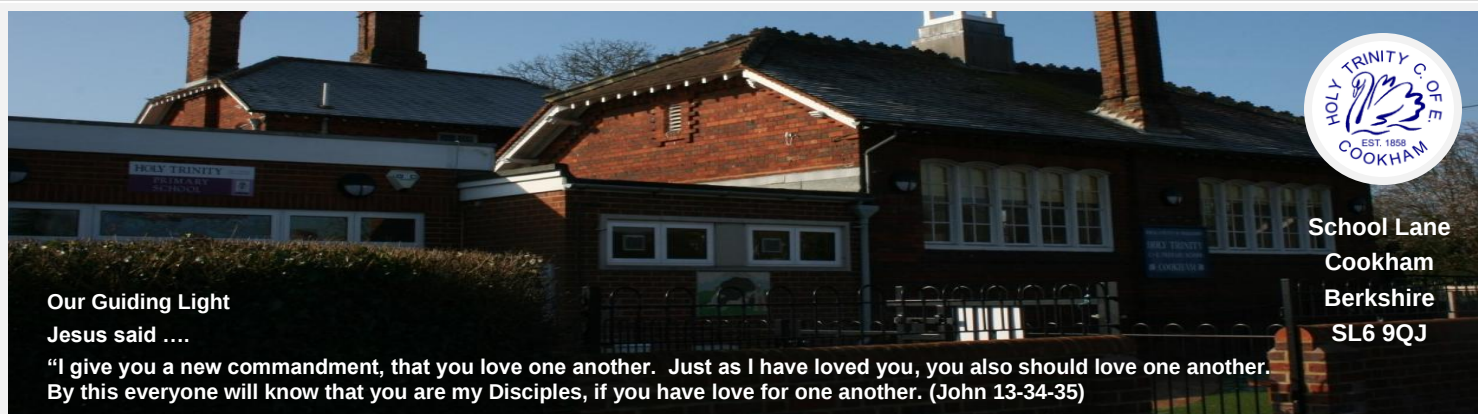




School Lane
Cookham
Berkshire
SL6 9QJ

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

As we come to the end of the final week of the academic year, there remain a number of things to celebrate before we break for the holiday.

Junior Dance Company Success:

We began the week welcoming the borough's dance specialist, Jane Douglass, in to school to audition children for her elite girls' Junior Dance Company which meets on a weekly basis to rehearse ahead of events like the Junior Dance Festival. Several girls put themselves forward having prepared really creative audition pieces and we're thrilled that ten were successful, the most we've ever had accepted. Now the hard work begins but we know that given the dance tradition that Mrs Lucas has created in our school they will shine.

Royal Swan Upping:

This year we were again invited to witness the Swan Upping in the village. Year 5 travelled the short journey to The Ferry where they saw the team pull up in their boats dressed in all their regalia. Although there were no swans for the Royal Swan Uppers to collect data on or assess the health of, the children were introduced to some cygnets and our school received a magnificent certificate marking the occasion. We were delighted to be part of this very special annual event.

House Captain Assembly:

Keen to leave their mark, our House Captains, ably supported by their Year 6 friends, led their final house assembly on Tuesday afternoon. They planned team activities, some on the field others indoors, for the children in their house to enjoy. It was a wonderful afternoon with everyone coming together.

Exploring the Cookham Dig:

Yesterday, Year 4 went on an adventure to the Cookham dig. They met with the team and saw the archaeologists at work. They had an opportunity to handle artefacts and ask lots of questions. They created quite an impression with their engagement and knowledge. If you haven't been along, there are Cookham Abbey Site Tours from 18th July to 7th August plus a number of workshops. To find out what is going on over the summer, go to: [Friends of Cookham Abbey | Support the Archaeological Dig](#)

Steel Pan Concert:

We were delighted that so many of you with children in Year 5 and Year 6 were able to come along to our steel pan concert. The children were pleased to see you and have an audience to perform to. Steel pan lesson continue next year for upper KS2.

A Journey Around the World with Hugh:

Our youngest children were excited to welcome Ms O'Reilly's son, Hugh, to school yesterday. Hugh has been on an adventure cycling around the world and he came in to share his story. The children tracked his journey across continents and had no end of questions to ask. He led a really interesting workshop.

Farewell Year 6:

Today we said goodbye to our Year 6 leavers who in September will be spreading their wings and heading off to senior school. It was lovely to see so many of you in our special assembly this morning during which we relived memories and shared experiences. The children were presented with a graduation scroll plus a Bible as a gift from the school. They also received a dictionary kindly donated by the Spoore, Merry and Rixman Foundation. The children have spent the day collecting messages in their leavers' book and signing shirts. We are incredibly proud of all they have achieved during their time at Holy Trinity and today was a wonderful occasion to celebrate, especially when the ice-cream van that we normally see on the Moor arrived to distribute ice-creams!

We are all enormously grateful to the parents of Year 6 who have bought the school a new lectern as a leaving gift. In using it, we will remember the children who we say goodbye to today. Thank you for your kindness and generosity.

Congratulations to our Arthur Burgin Science Award Winner:

You may remember that a while back Y6 set up a science exhibition in the hall where they displayed the work they had completed independently on a science project of their choice. Their work was judged and I'm delighted to inform you that today in assembly Tabitha was presented with a cup for outstanding achievement and Amelia Sewell, our overall winner, was presented with the Arthur Burgin shield. Our congratulations go to her and all those students who worked so hard on their assignments.

School Newspaper:

Our team of editors have done another fabulous job, not just compiling the latest edition of Trinity Times but also inspiring children in Y5 to step up as editors next year. We can look forward to their publication when we meet again after the holiday. Our thanks go to those pupils in Y6 who have led the project this year and all those who have submitted articles. We celebrate their success in producing such wonderful publications and raising money for a number of charities at the same time.

Success at our HT Fest:

As well as our PTA Junior Ambassadors running a stall at HT Fest this year, our Eco-Councillors did too. In assembly they presented a prize of a red panda, crocheted by Dotty, to Tilly who correctly guessed his name. Along with Amelia's success in selling bees wax products, they raised £86 for future projects.

Overall, I am delighted to announce that this year HT Fest raised £6,105 which is a remarkable amount. This will all be spent on projects which will directly and positively impact the children. A heartfelt thank you to Mrs Jones and everyone else who has made this possible.

Maths Challenge Success:

Also in assembly today, Ms O'Reilly presented certificates to those children in Y3 & Y4 who had successfully completed this year's national maths challenge. Many received certificates recognising their achievement, including a number achieving the gold standard. We are enormously grateful to Mrs Neal for taking a lead on this project which has benefitted so many children.

Annual Reports:

Annual reports were distributed this week and the children have taken home used exercise books to remind them of all they've accomplished this year. We are immensely proud of the progress they have made and the results they have achieved. Your help in guiding and supporting them is invaluable; we look forward to working in conjunction with you again next year.

Summer Reading Challenge:

When we return in September, it is always lovely to hear how many children have taken part in the Summer Reading Challenge over the holiday. This year the theme is 'Read to the Beat'. To find out more, pop along to Cookham or Maidenhead library or otherwise go to:

[Summer Reading Challenge](#) or [Homepage - The Reading Agency](#)

We shall look forward to handing out certificates in September to those who have engaged with the programme.

Water Safety:

Last week I wrote about the work we have done in school educating the children in water safety. Please find a letter from the Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service sent out to you today as an attachment.

'The Big Future':

This week some of our children have taken part in a national survey sent out to all schools by the Children's Commissioner, Dame Rachel de Souza, who is trying to gather views of young people on what it's like to be a child today. The survey asks children to focus on what changes they want to see in their communities, their biggest concerns and their hopes for the future. There is still time for your child to have their say. You can help them access the survey by using the link: <https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigfuture>

Alternatively, you can go to: [The Big Future | Children's Commissioner for England](#)

It would be wonderful if, with your help, more views are captured. Thank you.

Borough Wide School Travel Survey:

A little while ago I wrote about the borough-wide survey being undertaken by the council to gain a better understanding of the impact of school-related traffic, as well as hear of the barriers that parents and guardians may face during the school run. This information will help inform future initiatives aimed at improving safety, accessibility, and travel experiences around all schools in the borough.

This week I have been asked to draw your attention again to this and encourage you to have your say. The details, including a QR code to access the survey, has been sent to you again today or alternatively you could use the link below.

[RBWM School Travel Survey - Primary Years – Fill in form](#)

Preparing for the New Academic Year:

✓ **Lunches:**

Our catering team would be most grateful if you could find a little bit of time over the summer holiday to order school meals for your child particularly for the first week back. Over the holiday they will be placing orders.

✓ **Extra-Curricular Activities:**

We hope your child has enjoyed learning about the clubs that will be on offer next term from the flyers that have already been sent out. We will publish a timetable in the first week back to help you plan.

✓ **P.E Kit:**

Despite our best efforts, we are not in a position to introduce a new P.E. kit in September. Therefore, we kindly ask you to observe our school uniform policy which has been sent to you today as an attachment (and which can also be found on our website). On P.E. days, the children MUST be dressed in a white polo shirt with NAVY shorts or skorts. Alternatively, a NAVY tracksuit can be worn. The children are NOT permitted to come to school wearing items that are black. Thank you for your support in helping our pupils look smart and ready for learning.

✓ **Naming Items:**

To reduce the number of lost property items we find, please can we ask that you spent some time over the holiday ensuring that all clothing and all other items that your child may bring to school are clearly named. We always return named items promptly to their owners; unnamed items often aren't found.

✓ **Lateness:**

As a reminder, the window for arriving at school is between 8:45am and 9am. However, the closer the children arrive to 8:45am the less frenetic the start of the day is for them and the more time they have to complete Early Bird Work. We politely ask you to ensure your child arrives as close to 8:45am as possible when we return in September.

✓ **Attendance:**

100% attendance is what we always aim for and today a number of children received 100% certificates for this term; 10 pupils also received 100% attendance certificates having been here every day this year. RBWM Term Time Dates have been sent to you again today as a reminder that holidays must not be taken during term time. Thank you for supporting us in ensuring your child misses out on nothing unnecessarily.

Goodbye Ms. O'Reilly:

As I said to the children in our final assembly of the year this afternoon, the end of term is a time to celebrate all that we've achieved together. However, sometimes it is tinged with a certain sadness and today that was the case when we said goodbye to Ms. O'Reilly. During her six years at Holy Trinity, Ms. O'Reilly has been a tower of strength. We will miss her warmth and enthusiasm, her passion and her commitment, her skill and her positivity and perhaps most of all her smile. I am sure you will join me and the team as we wish her well in her next venture where we hope a slightly less busy existence allows her to put her feet up a little more often and pop in from time to time to visit.

Finally, as we break for the summer and on behalf of all the staff, thank you for all you have done to support us over the year. We are enormously grateful to those of you who have given up your time to run clubs especially Mrs Neal and her team plus Mr Lucas who have given their time free of charge. We are grateful to those of you who have come in and led workshops particularly during our themed weeks, and accompanied the children on trips. Thank you for making time to meet with us for Parent Consultations and to see your children's books at Open House events. Thank you for attending performances and special school events at the War Memorial and in Holy Trinity Church and above all thank you for working with us, guiding your children through the curriculum and supporting them in their learning journey; our job would be far more difficult without your support. As we break for the holiday, we would like to thank you for your generosity and the kind words you have shared this week. We are enormously grateful. Have a wonderful holiday and we shall see you all on Wednesday 2nd September for the first day back.

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 will be added on a regular basis as events come up. **Any new additions (or any changes and deadlines) are highlighted in blue.**

1 st September	INSET day
2 nd September	First day back for the children
8 th September	Y3 swimming lessons begin
8 th September	Buckinghamshire Transfer Tests (practice papers)
10 th September	Buckinghamshire Transfer Tests (11+ examination)
5 th October	Start of Y6 Cycling Proficiency course
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
21 st October	EYFS & KS1 Open House
21 st October	School Photos
26 th October to 30 th October	Half Term Break
11 th November	Whole School Remembrance Service at the War Memorial
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
8 th December 2pm	Nativity Performance
9 th December 6pm	Nativity Performance
15 th December	Final swimming lesson for Y3
16 th December	EYFS & KS1 Trip to the pantomime at the Wycombe Swan
18 th December	Last day of term