your child’s class teacher which you simply click on to get into the meeting. Please note **that in order to gain access to the site you must log in using your child’s school email address not yours**. This allows us to see who is trying to gain access so our safeguarding arrangements are not compromised. If you can aim to log in just before the meeting start time that would be incredibly helpful; once staff start sharing PowerPoint presentations, we cannot always see who is waiting to be let in. Thank you. Meeting times are as follows:

Wednesday 15th January	3:30 – 4:30pm	EYFS & Y1 Parent Workshops	‘Supporting your Child with Early Reading and Phonics’
	4:15 – 5pm	Y2 Parent Workshops	‘Understanding Teacher Assessment and Supporting your Child Through the Y2 Curriculum’
Thursday 16th January	3:30 – 4:30pm	Y3/4 Parent Workshops	‘Supporting your Child through the Lower KS2 Curriculum and the Y4 Multiplication Check’
	4:15 – 5pm	Y5/6 Parent Workshops	‘Supporting your Child Through the Upper KS2 Curriculum and KS2 SATs’

We hope you are able to join us as, by continuing to work in partnership, we can ensure your child enjoys the learning experience and remains on track to reach their full potential.

Parent Governor Elections:

As you may have seen from the email sent out earlier in the week, I am delighted that Ms Caroline Collins, parent of a child in Reception, will be joining our board of governors to help steer and support our strategic vision. I am sure you will join me in congratulating her on her appointment.

Applying for a place at Holy Trinity:

Please note, the deadline for putting in an application for a September 2025 entry is fast approaching. Applications must be sent into the borough by 15th January. For more information, please refer to The Admissions Policy as set by the Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead (RBWM) which can be found on our website: [Admissions | Holy Trinity C. of E. Primary School](#)

Primary Dance Festival:

This term we will be taking part, as we always do, in the borough’s primary dance festival. If you have a child in Year 4, the link for purchasing Primary Dance Festival tickets goes live on Thursday 16th January. Please refer to the email sent out today containing details about this.

ScoPay:

Thank you for ensuring lunch orders are placed for your child well in advance to ensure the catering team have accurate numbers when placing food orders. The menu this term remains the same as last term and can be found on our website. The office politely request that any Scopay dinner money accounts are cleared and that accounts related to Early Bird sessions are also topped up on a regular basis. Thank you.

No Nuts/No Sesame:

Please can I remind you that we are a no nut and no sesame school. On no account send your child in to school with anything containing these items either in packed lunch boxes, as snacks or as birthday treats to give out to the other children (please note chocolate selection boxes often contain nuts). We have children with severe allergies for whom exposed to these foods could be life threatening. Thank you

Sickness and Diarrhoea:

The children all seem to have returned to school in good health which is fabulous. However, from time to time we are hit with sickness bugs so it is our policy that a child must not return to school for at least 24 hours, preferably 48 hours, after any bout of vomiting or diarrhoea. Thank you for your support in this matter which will help us safeguard everyone.

Our latest Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy, reflecting current legislation around all matters related to safeguarding, can be found on our website: [Safeguarding | Holy Trinity C. of E. Primary School](#)

Attendance:

As directed by the Department for Education, schools are now required to monitor attendance very closely. As the school's attendance officer, on a termly basis, I meet with the borough's Education Welfare Officer. She receives our attendance data on a monthly basis and uses these meetings to scrutinise our figures. It is the expectations that a child's attendance should be at least 96%. Attendance below 95% is deemed persistent absence and anything below 50%, severe.

While we understand that sometimes there are genuine reasons, notably illness, which means it is not appropriate to send your child to school, any time away from the classroom is incredibly disruptive. A lesson missed puts a pupil at a disadvantage especially when that lesson falls within a sequence of planned learning activities. We appreciate that it can be difficult to arrange medical appointments outside school hours and some circumstances, in the case of music examinations for instance, demand time out of school. However, any situation (other than illness or a medical appointment) requires you to complete a 'Request for Term Time Absence Form' outlining the reasons why your child might be away. This can be found on our website. Occasionally, when a child is ill it might be the case that we request a doctor's certificate especially if absent for an extended period.

Term time holidays are not permitted and will be marked as an unauthorised absence. Unauthorised absences or a poor attendance score can generate a home visit from the Education Welfare Officer and/or a penalty notice in extreme circumstances. Term dates can be found on our website and are listed below for your convenience so holidays can be planned outside these dates.

We acknowledge that each family's circumstances are different and it is our aim to work with you all to provide the best education for every child which involves helping those who are absent catch up. I am pleased to report that our overall attendance data is excellent. This year the figure sits at 96.7% and last term 50 children had 100% attendance. Thank you as always for your support in ensuring this is possible. If you would like greater clarification, our Attendance Policy can be found on our website: [Policies | Holy Trinity C. of E. Primary School](#)

Traffic Management:

Thank you for all your efforts this week in negotiating the traffic control system at the end of School Lane. We do appreciate how difficult the situation is, particularly for those of you who, like staff, live a distance away and have to travel to school by car. The work continues until 23rd January so do leave extra time for your journey if you possibly can. To find out more, go to: [Causeway one.network](#)

Gate Closure:

As you are aware, the main gates giving access to the building are locked at 9am and they remain locked in order to safeguard the children. However, the two gates which lead directly onto the road: the gate at the front of school and the gate at the end of the path near the staff car park, are not locked but they are shut at the start of the day. If you have need to come through either of the gates to get to the office for instance, please can you ensure that they are shut behind you?

Congratulations to the Winner of the PTA Christmas Gnome Trail:

We were delighted to hear that thirty-two children took part in the PTA's Christmas Gnome Trail during the holiday. If you were one of those families who participated, I hope you enjoyed the challenge! Our thanks go to the PTA, in particular Mrs Marcia West, for setting it up for us and many congratulations to Jessie in Year 5 who was declared the winner! She received her prize in assembly today.

Clubs:

We are delighted that many of our clubs have started up this week. Do continue to look out for flyers from club providers which the office will send out periodically if places remain available. Please see below a full list of clubs running this term which includes a new club running for Year 2 and Year 3 children after school on a Tuesday.

Event for Young Ecologists:

On Saturday 18th January from 2pm – 4pm here at Holy Trinity, Wild Cookham will be running a 'Big Bug & Bird Bash', a fun workshop for the whole family. A flyer has been sent out today containing information about the two workshops on offer:

- 1) Re-purpose your natural Christmas Wreath (you will need to bring your wreath with you)
- 2) Build a bird box - all materials for this will be provided

Refreshments will be provided but places are limited so the advice is to book now to avoid disappointment! In order to do so, go to: <https://form.jotform.com/243635552095056>

Dates this Term:

As well as seeing which clubs will be running this term, below you will also find term dates. New dates will be added as time goes on and as events are organised so do continue to take a look at this section of the newsletter each week to keep up to speed on what is happening. We aim to give you as much notice as possible.

Extra-Curricular activities running this term and details of providers:

Club	Year Group	Day/Time	Contact Details	Arrangements for drop-off/pick-up
Early Bird Club	All	Start time 8am each day of the week	No requirement to book, simply drop off anytime between 8am and 8:30am. Payment should be made through your ScoPay account	Arrive through the back door of the hall
After School Provision	All	From 3:15pm	Book directly: holytrinity@wraparoundcare4u.com	See WrapAroundCare4U for details: information sent out via email
iPro Football	KS2 boys	Monday lunchtime – start date to be confirmed	Book directly: Office 07908 172175 Email: office@iprofootballcoaching.co.uk (school PE kit may be worn)	N/A
Ukulele Club	KS2	Monday lunchtime - All welcome	Children should speak to Mrs Lucas	N/A
Art Club	Year 3 & 4	Monday after school, finish time: 5pm	Book directly by contacting Mrs Hyslop: Nickyw1@hotmail.co.uk	Collect from the front entrance of school
Playball	EYFS & Year 1	Monday, finish time: 4pm	Book online: http://www.playballkids.com/f/southbucks	Collect from the back door of the school hall
Junior Choir	Years 3 & 4	Tuesday before school, start time: 8am ALL WELCOME	All welcome, simply come along larainebrownbda@gmail.com	Arrive through the back door of the hall
Netball	Years 5 & 6	Tuesday before school, start time: 8am	Please speak to Mr Lucas for more details	Arrive through the back door of the hall
Spanish Club	Year 2	Tuesday before school at 8.20am	Book directly by contacting Mrs Pow (see above)	Arrive through the back door of the hall
Art Club	Year 5 & 6	Tuesday after school, finish time: 5pm	Book directly by contacting Mrs Hyslop: Nickyw1@hotmail.co.uk	Collect from the front entrance of school
Little Samurai	EYFS, Y1 & Y2	Tuesday, finish time: 4:15pm	Book directly: 07828 534817 www.SamuraiKickboxing.com info@SamuraiKickboxing.com	Collect from the back door of the school hall
Hand Chime Music Club	Y2 & Y3	Tuesday, finish time 4:15pm	Led by Miss Smith Limited spaces – please email the office to confirm a space (starting Tuesday 21 st January)	Collect from the front entrance of school
Football	Squad Training	Tuesday, finish time 4:20pm	Training, as last term, continues	Collect from the back gate
Rock Steady	EYFS – Y6	Wednesday morning	Book directly: 0330 113 0330 Rocksteadymusicschool.com	N/A lessons take place during the school day
Spanish Club	Year 1	Wednesday before school at 8.20am	Book directly by contacting Mrs Pow: (see above)	Arrive through the back door of the hall
Maths Club	Year 4 (by invitation)	Wednesday before school at 8:15am	Organised by Mrs Neal with a rota of children invited to attend every few weeks	Arrive through the back door of the hall
iPro Football	KS2 girls	Wednesday lunchtime – start date to be confirmed	Book directly: Office 07908 172175 Email: office@iprofootballcoaching.co.uk (school PE kit may be worn)	N/A
Spanish Club	Year 3	Wednesday after school, finish time 3:50pm	Book directly by contacting Mrs Pow: (see above)	Collect from the front entrance of school
Yoga & Mindfulness	Year 1 - 6	Wednesday, finish time 4:30pm	Book directly by contacting Sallie Windsor: 07846 992824 sallie.windsor@nurturekidsyoga.com	Collect from the back door of the school hall
Senior Choir	Years 5 & 6	Thursday before school, start time: 8am ALL WELCOME	All welcome, simply come along larainebrownbda@gmail.com	Arrive through the back door of the hall
Young Samurai	Years 3 - 6	Thursday after school, finish time: 4:15pm	Book directly: 07828 534817 www.SamuraiKickboxing.com or info@SamuraiKickboxing.com	Collect from the back door of the school hall
Spanish Club	Year 4	Friday before school at 8.20am	Book directly by contacting Mrs Pow: (see above)	Arrive through the back door of the hall
Sewing Club	Year 1 – 6	Friday after school, finish time: 4:30pm	Book directly: 07782 253565 anita@dhaaga-sewing.co.uk	Collect from the front entrance of school
IPro Football	Years 1 - 6	Friday after school, finish time: 4:30pm	Book directly: Office 07908 172175 Email: office@iprofootballcoaching.co.uk Children attending this club are permitted to come to school wearing their school P.E. kit with a football shirt to change into at the end of the day if they wish.	Collect from the back gate
Maestro Music Lessons	EYFS – Y6	Various days during the week	To find out more, go to: Homepage - Berkshire Music Trust (berksmusictrust.org.uk)	Times of lessons determined by Maestros

I hope you all have a lovely weekend; the team look forward to seeing you and the children again on Monday.

Anna Smith

CALENDAR DATES

Please continue to refer to this section in our newsletter throughout the year as new dates are added in order to keep on top of what is coming up in school. We will endeavour to give you as much notice as possible. Anything new will be highlighted in blue.

15 th January	3:30 – 4:30pm EYFS & Y1 Parent Workshops, 'Supporting your Child with Early Reading and Phonics' 4:15 – 5pm Y2 Parent Workshops, 'Understanding Teacher Assessment and Supporting your Child Through the Y2 Curriculum'
16 th January	A and B team netball matches v Courthouse Junior (away). 3:30 – 4:30pm Y3/4 Parent Workshops, 'Supporting your Child through the Lower KS2 Curriculum and the Y4 Multiplication Check' 4:15 – 5pm Y5/6 Parent Workshops, 'Supporting your Child Through the Upper KS2 Curriculum and KS2 SATs'
16 th January (12 noon)	Link for purchasing tickets for the Primary Dance Festival goes live (one ticket per family initially)
18 th January	Wild Cookham's 'Big Bug & Bird Bash' 2pm - 4pm in the school hall (booking required)
23 rd January	Indoor athletics event at Braywick (selected Y4 to attend in the morning, selected Y6 to attend in the afternoon) Selected children to be informed by letter
23 rd January (12 noon)	Opportunity to purchase extra tickets for the Primary Dance Festival from today
29 th January	B team netball match v Courthouse Junior (home) Selected children to be informed by letter
31 st January	PTA Disco (details to follow)
4 th February	EYFS & KS1 Open House 3:15pm
5 th February	KS2 Open House 3:15pm
13 th February	Borough Dance Festival for Y4 – 1pm

17th February – 21st February Half Term Break

24 th February	First day of term
1 st March	PTA Annual Ball
3 rd – 7 th March	Book week
4 th March	Virtual Parent Consultations
6 th March	Virtual Parent Consultations
14 th March	Comic Relief (details to follow)
20 th March	Ascot Bake off Event for Y5 (details tbc)
20 th March	Y4 Trip to Busy Buttons (details tbc)
4 th April	PTA Easter Event (details tbc)

7th April – 21st April Easter Holiday

22 nd April	First day of term
1 st May	Year 4 Trip to Starlight Express, Wembley Park Theatre
12 th – 15 th May	KS2 SATs

26th May – 30th May Half Term Break

9 th – 13 th June	Arts and Culture Week
23 rd – 27 th June	Y6 Residential Trip
23 rd – 3 rd July	Sports Fortnight
4 th July	Sports Day
17 th July	Last day of term