



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

We hope your child has enjoyed the week and has spoken positively about all the things that have been happening. Year 4 enjoyed a walk around Cookham on Wednesday morning searching for human and physical geographical features while Year 6 excelled in their steel pan lesson in the afternoon. Year 1 made finger puppets and our reception children enjoyed time in our wildlife area hanging up the bird feeders they had made. Year 2 did some fantastic work around growth mindset and Year 5, in the same way that Michael and his family did in Michael Morpurgo's 'Kensuke's Kingdom', imagined setting off on a yacht journey around the world. For Year 3 it's been a journey inside the human body looking at the skeleton so the learning for everyone has been vast and varied.

On Thursday we enjoyed a visit from Father Stephen and his Open the Book team when they led collective worship. This is a relatively new initiative which you will be able to read all about in the next edition of the Parish Magazine. The children heard the story of Jesus lost in the temple. Their actions and sound effects really helped to bring the story to life!

The netball team was disappointed by the opposing team pulling out of the match yesterday but Mr. Whittle has been busy organising other fixtures so it won't be long before they are back on the court. Do take a look at the calendar to see when these fall.

Many of you will be aware that for over ten years we have supported Partners for Change, Ethiopia, raising hundreds of pounds to support projects in a handful of schools over there. This week our PfC ambassadors have taken time to write letters and draw pictures for the children in Debre Birhan School which Sarah, who is travelling out to Ethiopia this evening, is going to take for us. She also goes with a gift, a Paddington Bear mascot, which we hope will remind the children that we continue to think of them.

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

If you were able to attend this week's parent workshops, thank you for your support and we hope you found the sessions and the supporting material useful. We were aware that some workshops were less well attended so in order to ensure that the meetings remain relevant we would be grateful if you could complete a short survey. It can be accessed by going to: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/VRP6P6V> and it should take no more than 5 minutes to complete. The deadline for completion is next Friday (24th January). In gathering your views, we can be sure that we are supporting you in the best way possible. Thank you in advance for taking the time to add your comments.

Use of the Trim Trail:

The use of the trim trail, the climbing equipment at the bottom of our playground, has been restricted recently because of the icy conditions. Every day we make an assessment in line with our health and safety policy and, when the children are able to use it, supervision is tight. In the interests of safeguarding and because staff are not available to provide supervision at the end of the day, we kindly request that your children do not use the trim trail after they have been handed over to you at 3:15pm. Thank you.

Drop Off:

The office staff are incredibly grateful when you are able to send your child to school with all the equipment they need for the day. We do appreciate that sometimes the children forget items but the need to deliver packed lunch boxes, homework books, football boots etc. that have been dropped off after the gate is locked, takes the team away from important jobs which prevents the office from functioning as efficiently as it should. If you could avoid doing this it would help enormously. You could also help us by ensuring a meal is ordered for your child via ScoPay at least 24 hours in advance. Thank you for your support.

Clubs:

Please refer to last week's newsletter for details about clubs that are running this term.

Early Bird Club:

Early Bird Club continues to run in the way it always has, offering an early drop off service from 8am for those of you who need it. On the days that Spanish Club meet before school, the children are welcome to attend both but there will be a charge for the early drop off service if your child arrives any time before 8:15am ahead of Spanish Club starting at 8:20am.

School Car Park:

Thank you for leaving a little bit of extra time to get to school in the morning while the traffic control system remains in place at the end of School Lane. We are also grateful for your help in continuing to safeguarding the children, pedestrians and our neighbours by parking considerately around the village at the start and end of the day. Can I offer a gentle reminder not to use the staff car park in the morning when dropping off a child, or in the afternoon (until after 5pm if picking up your child from Wrap AroundCare). Because of the tight space, with staff coming in and out and because of the restricted visibility when turning into School Lane, hazards are increased. You not using the car park decreases the risk of accidents happening. Thank you.

Event for Young Ecologists:

As a reminder, tomorrow (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 again 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. In order to book a space, go to: <https://form.jotform.com/243635552095056>

I end this week's newsletter with some wonderful news. On Tuesday Mrs. Redjeb gave birth to a baby girl who her proud parents have named Isabelle Anne. We are thrilled for Mr. Redjeb who has been enjoying some time away from school this week getting to know his daughter. His paternity leave continues next week but it won't be long before he is back in the classroom. I am sure you will join us all in congratulating him on this very special news.

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

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 (Please note that when tickets went on sale yesterday, the purchase of only 1 was permitted to allow at least one parent of all 800 pupils taking part an opportunity to attend. Apologies if you struggled to get your ticket. We have been informed by the organisers that the one ticket limit was not observed by some so it is likely that, where the rules have been breached, tickets will be cancelled. Do let us know if you were unable to get your ticket yesterday so we can act on your behalf.)
24 th January	Deadline for completing Parent Workshop Questionnaire: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/VRP6P6V
27 th January	B team football match vs Furze Platt Junior (home), selected children informed by letter
29 th January	B team netball match v Courthouse Junior (home) Selected children to be informed by letter - CANCELLED
30 th January	A and B team netball matches vs Courthouse Junior School (away)
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
6 th February	A team netball match vs Riverside Primary (away) B team football match vs Riverside Primary (away)
11 th February	B team netball match vs All Saints Junior (away)
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