



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 reach the end of term, I would first like to thank you for your patience and support while our internet was down at the beginning of the week and last Friday. It had of course been our intention to circulate last week's newsletter before the weekend but we hope that the delay in getting it to you didn't cause too much consternation. We are now back on line which has helped this final week of term run smoothly.

It has been a fun week of Christmas parties, trips to the pantomime, Christmas jumpers, carols with the choirs, Christmas dinners, rock concerts and yesterday an appearance from Father Christmas at the PTA Carols in the Courtyard event. Perhaps you have seen posts on our social media site X. We hope that you and your family have enjoyed all the events and are now in full festive spirit to start the holiday. Our thanks go to the PTA for putting on such a wonderful end of term event last night and all of you who helped set up and run stalls. It was lovely to see so many of you there with your children enjoying the evening. If you are looking for something to do around Cookham during the holiday you might like to have a go at the PTA Gnome Trail. Children have been sent home with maps today which have also been sent out as electronic copies. Prizes are there to be won! Our thanks go to Marcia West for coordinating this for everyone.

We are also enormously grateful to you for your generosity over the last two weeks in helping us support selected charities. I am delighted to inform you that yesterday's Christmas jumper day raised £102.34 for Save the Children [Save the Children UK | International Children's Charity](#) and an incredible £457.98 was raised for Link Foundation [Link Foundation](#) Thank you.

Over the break you might like to consider the fact that we currently have a vacancy for a parent governor. Please refer to the letter sent to you today outlining the details if you are interested in finding out more about the role and what it is we are looking for. We are also still in the process of recruiting a teaching assistant, details of which can be found on our website. Do help us by sharing this information widely. Today we finally said our goodbyes to Mrs Streames-Smith who Mrs Hatch has been shadowing for the last three weeks. As I have previously written, Mrs Streames-Smith is off on new adventures but she goes enormously touched by your gift and warm wishes. Thank you.

Enjoy the next two weeks and safe travels if you are journeying places but before we go, on behalf of all the staff, I would like to thank you for your Christmas messages and gifts. Your support during the last term has been invaluable in helping us achieve our goals and ensure the very best for the children. Have a very happy Christmas and we shall look forward to seeing you on Monday 6th January for the start of the Spring Term.

Anna Smith

CALENDAR DATES

20th December – 6th Jan Christmas Holiday

21 st December	Carols on the Moor at 5:30pm
24 th December	Crib Service - Holy Trinity Parish Centre Garden at 4pm
6 th January	First day of term
15 th January	3:30 – 4:30pm EYFS & Y1 Parent Workshops, 'Supporting your Child with Early Reading and Phonics' 4:15 – 5pm Y2 Parent Workshops, 'Understanding Teacher Assessment and Supporting your Child Through the Y2 Curriculum'
16 th January	A and B team netball matches v Courthouse Junior (away). 3:30 – 4:30pm Y3/4 Parent Workshops, 'Supporting your Child through the Lower KS2 Curriculum and the Y4 Multiplication Check' 4:15 – 5pm Y5/6 Parent Workshops, 'Supporting your Child Through the Upper KS2 Curriculum and KS2 SATs'
29 th January	B team netball match v Courthouse Junior (home).
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
13 th February	Borough Dance Festival for Y4 – afternoon (date tbc)

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

(Dates added since last Friday's newsletter are highlighted in blue)