



### 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

Thank you for your prompt response to this morning's email about school being closed today. Once we received a directive from the borough we were able to inform you. However, I appreciate this gave you little notice and we hope that you were able to make alternative arrangements for child care quickly. Homework tasks have already been posted on Google Classroom which your child will have an extra day today to complete! The Open House event scheduled for Cygnet Class this afternoon will be postponed until after half term.

For the first time in a while we have managed to get through a week with no new cases of Covid-19 being reported. Attendance figures continue to rise and school feels almost back to normal after our recent outbreak. Thank you for all you've done to help us to keep our community safe and covid free.

When we return after the half term break it will remain important that if your child is off school for whatever reason the office should be emailed ([office@holytrinitysch.co.uk](mailto:office@holytrinitysch.co.uk)) or telephoned (01628 523766) before 9:30am. This will help us to be sure of the reasons why pupils aren't in so that we can report accurate attendance figures to the borough.

### News from around the school:

This week Moorhens have been taking a deep dive into the classification of things, researching and then producing their own reports of each of the five kingdoms. In other goings on they have had a session on road safety with Imogen Leonard, the borough's Road Safety Education Consultant, during which they explored routes to school and what they need to do to keep themselves safe on these journeys. They have also continued to enhance their design and technology projects using Bee-Bots. However, perhaps the most exciting news for the children was the announcement of who'd been voted in as House Captain. While there was a mixture of delight and disappointment, no one showed animosity and congratulations were offered all round to the successful candidates.

There was also huge excitement in Teal Class when they embarked on an exploration of electrical circuits using a range of apparatus. They have investigated ways of staying safe around electric appliances and learnt that using a metal knife to poke out any bits that are stuck in the toaster is not a good idea. Their creation of complete and incomplete circuits will be used in future lessons to find out which materials conduct electricity, useful information if they're to clear that toaster! A new display has appeared in their classroom which showcases the art of creating illuminated letters. These look especially effective on paper which appears to have aged after a fair amount of tea staining! The children's dragon poems, of which they are very proud, can also be seen.

Cormorants spent an afternoon using atlases to locate and draw the physical geographical features in Europe before sorting through images of amazing feats of nature and human endeavour from across the continent. Some budding explorers emerged. On Tuesday afternoon when most were sheltering indoors, the class showed their true resilience and sense of fun learning the important survival skill of fire building down in our wildlife area. Kensuke, from the class novel 'Kensuke's Kingdom' by Michael Morpurgo, would have been proud. The children might even have given the gibbons in the story a run for their money with their campfire singing! In science lessons, a journey back through time helped the children to understand what we know about our solar system today. They learned that Copernicus's heliocentric theory wasn't an instant hit but some scientists did listen eventually which led them to realise that everything doesn't revolve around us at all!

Goslings have been investigating time in maths and unravelling the mysteries of analogue clocks! The children are making great strides in being able to tell the time. What really helps is them wearing an analogue wrist watch. These make for great presents if you've ever stuck for an idea! In RE they have been considering the impact of rules in scripture on followers of the Jewish faith. They were fascinated investigating this. In other news, everyone was shocked by the outrageous behaviour of Toad in 'Wind in the Willows'; there ensued a fierce debate on whether his 20 year jail sentence was justified!

Across KS2 the children have revised the language they have learned in French and German over the term using 'Kahoot'. The game is an interactive learning tool in which everyone can compete against each other, with questions, answers and a leaderboard displayed on the big screen. This is just one of the many online language resources used to promote the subject. In particular, Wordwall and Educandy are used by Mrs Thandi plus [www.french-games.net](http://www.french-games.net) and [www.german-games.net](http://www.german-games.net) to engage and enthuse.

Our 'Just One Thing' project to take us into half term continues along the theme of not littering. The children seemed genuinely shocked by the effects rubbish is having on our oceans. To help us appreciate that not all is lost, we shared the book, 'The Blue Giant' by Katie Cottle which Jude very kindly bought for our library. We also welcomed Brian Clews of 'Wild Cookham' to school on Wednesday. With help from the society, we will soon have bird boxes with cameras inside installed on our site. If birds choose to nest in them, before long we should be able to beam live pictures from inside the nesting boxes to classrooms.

The Winter Olympics in Beijing have continued to provide us with a wealth of stories about resilience and determination during other collective worship sessions. We delved back into history to find out about Eddie The Eagle and to watch Torvill and Dean win gold in 1984. Links to support all the themes covered this week can be found on Google Classroom in the Collective Worship section.

Swans have finished their R.E. study this term by answering the rather complex question 'Does Creation Help People Understand God?' Propagating plants has helped them to reach some conclusions as has reading about Julia Donaldson's snail in her fabulous tale 'The Snail and The Whale'. In an exciting computing project linked to English, the children have composed short scenes depicting the beginning to the story, when the snail's horizons broaden courtesy of the colossal tail of a grey-blue humpback whale, using iPads and stop-motion animation.

Cygnets superheroes of the week are the men and women who work for the RNLI. They have learnt about how they save lives at sea and have linked this to the story of Grace Darling, a very courageous young woman who lived more than 200 years ago. The children have also made lighthouses on the modelling table and have painted pictures of the many other superheroes who help us today, such as firefighters and the police. Alongside their topic work, the class continue to work hard on their daily maths and phonics and are really enjoying their Bug Club activities. During music lessons this week they have enjoyed listening and dancing to the Conga before delving deep into their imaginations on a journey to tropical islands. They then created their own music using wooden beaters, trying hard to keep the rhythm as they performed in small groups. With nursery rhymes the next focus, pitch was explored. Everyone's favourite, 'Five Little Monkeys' was a hit!

In PSHE, Kingfishers have been thinking about communities. Having previously thought about what makes a community, this week they went on to explore how people and other living things have different needs and then consequently thought about the responsibilities of caring for them. Together they thought about the different things they could do to help look after their environment.

On Thursday the netball team was in action. In an away game at Braywick Leisure Centre our two teams were up against players from Braywick Court School. One match was hotly contested but despite their very best efforts, by full time team Roses had to accept a 7-8 loss. In another game, however, played by Diamond team, Holy Trinity scored so many goals that by the end no one seemed completely sure of the final result. In the end we settled on a 26-0 win which everyone was delighted with. Players of the match, as voted for by the opposing team, were Georgie and Rosemary and Raff and Marcy were given the coaches award for fair play and teamwork. There was a marked improvement in play between this event and their last game a couple of weeks ago which just goes to show how effective those early morning training sessions on Tuesday are. Mr Lucas continues to do a wonderful job coaching the squad. Our thanks also go to Miss Beal who has helped out at training sessions and Mrs Harris for umpiring.

Yesterday it was the football A team's turn to travel to Cookham Rise for their league football match. Holy Trinity was the better team in the first half with Oscar and both the Wills combining well to bring a couple of decent saves from their keeper. As the half wore on, the defensive partnership of Rhys and Jacob grew in confidence and Yassen's goal was rarely threatened. A sudden downpour at the beginning of the second half made conditions challenging for both teams although a couple of Rise counter attacks saw goalkeeper Yassen spring into action. We were then very unlucky not to take the lead after a brilliant Will Garrett cross found Oscar who directed his header just wide. A couple of dangerous set pieces followed but neither team were able to break the deadlock and the match finished 0-0. Man of the match, as voted for by the opposition, was Oscar for his powerful running in behind and bursts down the right. We look forward to more matches after half-term.

For news of things as they happen during the week don't forget to turn to our Twitter feed. Reports and photographs are regularly posted.

#### **Open House:**

We do hope that you enjoyed the opportunity to come into school this week to see your child's classroom, meet their teacher(s) and view their work. It was wonderful that so many of you made it; the children certainly seemed both excited and proud to share what they have been doing this term with you. As you will have seen in last week's newsletter, we have parents' evening shortly after half term and then we would like to invite you back to the classroom for another open house event just before Easter. The dates for this are listed below.

#### **Book Week:**

When we return on 28<sup>th</sup> February we will be straight into Book Week. If you have not yet paid £5 for the speakers we have booked, please use your Scopay account to do so by the end of today. Thank you. The letter, previously circulated and sent again today as an attachment, explains how you can pre-order books or book tokens ahead of visits to The Little Bookshop. We would be most grateful for any assistance you can give walking the children safely to and from the bookshop. Please refer to the letter for details of when your child will be visiting and then inform your child's class teacher if you are able to come along. This can be done informally at the gate or by emailing the office [office@holyltrinitysch.co.uk](mailto:office@holyltrinitysch.co.uk)

As the letter states, on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> March your child is invited to come to school dressed as a book character.

#### **Maidenhead Big Read – 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> March, 10am to 3:30pm:**

To coincide with our Book Week, a programme of events as part of Maidenhead's Big Read are currently being advertised. This includes a free event in Maidenhead town centre near the library. Several authors and story tellers will be taking part in an '**Ocean Alive**' weekend and offering an opportunity to visit an ocean dome containing an array of exhibits and interactive activities. One of the highlights of this event will be a life size 10m inflatable orca. A virtual half day workshop with Gloria Barnett (*aka the Weird Fish Lady*), a biologist, scuba diver, underwater videographer and author will be awarded to the school with the highest number of pupil and staff attendees recorded over the weekend. The two schools of the next highest attendees will be awarded a copy of '*Ocean Endangered*' Book authored by one of the story tellers Dr Russell Arnott. Do refer to the flyer for details and why not go along (advance booking is recommended)!

#### **Internet Safety:**

As you will have seen in last week's newsletter we marked Safer Internet Day with a number of events in school. The children focused on this topic using a range of resources some of which were linked to the 'Growing Together' theme for this year's annual event. This is a topic, however, which we revisit on a regular basis with the aim of equipping the children with the tools they need to use the internet safely. You of course play a part in helping us to do this. The representation of sex in Roblox with naked/semi-naked figures has been in the news recently so this might be a very current issue to talk to your child about over the half term break.

#### **Devon Trip (Year 6):**

In order to secure a place for your child on our residential trip to Devon in the summer term you are required to pay a deposit of £100 by 7<sup>th</sup> March. Thank you if you have already done so. You are also required to complete two forms: the CRS Young Persons Consent form and the OA4 form. We would be grateful if you could return these to school in a sealed envelope marked with your child's name and 'Devon Paperwork' as soon as you are able. The letter which was sent to you a couple of weeks ago stipulated that forms should be returned by 13<sup>th</sup> May but it would be helpful if we could have them sooner. Thank you.

**Extra-Curricular Activities:**

After half term clubs will continue to operate with drop off and pick up arrangements remaining the same:

Club	Year Group	Day	Time	Arrangements for drop-off/pick-up
Breakfast Club	All	Monday – Friday inclusive	Start time 8am each day of the week	Arrive through the back door of the hall
Spanish Club	Year 4	Monday	Before school at 8.20am	Arrive through the back door of the hall
Playball	EYFS & Year 1	Monday	Finish time: 4:15pm	Collect from the back door of the school hall
Junior Choir	Years 3 & 4	Tuesday	Before school at 8am	Arrive through the back door of the hall
Netball	Years 5 & 6	Tuesday	Before school at 8am	Arrive through the back door of the hall
Spanish Club	Year 2	Tuesday	Before school at 8.20am	Arrive through the back door of the hall
Football Club	Years 5 & 6	Tuesday	Finish time : 4:30pm	Collect from the back gate
Little Samurai	EYFS, Y1 & Y2	Tuesday	Finish time: 4:00pm	Collect from the back door of the school hall
Spanish Club	Year 1	Wednesday	Before school at 8.20am	Arrive through the back door of the hall
Spanish Club	Year 5	Wednesday	Finish time: 3:50pm	Collect from the front entrance of school
Playball	EYFS & Year 1	Wednesday	Finish time: 4:15pm	Collect from the back door of the school hall
Senior Choir	Years 5 & 6	Thursday	Before school at 8am	Arrive through the back door of the hall
Young Samurai	Years 3 - 6	Thursday	Finish time: 4:15pm	Collect from the back door of the school hall
Spanish Club	Year 3	Friday	Before school at 8.20am	Arrive through the back door of the hall
Sewing Club	Year 2 – 6	Friday	Finish time: 4:35pm	Collect from the front entrance of school
Knitting Club	Year 6	Friday	Finish time: 4:15pm	Collect from the front entrance of school
IPro Football	Years 1 - 6	Friday	Finish time: 4:30pm	Collect from the back gate

**Lunch Ordering:**

Please use time over the half term holiday to pre-order lunches for your child for when they return after half term. This should be done using your ScoPay account. Meals need to be pre-ordered at least 24 ahead.

**Parking:**

Thank you for remaining considerate of our neighbours when parking your vehicle at pick-up or drop off by not blocking driveways or parking on single white lines and double yellow lines. If ever you are struggling to find a place to park please do not worry, we will keep your child safe until you arrive even if that means you having to park a distance from the site and arriving here after the window for picking up. One of the 'Just One Thing' projects we have focused on this term has been finding alternative ways of travelling to school to keep School Lane free of vehicles. If after the holiday you can find ways of supporting us this, our Eco-Council would be delighted!

**PTA:**

Last week I shared news from the PTA. If you have ideas for activities or fundraising for next term (especially Jubilee related) please send them to [pta.holytrinitycookham@gmail.com](mailto:pta.holytrinitycookham@gmail.com)

The next PTA Quiz Night is confirmed for Friday 18th March at Pinder Hall. Pre-booking is required using the form and a flyer has been emailed out today: <https://forms.gle/9Fa7qZHcGuXaXAzU7>

See also a flyer from the PTA about their uniform shop.

Finally, after spending a term with us mostly based in Year 1, we say goodbye to Miss Beal who has come to the end of her teaching practice. I am sure you will join me in wishing Miss Beal, a former pupil of Holy Trinity School, all the very best for the future. We have enjoyed having her and thank her for all the contributions she has made to our school.

We do hope you all enjoy the half term break and we shall look forward to seeing you again on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> February.

Anna Smith

## CALENDAR DATES

28 <sup>th</sup> February	Beginning of Term
28 <sup>th</sup> February – 4 <sup>th</sup> March	Book Week
3 <sup>rd</sup> March	World Book Day
4 <sup>th</sup> March	Book character dress up day
4 <sup>th</sup> March	Postponed Open House event for Cygnet Class
1 <sup>st</sup> March	Y4 Road Safety
8 <sup>th</sup> March	Parent Consultation (details to follow)
9 <sup>th</sup> March	Winning Y5 Junior Bakers to Ascot Racecourse
11 <sup>th</sup> March	Class Photographs
<b>10<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>Borough Dance Festival Postponed from 17<sup>th</sup> February by the organisers (Year 4)</b>
18 <sup>th</sup> March	Red Nose Day (details to follow)
18 <sup>th</sup> March	PTA Quiz Night
29 <sup>th</sup> March	Before School Netball Club cancelled: <b>Junior and Senior Choir</b> meeting together at 8am to rehearse for the Cookham Festival
1 <sup>st</sup> April	PTA School Disco (details to follow)
Week beginning 4 <sup>th</sup> April	Open classrooms to view work (3:15 to 4pm): <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Monday 4<sup>th</sup> – Y1, Y5 &amp; Y6</li><li>○ Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> – Y4</li><li>○ Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> – Y2</li><li>○ Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> – Y3</li><li>○ Friday 8<sup>th</sup> – Reception</li></ul>
11 <sup>th</sup> April	Start of Easter break
10 <sup>th</sup> June	PTA School Disco (details to follow)
2 <sup>nd</sup> July	HT Fest (details to follow)
8 <sup>th</sup> October	PTA Ball (details to follow)



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