



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)

School Lane
Cookham
Berkshire
SL6 9QJ

KEY INFORMATION FOR THE WEEK

Having now reached the end of term, on behalf of the team here at Holy Trinity we would like to thank you for your tremendous support throughout the year. Over the last few days we have spent time with the children thinking about all the experiences we have enjoyed together; the list is enormous and we are proud of everything they have achieved. You are now in receipt of their report which outlines their academic achievements but alongside that we hope that you have seen them grow in so many other ways. Now is a good time, as we prepare for the summer holiday, to reflect on the year we have had and look forward to the year which awaits. We hope that the information here on our last newsletter of the academic year helps you do just that.

News from Around the School:

If you were able to come along last Friday to Sports Day, thank you so much for being part of our celebration. I hope you enjoyed the event as much as we did organising and running it. It has been a busy fortnight of sport for everyone. The week before our Year 6 children enjoyed a terrific week away at CRS Adventures down in Devon, a centre we have been going to for the last eighteen years. They participated in a range of activities all of which tested their ability to work as a team, to fend for themselves, to embrace challenge and reach new heights! They did a terrific job and we were proud of them all. Back here at school the children enjoyed dance workshops, lacrosse, weightlifting, a climbing wall and healthy living sessions not to mention transition programmes. The following week with Year 6 back everyone launched themselves into boxing and Quidditch with freestyle football and dragon ball also on offer. We were incredibly lucky to have some fabulous visitors, including Ash Randall, a Guinness World Record holder, plus, via Zoom, two Rio Olympic athletes: Shona McCallin, MBE, England and GB Hockey player and Olympic gold medal winner and Chris Langridge, British badminton player and bronze medal winner. Sports Day was a wonderful way to finish what had been an outstanding fortnight of sport.

Since then, an email has been received from Stewart Cruikshank, the current British Weightlifting Masters Champion and winner of many accolades and medals in various Commonwealth Games. Stewart runs a business, 'Zalva', dedicated to wellbeing and supporting adults and children physically, mentally and emotionally. The company, which is based out of Maidenhead, offers classes in Yoga, Pilates, Weightlifting, strength & conditioning, circuits for children, massage and EFT (emotional freedom techniques). If your child particularly enjoyed his session and would like to find out more about 'Dream it Believe it Achieve it', go to www.zalva.co.uk Stewart can be contacted on 07502364476

Sport continued with two of our pupils selected to be part of the Commonwealth Games Baton welcoming committee when it arrived in Maidenhead a week ago. On Wednesday, the same two children took part in the schools' Baton Relay which took in 21 schools across RBWM. After transporting the baton from here to St Mary's, they enjoyed the closing ceremony at Braywick Leisure Centre.

This week Jane Douglas, the borough's dance specialist who always organises the RBWM Dance Festival, was in school talent spotting for her elite Girls' Junior Dance Company. I am thrilled that four of our girls were selected to join the company and several others have been placed on a reserve list. This is a wonderful achievement and we look forward to Holy Trinity being represented in many prestigious dance events in the future.

If you were able to come along to our Rock Steady concert on Wednesday, we hope you enjoyed the performances from our rock bands. It was clear they relished taking to the stage! We also hope that parents of our Year 6 Leavers welcomed the opportunity to be part of our Leavers' Service on Thursday. It is with real sadness that we say goodbye to the children and many families who have had an association with Holy Trinity for several years. We all wish them the very best as they prepare to transition to secondary school. As a parting gift, the parents of these children have bought a beautiful bench for the school which you may have noticed on Sports Day. Thank you for your generosity in gifting us something which will help us remember you and your children for years to come. We hope the children also treasure the gifts they received from us: a Bible and a graduation certificate. Our thanks also go to Spoorre Merry & Rixman Foundation for providing all the children with a dictionary. We were thrilled that Cllr Gerry Clark, representing the charity, was able to attend in person to present these.

It isn't just the children we are saying goodbye to at the end of term. After twelve years at Holy Trinity Mr Burn is off on a new adventure. Throughout his time here he has been a loyal and committed member of the team who we will miss enormously. I am sure you will join us all in wishing him well as he moves on.

Annual Reports:

You should now be in receipt of your child's annual report which includes for Year 1 Phonics results and Year 2 & Year 6 SATs results. We hope you find the information useful in helping you to continue to support your child over the summer and next year. Enclosed was also a letter about staffing arrangements for next year. At the start of the new academic year we will invite you in for 'Meet the Teacher' sessions when you will have chance to find out more about when next year holds.

Attendance:

We all appreciate how complex the year has been and how much you have supported us in our continued fight against Covid. Unlike other schools in the borough suffering from staff absence, we have remained open throughout. It remains a difficult balancing act; we are keen for the children to be in school after an extended period of absence for all, yet we have been worried about the spread of illness and the disruption this causes. Despite these complexities, we have some children who finish the year with 100% attendance which is an extraordinary achievement. These are: Louis Leaf, Sophia Kay, Grace Williams, Rose Garwood, Lily Mills, Angus Bowler, Chloe Mace, William Garwood, Isla Smith and Amber Ng. All were presented with a certificate yesterday.

Next year we hope to see more children on the list. While I appreciate how difficult it can be to arrange appointments outside school hours, any time away from the classroom is incredibly disruptive and we strongly discourage days out of school for family events or holidays. A lesson missed puts a child at a disadvantage especially when that lesson falls within a sequence of planned learning activities. We ask for your support in helping us focus on ensuring those children who are absent because of genuine illness are helped to catch up.

Swimming Year 3:

From September 6th, Year 3 will be off to Braywick Leisure Centre for swimming lessons. Please look out for a letter which will be circulated in the next few days containing information about this.

Summer Reading Challenge:

This summer the children are lucky enough to have two reading challenges to enjoy and we hope you will support them in taking part in both. The first, an annual national event which involves local libraries, this year takes in science and is called, 'Gadgeteers'. By reading a selection of books, the children get rewards, play games and earn badges. Your child has been given a bookmark to bring home and start them off on the journey. To find out more, pop along to your local library or go to: [Summer Reading Challenge](#)

The second has been organised by Chantal at the Little Bookshop in Cookham. She is offering a £5 book token for the first 100 who complete the challenge. To take part, sign up at the Little Bookshop and then record the names of any books read on the bookmark which have also been distributed. As books are completed, stickers will be given until the target of six have been read and then prizes are presented.

Both of these are wonderful projects to keep your child learning over the long summer break. Do encourage them to take part.

Changes to our Lunch Service:

As part of our processes for safeguarding the children, from September we will be introducing an added layer of security to ensure the children are served with the lunch you have ordered for them. This will involve your child coming to school wearing one (or two if they have special dietary requirements) coloured bands which they will be required to show at the serving hatch before being given their meal. Please refer to the letter which has been sent out to you outlining the change. We rely on your support to help us implement this system and safeguard the children, thank you.

Arbor School Operating System:

During the summer holiday, Holy Trinity will be moving over to a cloud-based database system which other schools in the authority have already been trialing very successfully. The benefit of this system is that it will allow you to update your child's details as changes occur. This will include, for example, a change of address, dietary and allergen requirements, medical needs, and emergency contacts. It will also allow us to keep you informed about your child in a much more accessible way. In essence, the system will allow us to share important information quickly and efficiently.

To find out more about this system, how it works and how it will affect you, please refer to the attachment which has been sent to you today.

In the meantime, and while we wait for it to become operational, please continue to inform the office of any changes to the information we already hold for your child.

Extra-Curricular Activities:

A number of flyers have already been distributed about clubs running over the summer holiday and operating in September at our school. Please refer to these for details of how to book your child a place. Please note, some have limited places and offer a first come, first served system of booking. From the start of the new academic year, included in our list of activities we hope will be a wraparound care service. After a considerable amount of time looking for a provider which we feel offers a quality service, we are currently in negotiations with 'Wrap Around Care 4U'. It is our hope that we will have something in place for September so keep a look out for information which may come to you during the holiday.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our club providers who do a terrific job providing activities for the children which enrich their learning experience. My thanks go particularly to the teaching and support staff who have run clubs and boosters classes this year and especially to Mr Lucas who has dedicated a huge amount of his own time to coaching our netball club. He has taken the children to the top of the league which is a superb achievement in such a short space of time.

PTA:

This year the PTA, steered by Kate Winrow-Davies, has done a superb job organising events for you and the children. The most recent, HT Fest, provided everyone with a wonderful day of entertainment. Our thanks go particularly to Sam Kay for organising this. All these events raise money which goes directly to the children to support them in their learning. Next year, do look out for information about when meetings are happening and news of which events have been planned. You are all warmly invited to get involved in our thriving PTA.

The next big event is the HT Roaring 20s Ball. This will be held on 8th October at the Odney Club. For more information and for details of how to book a ticket see the flyer or go to: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScESdk0w8aovKnt5Ea1AD9rLEulB1w2gRW6EeSyi2Z7OMlyA/viewform?usp=pp_url

Refurbishment:

The summer holiday always provides us with an ideal opportunity to carry out work in and around the school site. This summer the Year 3 and Year 4 toilets are being refurbished. This project is already underway. Last summer the toilets in our rollalong building were all replaced as part of our ongoing plan to maintain and upgrade so that the learning environment for the children is the best it can possibly be. Other smaller projects will also be carried out which hopefully you and the children will notice when we return.

Calendar Dates for the new Academic Year:

Please refer to the document sent as an attachment outlining the term dates for 2022-2023. Please note, the first day of the new academic year is Friday 2nd September.

To keep you fully informed about everything happening at Holy Trinity, please continue to refer to our newsletter which will be sent out every Friday next year too. We hope it provides you, not just with important dates and information about events coming up, but also with an insight into what is going on in the school for your child. It will remain the primary means of sharing news.

Finally, on behalf of everyone here at Holy Trinity, I thank you for your support during what has been a challenging but fulfilling year. Thank you for your positive influence and kind words as we have strived to provide the very best for your child. We sincerely hope they have had a happy year and are proud of all they've accomplished. We are proud of them, we hope you are too. Have a wonderful summer break and we shall look forward to seeing you on Friday 2nd September when we start all over again.

Anna Smith

CALENDAR DATES

2nd September

First day of the new academic year

8th October

PTA Ball (details to follow)