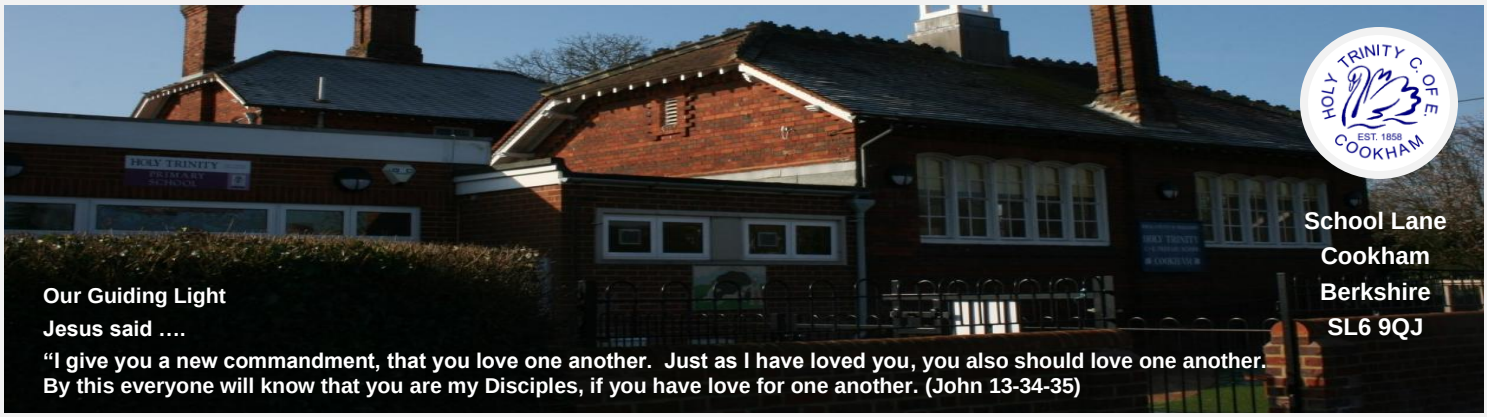

KEY INFORMATION FOR THE WEEK

Maths and Computing Week:
Maths and Computing Week has been a huge success so we hope your child has come home excited about the things they have done. Our Key Stage 2 children travelled the world and journeyed back in time when they took part in a VR headset workshop earlier in the week. They climbed Everest, visited Machu Picchu and discovered what life was like in the trenches during WW1. Captain Morgan had as much fun as the pupils on Wednesday when they joined him for some pirate puzzle solving tasks and their success meant he found his way back to his ship which is now on its way to the Caribbean! Our Computer Club lead worked with a number of children, we covered online safety and our games café was a great success. It was really interesting to see the range of games the children brought in.

Everyone embarked on a whole school project which involved learning about pixels and creating our school logo out of them. It continued throughout the week and we now have the tricky job of putting 210 pieces together to form an image which is recognisable. We're sure it will turn out well! We were also delighted to welcome Mrs Neal, Mrs Russell and Mr Cuin-Wood into school to lead interesting and varied workshops for the children. As well as learning more about AI, their eyes were opened to the world of work in which there is so much maths and computer technology. We are very grateful to all three for giving up their time to be with us.

Thanks to Mrs Neal and her team, Mrs Montanari and Mrs Pichler, who do such a superb job running Friday's morning's maths club, twenty-four children had the chance to take part in this year's Primary Maths Challenge created by The Mathematical Association and designed to encourage enthusiasm, boost confidence and show the different ways questions can be asked. Today in assembly, bronze, silver and gold certificates were handed out. The whole school shared in their success and congratulated the seven whose scores were high enough for them to be entered into the next bonus round which will take place in February. Well done to Barnaby King, Cora Noel, Matilda Rumble, Jamie Montanari, Sophie Neal, Dotty Parker and, in particular, Missy Cochrane who scored full marks!

Many have also taken part in the England Rocks Times Table Rock Stars event which ran from 17th to 19th November. Also in assembly, we congratulated the three children who achieved the highest scores. Tino Castiglione came third, Jamie Montanari second and Dotty Parker first. Everyone embraced the competition and felt the benefits of regular times table practice. It's been a terrific week which we've all enjoyed.

Open Evening:
On Wednesday our Year 5 and 6 children did us proud when they welcomed prospective parents. They did a superb job showing them round and demonstrating some of the resources we use in class. They did particularly well in answering questions, really impressing our visitors.

National Anti-Bullying Week:
The theme for this year's Anti-Bullying Week has been 'Break the Silence'. During a busy week, the children took part in live lessons where they explored what bullying is and how they can use their voice to stand up to bullying were it ever to occur. We also identified trusted adults and discussed how to seek help whatever worry we might be experiencing. Cyber bullying, relevant this week, was also explored by Year 6.

Sporting News:
Yesterday, our football squad welcomed Cookham Rise to school for a match that was much anticipated. The team did brilliantly and were leading 2 - 1 at half time. The second half looked promising with a score of 3 - 2 and only 2 minutes to go, but then disaster struck. The boys, tired from all their efforts, were unable to hold on and suddenly they found the ball in their net on too many occasions. The final score was 4 – 3 to the opposition. We have never seen such a convincing come back from any team. There was bitter disappointment but, nonetheless, we look forward to another exciting game soon.

Year 3 Swimming:
Year 3 continue to do well in their Tuesday morning swimming lessons. The children were told this week that on Tuesday they should bring pyjamas to school so they can experience swimming in clothing. This is part of the staying safe near water and life saving part of the course. However, given that a number of children will be at the Royal Albert Hall on Tuesday (see below), this lesson has been postponed until the following Tuesday, 1st December, when the whole class will be here. Therefore, they should come to school next week with the usual kit: swimming costume, goggle, swimming hat and towel.

School Elections:
As a reminder elections for House Captains, PTA Junior Ambassadors and Eco-Councillors will take place next week when we will be marking UK Parliament Week. If your child is interested in one of these posts, do encourage them to get involved. Additional details were shared on last week's newsletter.

Barnardo's Young Supporters Concert at the Royal Albert Hall:
On Tuesday the thirty-six children who make up our Junior and Senior Choir will be travelling to the Royal Albert Hall to take part in a charity concert for Barnardo's which this year has 'Hope' as its theme. This is an event we took part in last year and we're very excited to be taking part again. The children will be joined by 1100 other young people from across the country who will be accompanied by the Royal Philharmonic Concert Orchestra as they sing a medley of songs in a concert hosted by the president of the charity, Natasha Kaplinsky OBE.

We are delighted that many of you will be coming along in the evening to see us perform! To get tickets, go to:
Barnardo's Young Supporters present: 'Hope' | Royal Albert Hall

Caterlink Survey:
There is still plenty of time to complete the Caterlink **Parent and Pupil Survey**. As indicated in last week's newsletter, the survey can be completed by you alongside your child at home. It takes approximately nine minutes to complete and will provide the team with valuable feedback on what they are doing well and, importantly, where they can improve their service. The survey will remain open until **20 December**, and once all responses have been reviewed in the New Year, a summary of the feedback and key findings will be shared. Do refer to the email sent out last week which contains the link to the survey and a QR code you can use.

Christmas Lunch:
Don't forget to pre-order your child's Christmas lunch, which will be served on Tuesday 15th December. The deadline to do this via your Scopay account is Friday 27th November. Please refer to the email sent earlier in the week for more information.

Cookham Christmas Craft Market:
This event takes place on Saturday 28th November (3:30pm - 7:30pm) at Pinder Hall. Browse unique handmade gifts, children's clothes, dog accessories, silver jewellery, candles, art and more from local businesses. Enjoy mulled wine, prosecco, mince pies, and gourmet chocolate brownies while you shop. Entry is £2 for adults, and Under 18s are FREE. Proceeds support Maidenhead Cat Rescue!

Finally, can I request that if you bring your dog to school at drop off or pick up **they must be on a lead at all times**. I am grateful to those of you who are dog owners for not bringing your dog on to the school site unless they are of the ground and in your arms. If you tie them up while coming to collect your child, please do so well away from the gates where children are entering or exiting and other parents with dogs may be walking. Thank you.

Have a lovely week.
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 are added in order to keep abreast of what is coming up in school. Any additions or any changes highlighted in blue.

24th November	Choirs performing at the Royal Albert Hall
27th November	PTA Popcorn and Pyjama Party
30th November	EYFS & Y1 Phonics Virtual Workshop for Parents 4pm
8th December 2pm	Nativity Performance
9th December 6pm	Nativity Performance
9th December	Rock Steady Concert 9:30am
15th December	Final swimming lesson for Y3
15th December	Christmas Lunch
15th December	Carols with the Choirs 6:30pm
16th December	EYFS & KS1 Trip to the pantomime at the Wycombe Swan
16th December	KS2 Christmas Party
16th December	PTA Carols in the Courtyard
17th December	Christmas Service at Holy Trinity Church 10am
17th December	EYFS & KS1 Christmas Party
18th December	Last day of term
21st December to 1st January	Christmas Holiday
4th January	Start of Term 3
18th January	Year 6 trip to Bletchley Park
29th January	PTA Disco
2nd February	KS2 Open House
3rd February	EYFS & KS1 Open House
10th February	Safer Internet Day
15th February to 19th February	Half Term Break
22nd February	Start of Term 4
27th February	PTA Black Tie Ball
2nd March	Parent Consultations

1st March	Start of Book Week
1st March	Year 5 Trip to Warner Bros Studios
4th March	Parent Consultations
4th March	World Book Day
5th March	Book Week Dress-Up Day
19th March	Comic Relief
24th March	Rock Steady Concert 9:30am
25th March	PTA Make the Rules Day and Easter Trail
26th March to 9th April	Easter Holiday
12th April	Start of Term 5
22nd April	Earth Day
27th April	KS2 Open House
28th April	EYFS & KS1 Open House
3rd May	Bank Holiday
10th May to 13th May	KS2 SATs
17th May	Start of National Walk to School Week
31st May to 4th June	Half Term Break
7th June	Start of Term 6
11th June	PTA Disco
14th June	Start of Arts and Culture Week
18th June	Arts and Culture Week Show
21st June	Y6 Residential Trip
28th June	Start of Sports Week
2nd July	Sports Day
3rd June	HT Fest
14th July	Rock Steady Concert
15th July	Y6 Leavers' Service 10am
15th July	Last Day of Term