



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

### Science and Technology Week:

I do hope your child has come home this week full of excitement and enthusiasm for the activities which have been happening as part of our Science and Technology Week. We have had some super companies in delivering sessions which seem to have inspired the children. On Tuesday 'Sublime Science' carried out some amazing science experiments before the children all had a go at making slime. It was the highlight of the day! Then on Wednesday 'Wonderstruck' had us all building rockets in the morning, which we launched on the field, then air powered cars in the afternoon. It was a superb day of designing and constructing.

Throughout the week the children have also enjoyed workshops led by parents. Dr Johnson spoke to the pupils about all things fluorescent, and Mrs King guided the children in making structures using spaghetti, cocktail sticks, plasticine and marshmallows. Mrs Awoyemi spoke about her job as an optometrist and Mrs Wingfield, as a senior school science teacher, had some terrific activities to engage the children. We ended the week with Ms Sewell bringing in a robot dog which the children in upper KS2 all fell in love with.

Wild Cookham has also been a great support by coming in to lead assemblies about water voles and the house martins which roost in our rafters and delivering sessions to some classes on biomimicry and habitats. We have had great fun testing the design technology projects made at home (thank you for your support in this) and, as you would expect, there have been lots of science experiments carried out, lots of cooking and lots of learning about famous scientists and engineers. It has been a hugely successful week which we hope has inspired everyone. News of what has been happening has been posted on our closed social media site, X, throughout the week. If you wish to have access, please email the school with your details so we can accept you as a follower. You will also have a chance to see photos of the things we have been up to in your child's books next week if you are able to attend 'Open House'.

The range of experiences we are able to provide the children with during these themed weeks is made possible through your support. Thank you if you have already made payment after reading my letter sent out last month. As the letter explains, your contribution allows us to book workshops like 'Sublime Science' and 'Wonderstruck' which enhance the learning experience for the children. If you are yet to make payment, please could we politely request that you do so by the end of next week which will allow us to start booking workshop providers for our Maths and Coding Week coming up after half term. For your convenience, the letter has been sent out to you again today. Thank you.

### Football Match:

On Monday eight Year 5 girls were selected to participate in a festival of football at Braywick Leisure Centre. Despite the weather, they had a wonderful time competing against teams from other schools across the borough. They brought energy and enthusiasm to the event and returned to school afterwards proud at having represented everyone in such a positive way.

Yesterday our football team played their second match of the season this time away against Holyport. While they didn't achieve a win, they did play hard and also represented our school brilliantly.

### Smartphone Free Childhood:

It was good to see many of you at the Smartphone Free Childhood meeting at Moor Hall on Tuesday, an event organised and funded by the PTAs of the four Cookham primary schools. It was a meeting designed to share information about the initiative, explore the findings from research and consider how we can take collective action to protect our children. Tanya Goodin, bestselling author, pioneering thinker and campaigner on 'ethics and digital wellbeing' and host of popular tech podcasts was the guest speaker.

It was an excellent evening in that it made transparently clear the issues children are facing and offered practical parenting tips on how to safeguard our young people. Tanya has kindly sent through some of the slides she shared which you have been sent today as an attachment.

I am enormously grateful to Kate Winrow-Davis for steering this project with the other PTA chairs and Mrs Gemma Garrett for all her work in promoting the national campaign ([Smartphone Free Childhood](#)) in our area. I was delighted to learn that in the whole of Berkshire, Holy Trinity C of E Primary School sits at the top of the leader board of schools whose parents have signed the pact to delay giving their child a smartphone until at least Year 9. Currently 84 have signed up which is fantastic. To see our results and those of other schools in the country or to sign up if you are keen to do so, go to: [Smartphone Free Childhood Parent Pact](#)

**Road Safety Workshops:**

Yesterday, the borough's road safety officer, Tamasine Cairney was here leading workshops for children in Year 3, Year 4 and Year 6. She is a regular visitor to school coming in to educate us in a range of road safety issues. Her sessions were informative, covering topics like the 'Green Cross Code', cycle safety, travelling independently and the importance of wearing seat belts. The children were given resources to take home to remind them of the messages she gave.

**Parents' Evening and Open House:**

I do hope you found the opportunity to speak to your child's teacher useful this week. Following these discussions, next week you are invited to come into school to see your child's books, have a look around their classroom and meet staff in person. The sessions will start immediately after school and we do hope you will be able to drop in. KS2 classrooms (Years 3-6) will be open on Tuesday and the classrooms of EYFS, Year 1 and Year 2 on Wednesday.

**Extra-Curricular Activities:**

Apologies if the cancellation of clubs because of Parents' Evening caused any inconvenience. All extra-curricular activities resume next week.

**Book Fair:**

If you were able to come along to our travelling Book Fair this week, I hope your child enjoyed the opportunity to make a purchase. My thanks go to the Year 6 pupils who set up and packed away each afternoon and were on hand to help others find what they were looking for. The Book Fair will return later in the year.

**School Newspaper:**

Some of our Year 6 children have been busy this week selling the latest edition of Trinity Times. If you are yet to get a copy, they will be on sale at the back gate all next week. Proceeds this time go to Food Share Maidenhead.

**First Class Photo:**

You may remember that a little while ago the Maidenhead Advertiser was in school taking a photo of Cygnet Class for their 'First Class Photo' edition. The photos from all the schools in the area will be printed in the paper on Friday, October 25 but the First Class photos are now also available online for you to purchase if you wish: [FIRST CLASS 136575 - Photo 1 of 18 - Baylis Media Photos](#)

**Thank you from Food Share Maidenhead:**

We received a lovely letter this week from Food Share, Maidenhead thanking us all for our harvest festival donations. In it they explained how our gifts would allow them support the 450 people they help every week in Maidenhead. They are enormously grateful to us for our generosity.

**Inspection of our WrapAroundCare4U Provision:**

Yesterday we had an Ofsted inspector in school meeting the team who operate our after-school club and seeing the provision on offer. She spoke to me and a number of children who shared with her their views. If you emailed comments in to Karen or spoke to the inspector in person, thank you for taking the time to do so. The report will be available for you to see in due course.

**PTA AGM:**

The PTA AGM takes place on 6<sup>th</sup> November. This week Mrs. Winrow-Davies circulated a letter on WhatsApp and Facebook inviting you to attend. If you missed it and want to find out more, go to: <https://acrobat.adobe.com/id/urn:aaid:sc:EU:1947452c-1f52-49c3-a070-ca812b07b519>

**Attendance:**

I am delighted to inform you that today our whole school attendance marking the time we've been in school this academic year stands at 99.2% which is exceptional. Yesterday, with every child on roll in school, attendance was 100%, only the second time this has happened in the last three years. Thank you for all your efforts in supporting us achieve this excellent data.

**Sunday Services at Holy Trinity School:**

I am delighted to report that the first Sunday Eucharist at Holy Trinity School went well last weekend. Many turned up and afterwards, over a cup of coffee, I received lovely comments about our school. Three members of the congregation had come to Holy Trinity as children so they noticed many changes. All were positive about their experiences here and fascinated to see how the school has moved on. If you are able to join us this weekend, the service starts at 11am. All are welcome.

Have a lovely weekend.

Anna Smith

## CALENDAR DATES

Please continue to refer to this section in our newsletter throughout the year as new dates are added in order to keep on top of what is coming up in school. We will endeavour to give you as much notice as possible. Anything new will be highlighted in blue.

22 <sup>nd</sup> October	KS2 (Year 3-6) Open House Session to view classrooms 3:15pm -4pm
23 <sup>rd</sup> October	EYFS & KS1 Open House Session to view classrooms 3:15pm -4pm
23 <sup>rd</sup> October	Year 3 Trip to Chiltern Open Air Museum
23 <sup>rd</sup> October	A team netball match v Cookham Dean (home) Selected children informed by letter
19 <sup>th</sup> October	PTA Pre-Loved Uniform Sale
<b>28<sup>th</sup> Oct – 1<sup>st</sup> November</b>	<b>HALF TERM</b>
6 <sup>th</sup> November	PTA Annual General Meeting
8 <sup>th</sup> November	Year 1 Trip to Windsor Castle
11 <sup>th</sup> – 15 <sup>th</sup> November	Maths & Computing Week
11 <sup>th</sup> November	Remembrance Service at Cookham War Memorial
14 <sup>th</sup> November	A and B team football matches vs Courthouse (away) Selected children informed by letter
15 <sup>th</sup> November	Children in Need
22 <sup>nd</sup> November	PTA Pyjama and Popcorn Party
1 <sup>st</sup> December	Cookham Christmas Street Fayre
2 <sup>nd</sup> December	NCMP Year 6 screening
3 <sup>rd</sup> December	Year 5 Trip to the Harry Potter Studios
4 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 6 Trip to Bletchley Park
10 <sup>th</sup> December	EYFS & KS1 Nativity Performance 2pm
11 <sup>th</sup> December	EYFS & KS1 Nativity Performance 6pm
12 <sup>th</sup> December	PTA Carols in the Courtyard
18 <sup>th</sup> December	EYFS & KS1 Trip to the Braywick Pantomime
19 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Lunch
<b>20<sup>th</sup> December – 6<sup>th</sup> Jan</b>	<b>Christmas Holiday</b>
3 <sup>rd</sup> – 7 <sup>th</sup> March	Book week
4 <sup>th</sup> March	Virtual Parent Consultations
6 <sup>th</sup> March	Virtual Parent Consultations
1 <sup>st</sup> May	Year 4 Trip to Starlight Express, Wembley Park Theatre
12 <sup>th</sup> – 15 <sup>th</sup> May	KS2 SATs
9 <sup>th</sup> – 13 <sup>th</sup> June	Arts and Culture Week
23 <sup>rd</sup> – 27 <sup>th</sup> June	Y6 Residential Trip
23 <sup>rd</sup> – 3 <sup>rd</sup> July	Sports Fortnight
4 <sup>th</sup> July	Sports Day