



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

This week has been busy in school with Year 6 SATs and preparations for Arts and Culture Week getting underway. Yesterday you were sent a letter outlining what is happening particularly on Friday 27th May. The letter came with a reply slip which should be returned to school by Tuesday (17th May). Thank you.

National Testing Programme:

This week Year 6 have completed 6 Standard Attainment Tests (SATs). Their papers have been sent off for marking and we expect the results back at the beginning of July. The children have worked incredibly hard all week and regardless of their results we are proud of their attitude and application. If they were judged on that alone, they would all pass with flying colours!

If you have a child in Year 2, earlier in the week you were sent a letter explaining the testing programme for children at the end of Key Stage 1. I trust it made the process clear. Later in the term Year 4 will be taking a Multiplication Check and Year 1 will have a Phonics Screening Test. This completes this year's programme of national testing.

Arts and Culture Week:

I do hope that the letter which was sent out yesterday has helped you better understand what we have planned in order to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee. This is a momentous event which we will not see the likes of again. For a while we have known we must do something big to mark this occasion for the children but our plans have evolved over time especially when we saw cases of COVID going down and we began to realise that it was something we could involve you in too. Combining the event with our Arts and Culture Week seemed the obvious thing to do and being able to invite you in is something we are all delighted about. That said, I appreciate that it is not always easy for working parents to make arrangements to attend school events and I apologise for not being able to give you more notice. We would of course like as many of you to stay for our picnic and enjoy the entertainment that the PTA are organising but if you are unable to be here, we will of course be supervising the children until the usual pick-up time. To help us plan adequate supervision, please complete the slip at the end of the letter and return it to school by Tuesday (17th May).

Now is a good time to thank the PTA who have given us such tremendous support in planning this event. Not only have they organised entertainment for you and the children, the committee have also agreed to a request from the school to purchase a very special memento to celebrate the Jubilee. Every child will be presented with a beautiful book, 'Great Elizabethans, HM Queen Elizabeth II, 25 Amazing Britons from her Reign'. Inside will be a special bookplate which each child's teacher will sign. We hope this is a gift they will treasure for years to come.

HT Fest:

The PTA are also busy working on plans for this summer's HT Fest. Congratulations go to Molly Keegan in Year 5 whose design has been chosen for the front of the programme! Do take a look at the flyer for more details.

19th May – Change to Lunch Menu:

Please look out for an email informing you of a change to the lunch menu. This only affects the choices on Thursday (19th May).

Cookham Festival Schools' Concert:

With other local schools, this afternoon and this evening our Junior and Senior Choirs will be performing a specially commissioned piece written for the Cookham Festival. I know that several of you have tickets so I look forward to seeing you at the Odney Club later. Whether you're coming to the concert or not, I'm sure you will join me in wishing the children good luck as they take to the stage.

Oveys Farm Family Concert:

On Sunday 22nd May members of our school choir will be performing at a family concert at Oveys Farm in the village. This is an event organised by Renee Harris and will feature a number of talented musicians and local singing groups. The event which starts at 3pm is part of the Cookham Festival and all proceeds raised from ticket sales will be donated to the festival committee to support the arts. For more information, and to book tickets go to: <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/cookham-festival/oveys-farm-family-concert/2022-05-22/15:00/t-kvmxaz>

News from around The School:

This week everyone has enjoyed learning more about specific decades of the Queen's reign. Year 4 are loving finding out about the 1970s and are excited about creating some psychedelic tie-dyed t-shirts next week. Reception Class are getting on well with learning their Olympic 2012 dance and have been finding out about other important events from this decade. Having finished their red, white and blue clay tiles, they are now looking forward to the next art project. Check out their clay designs which have been posted on Google Classroom.

Focusing on the 1990's, Year 2 have begun work on the story 'Gregory Cool', published in 1994. It tells the story of a boy who travels to Trinidad and Tobago to see his grandparents and cousin. Kingfishers researched the islands before making an information poster. They used the beautiful illustrations to inspire watercolour paintings of the ocean. Work on their exciting, dynamic Spice Girls dance continues.

Year 3 have been grooving to Adam and The Ants in their 1980's quest, learning about the New Romantics which took the country by storm! They've been very interested in royal marriages from that time and comparing toys from then to now. Although not that long ago, things have really changed!

Year 5 have been exploring events in Britain and across the world during the 1960s. They've particularly embraced 'Beatlemania' and started writing biographies on each of the fab four!

In a bid to finish the week in style after working hard during SATs, Year 6 have turned their attention to the 1950s! The Queen's coronation took place and the American music scene grew in England. Inspired by this, the children have begun to learn a rock and roll dance choreographed by Rosemary who has done a terrific job leading lessons. Some striking artwork has also been created.

Away from Arts and Culture Week, Year 1 travelled to Altwood Senior School on Wednesday for the Ascot and Maidenhead School Sports Partnership's Commonwealth Games Legacy Festival. The inclement weather did nothing to dampen the spirits of the children as they participated in running, throwing and jumping events as well as a baton relay. Mr. Burn took tremendous joy in watching the children participate with such fervour and tenacity. Particular thanks go to Alice's mum who attended the event and provided tremendous support.



Follow us on twitter and see more of what we are up to!
@HTSchoolCookham

Queen's Platinum Jubilee Project Organised by The Sewing Club:

Last Friday I was delighted to accept an invitation to go along to St Edmund Campion School to see a beautiful tapestry made by children who attend Anita's Dhaaga Sewing Club. We were one of 17 schools who contributed to the magnificent patch work quilt measuring a staggering 5.5m by 2.5m. 225 children were involved including Scarlett, Izzy, Kaia and Holly from our school. On Tuesday Kaia, whose name was drawn out of a hat, went along to Windsor Castle with Anita to present the gift. To see their creation, check out our Twitter feed.

Thank you for all your support this week and have a wonderful weekend.

Anna Smith

CALENDAR DATES

From 16 th May	KS1 Standard Attainment Tests (SATs)
16 th May	Year 5/6 A Team, B Team and Girls Football Matches v Waltham St Lawrence (home - information to follow)
19 th May	Year 3 Cricket Skills event at Altwood School (letter to follow)
20 th May	'It's Your Move' Workshop (Year 6)
22 nd May	Ovey's Farm Concert (choir)
23 rd – 27 th May	Arts and Culture Week (not 13 th June as previously advertised)
27th May	Platinum Jubilee Celebratory Event and Picnic
30 th May – 3 rd June	Half Term Holiday
From 6 th June	Year 1 Phonics Screening Test
6 th – 10 th June	Year 4 Multiplication Screening Test
7 th June	Early Years Health Screening (refer to letter previously sent out)
10 th June	PTA School Disco (details to follow)
27 th June – 1 st July	Year 6 Residential Trip
8 th July	Sports Day (tbc)
2 nd July	HT Fest (details to follow)
14 th July	Last day of term
15 th July	First Day of the summer holiday
2 nd September	First day of the new academic year
8 th October	PTA Ball (details to follow)