



School Lane  
Cookham  
Berkshire  
SL6 9QJ

## KEY INFORMATION FOR THE WEEK

Welcome back to the start of a new term and the final one of this academic year. It has been lovely to see the children return to the classroom refreshed and ready to make the most of all the opportunities coming their way over the next few weeks. With only five weeks until the summer holiday there is certainly a lot to pack in. As always, I will continue to use the weekly newsletter to keep you abreast of what is going on. You will be sent an email each week with a link which will take you directly to the newsletter where you will find the information you need to be aware of.

### Keeping Covid-19 Safe:

As I wrote in the last newsletter, this term we are following government guidelines by continuing to implement all the safety measures which appear on our risk assessment. This means the children remain in class bubbles, have a staggered start and end to the day and are required to wash their hands frequently. We continue to keep the building well ventilated with all doors and windows open and additional cleaning is carried out throughout each day.

In the latest circular to schools, we are informed of the following by PHE:

- The Delta variant otherwise known as B.1.167.2 or VOC 21 Apr-02 or variant of concern first identified in India, is now the most common type of COVID-19 in England.
- We know it is more transmissible than our previously most common Alpha variant otherwise known as B.1.177, VOC 20Dec-01 or variant of concern first identified in Kent.
- As a precaution, we are therefore recommending that close contacts of PCR positive confirmed cases are offered a PCR test through NHS test and trace to improve case finding and reduce the risk of further transmission. This is in line with measures in other settings and anyone who is a close contact of a confirmed case can access testing through NHS Test and Trace: <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>. This testing is recommended but optional, and will not shorten the isolation period of the contact.
- If a close contact tests negative, they still need to complete their ten-day isolation period. If they test positive this would extend their isolation period for ten days, from date of a positive case and their household would also then need to isolate.
- Anyone who has had a LFD positive result, should get a PCR test as soon as possible.
- Our public health advice to everyone remains the same; the best way to stop the spread of the virus is to remember 'hands, face, space and fresh air', continue with regular LFD testing for those aged 11 and above and follow the restrictions in place.

Useful Website for anything Covid-19 related:

- [Holy Trinity Church of England primary School, Cookham - Home \(holytrinitysch.co.uk\)](https://www.holytrinitysch.co.uk)
- [Symptoms of coronavirus \(COVID-19\) - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk)
- [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): getting tested - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)
- [Stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus \(COVID-19\) infection - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)
- [Testing for coronavirus \(COVID-19\) - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk)

The Department for Education coronavirus (COVID-19) helpline remains open and is available to answer questions about COVID-19 which relate to education settings and children's social care.

Phone: 0800 0468687

Opening hours: Monday to Friday from 8am to 6pm, Saturday and Sunday from 10am to 6pm

Thank you for continuing to support us in keeping the community safe by following the measures we have in place.

### Arts and Culture Week:

Arts and Culture Week is scheduled for 21st June. I do hope your child has spoken positively about all they have been doing in preparation for this. As a school, we are travelling the world learning about how others live. As well as completing a number of cross-curricular activities, the children are learning poems, songs and dance routines. We aim to capture these performances in films which will be posted on Google Classroom for you to see. There you will also see photographs of our classroom exhibitions showcasing the work the children have done.

During the week, we will continue to explore the world through workshops many of which will be delivered virtually by some of you. Thank you very much indeed if you have offered to help us in making this a special event for the children by running one of these. It promises to be a week full of learning and excitement.

On the final day of Arts and Culture Week (Friday, 25<sup>th</sup> June) your child is invited to bring in a picnic lunch containing food representative of the country they have been studying.

Reception Class: Spain

Year 1: China

Year 2: Italy

Year 3: Egypt

Year 4: South Africa

Year 5: Mexico

Year 6: Greece

In prepare packed lunches, please be aware that we are a nut-free school. Some children are also allergic to sesame seeds and chick peas so please avoid things like hummus. School meals will of course still be available.

Finally, if you have a flamenco dress which might fit a child in Reception Class and which you are willing to donate to the school, Mrs Lucas and Mrs Brown would be very happy to hear from you! Do get in touch.

### School Lunches:

If you require a school lunch for your child, please ensure you order it at least 24 hours before it is needed using our Scopay online ordering system. Lunches cannot be ordered from the classroom on the day they are required.

### Sports Day:

We have timetabled Sports Week for 5<sup>th</sup> July with Sports Day on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> July. I am still unable to determine at this stage if this is an event you will be invited to. Once a decision has been made, it will be published on a newsletter but for the time being we are planning activities which will take place for the children and enhance their learning regardless of whether we have an audience.

If you have an interest and/or expertise in anything sport related and would be willing to run a virtual workshop for a class in the same way that some parents are for Arts and Culture week, please contact the office and mark your email for the attention of Mr Whittle. In the past we have had talks about fitness, coaching elite athletes and even a virtual yoga session which the children have been able to join in with.

### Sun Safe:

Please remember to apply sunscreen to your child before sending them in in the morning especially as we are making the most of our outside space at the moment. It is also essential that your child brings a water bottle to school each day. Sun hats can be worn but please ensure any item your child brings in is named. We have noticed that a number of items have been mislaid this week especially when they are discarded on the field at breaktime. Anything named can be returned to your child immediately. Thank you.

### Visioning:

As I wrote in last week's newsletter, in school we talk a lot about what is at the heart of Holy Trinity. Our vision is inspired by a Biblical reference, John 13:34-35:

**Jesus said...**

***<sup>34</sup> "I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. <sup>35</sup> By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."***

Last term ended with us exploring this. Do take a look at the work we produced on google Classroom in a section called 'Sharing our Vision'. You might also like to take a look at the pictures posted after Wednesday's assembly, 'Remembering to be Grateful for the Things in our Lives'.

Every month the Cookham Parish Magazine contains an article about our school. Some of you may receive this publication. If you are interested in reading more about our vision and how this has an impact on what we do in school, our entry can be found on page 23 of the latest edition (June 2021). Please follow this link - [Holy Trinity Church Parish Magazine June 2021](#)

### Booster Classes:

Although booster sessions have continued during the school day this week, before and/or after school booster classes resume next week. If your child has been selected to attend these, you will have received notification from your child's class teacher. If this is the case, please note the timings especially for lessons before school so that they can start promptly with everyone in attendance.

### 30 Days Wild Challenge:

Inspired by achieving our bronze Wild Challenge award, we are now signed up to take part in a '30 Days Wild Challenge', an annual Wildlife Trust challenge which takes place during the month of June. The concept is simple, complete a 'Random Act of Wildness' each day.

This can be anything from eating a meal outside to watching the clouds. On Google Classroom in a section on 'Classwork' entitled '30 Days Wild' your child will find all the information they require to take part including 30 cards to work through. Please do encourage your child to participate and help them to post pictures of the activities they do in this assignment section of Google Classroom. We need to compile lots of evidence to achieve this next award! Thank you.

The Eco-Council are also working on a project to reduce waste. We have made great strides in this area recently simply by changing the way in which we serve lunch. Your child may raise these issues with you at home.

### Year 6 Residential Trip:

While we remain uncertain as to whether we will be able to go on our residential trip in a couple of weeks' time, the paperwork is in place to ensure that if we are able to go, we have everything ready. If you have a child in Year 6, today you will have received a letter outlining details and inviting you to a meeting with Roger Cell of CRS Adventures on 17<sup>th</sup> June at 6pm.

### Henley Literary Festival – Creative Competitions:

Don't forget the Creative Competitions organized by the team behind the Henley Literary Festival. Budding writers are encouraged to write a story or a poem of up to 500 words and there is an illustration competition for those keen on art. The closing date for entries is 1<sup>st</sup> August. Please refer to the flyer, emailed to you, for more details.

### Active Travel Competition:

The Royal Borough is inviting children to design a poster around one of four themes all linked to road safety. Details of the competition can be found on the flyer emailed out to you. Please note the closing date is 9<sup>th</sup> July.

### Absences:

Finally, can I remind you that attendance at school is compulsory. The latest directive from the DfE states:

*School attendance became mandatory again for all pupils from 8 March.*

*The usual rules on school attendance apply, including:*

- *parents' duty to secure their child's regular attendance at school (where the child is a registered pupil at school and they are of compulsory school age)*
- *the ability to issue sanctions, including fixed penalty notices in line with local authorities' codes of conduct*

It has been brought to our attention this week that a tiny proportion of children have not been in school because of taking trips elsewhere. This is not permitted. Research has indicated that absence levels at primary school continue to have an impact on children well into their secondary education. Specifically, a child with just 90% attendance in primary school can drop up to a grade at GCSE level.

If your child is unwell we appreciate your support in keeping them at home to prevent the spread of illness but it is disappointing to hear when absences are completely unrelated to illness as has been the case this week. It is disruptive for the children and as a staff doing all we can to deliver catch-up sessions to make up for the disruption caused by the pandemic, it is incredibly frustrating.

If you do need to request a period of absence you are required to complete a 'Request for Term Time Absence' (which you can download from the school website) **and send it back to school before the period of absence** to allow us time to make provision. Please outline your reasons for taking your child out of school in an open and honest way. Thank you.

I hope you have a lovely weekend.

Anna Smith

## CALENDAR DATES

21 <sup>st</sup> – 25 <sup>th</sup> June	Arts & Culture Week
5 <sup>th</sup> – 9 <sup>th</sup> July	Sports Week
9 <sup>th</sup> July	Sports Day (spectators may be invited to attend)
15 <sup>th</sup> July	Last day of Academic Term



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