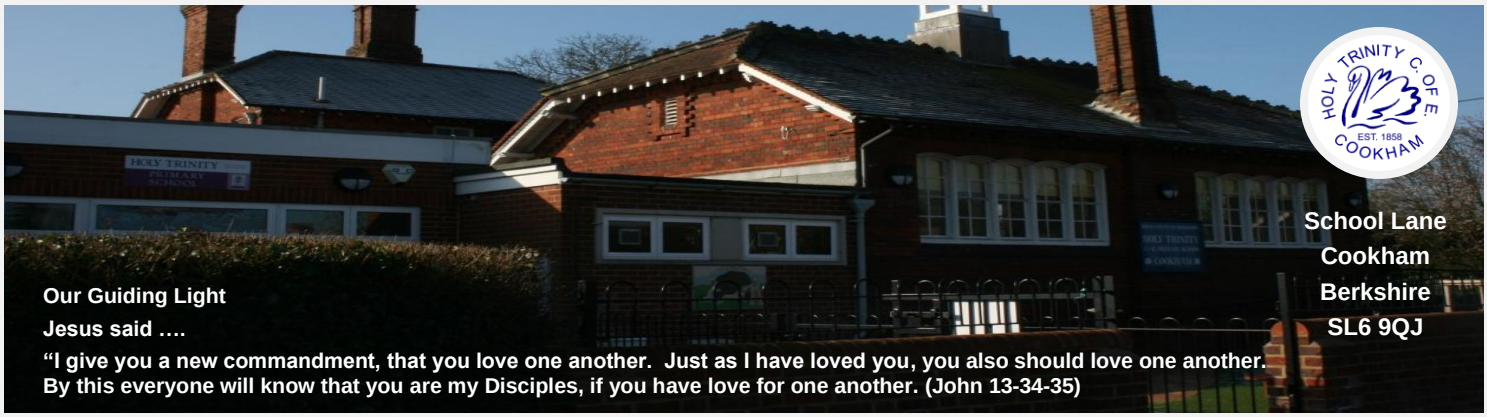


KEY INFORMATION FOR THE WEEK

We appreciate that it has been a busy few days so we are grateful to you for taking the time to come in and see your child's classroom and their exercise books on 'Stay and Play' and Open House days this week. We hope you enjoyed seeing their work and meeting their teacher. We feel very strongly that your child's learning journey is enhanced by a strong partnership between home and school so you taking an interest is incredibly important. There will be other opportunities for you to come in but for now, as we come to the end of the first term of this academic year, we all thank you for your support in guiding your child and supporting them in their learning over the last few weeks.

Shoe Box Appeal:
We are enormously grateful for the number of shoe boxes that have been sent in in support of the charity Blythswood: Shoe Box Appeal | Blythswood The children have really got behind this project and shown real excitement about being able to make the world a slightly fairer place for others this Christmas. We have collected 59 boxes which have now been taken to a local distribution point.

Netball News:
Our netball squad were disappointed when their match against Cookham Dean on Wednesday was postponed because of poor weather. The team continue to train before school on a weekly basis and so far this year remain undefeated. We are enormously grateful to Mr Lucas for giving up his time to training the team and all those of you who give up your time to run extra-curricular activities for our children. Thank you for giving them such wonderful opportunities.

Year 3 Swimming Lessons:
I was thrilled to accompany Year 3 to Braywick this week to see how they are getting on in their swimming lessons. I was impressed by their confidence in the water and delighted to learn from their swimming instructors how much progress they have made over the last few weeks. They are doing incredibly well. Swimming lessons resume after the half term break.

School Photographs:
Following the visit from our photographer on Wednesday, you have now been sent QR codes which will allow you to view the images before deciding if you wish to make a purchase. Discounts on orders run until Sunday 8th November, please refer to the email sent earlier today.

Lunch Orders:
Our catering team would be most grateful if you could order your child's lunches for the first week back before we head too far into the holiday. They will be placing orders before the week is out so an idea of numbers would be helpful. Thank you.

Lost Property:
If you could use the break to ensure items of clothing are clearly named, we would be most grateful. A lot of unnamed items have started to accumulate which will be disposed of if not collected today.

Design a Christmas Card for MP Josh Reynolds:
As a reminder, another project your child might like to get involved in over the half term break is designing a Christmas card for our local MP. An attachment containing full details was sent to you last week. The competition is open to children aged 11 and under who live in his constituency. The prize this year is a trip for five to Legoland, Windsor and **the closing date for entries is Monday, November 30.** Entries for the competition should be marked '**Josh Reynolds' Christmas Card Competition'** and sent to Maidenhead Advertiser, 48 Bell Street, Maidenhead, SL6 1HX.

Helping Your child with Reading:
Hopefully, meeting your child's teacher recently will have given you a clear indication of what they might continue to work on as well as what they are excelling in. Whatever their targets, a focus on reading is important. Whatever stage your child is at, whether in Reception Class or Year 6, reading with your child can have an enormous impact on their learning. Finding time each day to hear your child read or to read to them is a wonderful way to support them in accessing all areas of the curriculum. Today you have been sent a booklet that will guide you on how you might support your child in this important area of the curriculum. We hope you find it useful in giving you top tips on how you can support reading fluency and comprehension.

One of the most important things in choosing reading material is capturing your child's interest. It is wise to expose them to non-fiction as well as fiction texts but anything that motivates them to turn the page is wonderful. You might like to consider a subscription to a magazine. National Geographics Kids National Geographic Kids or The Week Junior The Week Junior are excellent publications as is What on Earth Magazine What on Earth! Magazine and Aquila Home - AQUILA Magazine Official Website



Some of these publications are for older children, perhaps those in Key Stage 2, but the leaflet you have been sent today signposts you to recommended reading lists for all ages. Recently Mr. Redjeb sent out recommended reading lists for his class but by following the link, lists for Reception, Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 can also be found. Do take a look.

Books for KS1 children aged 5-7 | School Reading List

Books for KS2 children aged 7-11 | School Reading List

If you have a child in reception, you will have received an email from Mrs. Weller and Miss Law a couple of weeks ago explaining how reading books and phonics books are being sent home this term. As a reminder,

Reading books will follow our colour-banded system. These books have a sticker referring to them as *shared readers*. This helps to clearly differentiate them from phonics books.

Shared readers are chosen to support a child's enjoyment of reading while developing their fluency and comprehension skills. These books may include some trickier words, so a child may need some adult support when reading them.

Phonics books are organised differently. Rather than being linked to a colour band, phonics books are matched directly to the phonics unit the children have recently been learning and embedding in school.

Phonics books containing words will only be sent home once a child is starting to **blend sounds together to read words**. Until this stage, they may not have a phonics book with words to read at home. However, once they are ready, their phonics book will reflect the sounds and skills they have been practising in class.

This approach ensures that a child is practising the correct sounds and skills at the right time, helping to build confidence and success in their phonics learning.

If you have any questions about our reading programme or anything else related to reading, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

We are incredibly proud of all our children who, over the last seven and a bit weeks, have worked hard, grown in confidence, developed resilience and shown kindness to each other. Today in assembly we celebrated success and looked forward to next term and all that it will bring.

Finally, Miss Buckley has asked me to pass on a message to you all:

Dear parents,

I honestly don't know how to thank you all for such an incredibly generous and thoughtful gift. I was genuinely overwhelmed when I received the card and vouchers and very emotional.

Being unwell and away from school has been difficult and your kindness means more than you can imagine. I really miss being at school and seeing all the children at HT. Knowing that you've thought of me and my family really does mean so much.

Thank you from the bottom of my heart for your kindness, generosity and support. HT families really are very special.
Miss Buckley

Have a lovely half term holiday and we shall see you on Monday 2nd November for the start of a new term.

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.

26th October to 30th October	Half Term Break
2nd November	Start of Term 2
2nd November	Royal British Legion charity event – poppies and poppy memorabilia available at lunchtimes in exchange for a donation to the charity
3rd November	Netball match vs Courthouse Junior (away) selected children informed by letter
5th November	Boys A and Girls A team football matches vs Oldfield (home) selected children informed by letter
9th November	Year 1 Trip to Windsor Castle
11th November	Whole School Remembrance Service at the War Memorial
11th November	PTA AGM 7:30pm (see accompanying letter sent out 09.10.26)
16th November	Start of Maths and Computing Week
18th November	Open Evening – No Clubs including no Wrap Around provision
20th November	Children in Need
24th November	Choirs performing at the Royal Albert Hall
27th November	PTA Popcorn and Pyjama Party
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	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
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
1st March	Start of Book Week
1st March	Year 5 Trip to Warner Bros Studios
2nd March	Parent Consultations
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