



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

Welcome to the start of a new term. We hope your child has enjoyed being back, seeing their friends and embarking on new topics, details of which can be found on the curriculum letters we sent out in January. We have had an excellent week in school despite, on occasions, the weather preventing us from going out at playtime. Everyone has been working productively and we are proud of what the children have already achieved. It promises to be a successful term.

Drawing on our Vision and News from Around the School:

I was delighted to welcome Reverend Stephen Mills to school yesterday. Stephen has only recently taken up his post as vicar of the Cookham Benefice but already he has shown a genuine interest in getting to know our community. You may remember that some of our Year 6 children were involved in the interview process so there was great excitement, particularly from those who had met him before, when I showed him around school in the morning. He will be coming again on 12th March to see Collective Worship after which we hope he will be a regular visitor.

In other news this week many of the children have embarked on new RE topics all of which relate to Lent or the Easter story. Year 5 will be considering the question, '*Was the death of Jesus a worthwhile sacrifice*' so to launch the study, in their first lesson they created tableaus to reflect the events which led up to the crucifixion. Combining drama with RE really helped to cement the story. Swans have also been inspired by the story of The Great Fire of London. During Book Week an author, Kate Cunningham who has written a book '*Vlad and The Great Fire of London*', will be coming in to talk to them. Listen out for news of bucket chains being used to put out a fire.

Year 6 have continued their study of Michael Morpurgo's '*War Horse*'. The focus for their Big Write was to create a narrative in which direct speech played a significant part. Some of the writing they compiled was superb. '*Wind in the Willows*', which will be the focus for our joint venture with the other Cookham schools during this year's Cookham Festival, is the text that Year 3 are continuing to use in English this term. In a lesson which really captured their imagination, the children took part in a courtroom debate presenting arguments to the judge to persuade him to send Mr Toad to prison. Because of the excellent points put forward, he was convicted but with a slightly reduced sentence to that originally proposed!

Year 2 took a break in the rain to walk around the village this morning. They used the maps they had compiled from aerial images to find their way, spotting human and physical features as they went. Cygnets also made use of the outdoors, drawing the solar system in chalk on the playground. It was lovely that so many were keen to bring you round the back of the site to show you their pictures. At some point Year 4 will also be hoping to go outside to test the model cars they will be making this term. They are only at the design stage but already they have come up with some great ideas as to how to power them. We'll be checking in on their progress in the coming weeks.

Book Week – Monday 4th to Friday 8th March:

If you missed recent information about Book Week, it runs from 4th to the 8th March to coincide with World Book Day on 7th March. We have lots of events planned which are sure to interest the children. Today you have been sent a leaflet about author, comic and actor Andrew Clover coming to school. It explains how you can pre-order any one of his books ahead of his visit on Monday 4th march. Do take a look.

Chantal at the Little Bookshop has also set up a page on her website where you can buy a range of books linked to the events we have planned and the authors who will be visiting. Every class will visit the book shop during the week but if you wish to order a book for them to pick up when they are there, go to <https://www.thelittlebookshop.info/collections/ht-wbd-2024> You have a week to order after which the page will be taken down to allow time for delivery. When Year 5 and Year 6 go to the book shop they will be meeting author Nicki Thornton to learn about her book, '*The Floating Witch Mystery*'. If your child would like Nicki to sign a book for them, then pre-ordering from the website is essential to ensure enough books are in stock in to avoid disappointment.

We will end the week with a dress-up day when everyone is invited to come to school dressed as a book character. The Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead Libraries are hosting a 'World Book Day Costume Swap' event for children in the Borough at Cookham, Dedworth, Maidenhead and Windsor Library. The premise of the event is to encourage people to bring in and donate their children's old fancy dress costumes, and in return take another costume that has been donated away with them for free. This should reduce the amount of costumes going to landfill and allow children to dress up for World Book Day, without the financial burden of buying new costumes during the current cost of living crisis. You have been sent a leaflet today outlining where and when.

The latest edition of the Maidenhead's Big Read (MBR) newsletter is also available and has been sent to you. To see what is going on during the MBR Festival, go to: [Maidenhead's Big Read Newsletter \(mailchi.mp\)](mailto:mailchi.mp) The weekend events will be happening in Maidenhead Library between 2-3 March when all sessions and activities are free of charge.

Extra-Curricular activities running this term and details of providers. Please see providers for further information:

Club	Year Group	Day/Time	Contact Details	Arrangements for drop-off/pick-up
Early Bird Club	All	Start time 8am each day of the week	No requirement to book, simply drop off anytime between 8am and 8:45pm. Payment should be made through your ScoPay account	Arrive through the back door of the hall
After School Provision	All	From 3:15pm	Book directly: holytrinity@wraparoundcare4u.com	See WrapAroundCare4U for details
Spanish Club	Year 5 & 6	Monday before school at 8:20am	Book directly by contacting Mrs Pow: 07939 045722 or francesca@the-pows.co.uk	Arrive through the back door of the hall
Maths Club	KS1	Monday before school at 8:20am	Invited pupils only	Arrive through the back door of the hall
iPro Football	KS2 boys	Monday lunchtime	Book directly: Office 07908 172175 Email: office@iprofootballcoaching.co.uk	Pupils taking part may come to school in their school PE kit to avoid the need to change
Playball	EYFS & Year 1	Monday, finish time: 4pm	Book online: http://www.playballkids.com/f/southbucks	Collect from the back door of the school hall
Art Club	Years 3 & 4	Monday, finish time 5pm	Contact Mrs Hyslop directly nickyw1@hotmail.co.uk or 07764884747	Collect from the front entrance of school
Junior Choir	Years 3 & 4	Tuesday before school, start time: 8am	All welcome, simply come along larainebrownbda@gmail.com	Arrive through the back door of the hall
Spanish Club	Year 2	Tuesday before school at 8.20am	Book directly by contacting Mrs Pow 07939 045722 or francesca@the-pows.co.uk	Arrive through the back door of the hall
Little Samurai	EYFS, Y1 & Y2	Tuesday, finish time: 4:15pm	Book directly: 07828 534817 or www.SamuraiKickboxing.com See: info@SamuraiKickboxing.com	Collect from the back door of the school hall
Football	Year 4, 5 & 6 girls' football	Tuesday, finish time 4:20pm	All girls in Year 4, 5 & 6 welcome Please note, this club begins on 20th February Please see letter circulated during the week for details	Collect from the back gate
Art Club	Year 5 & 6	Tuesday, finish time 5pm	Contact Mrs Hyslop directly nickyw1@hotmail.co.uk or 07764884747	Collect from the front entrance of school
Rock Steady	EYFS – Y6	Wednesday morning	Book directly: 0330 113 0330 see: Rocksteadymusicschool.com	N/A lessons take place during the school day
Netball	Years 5 & 6 squad training	Wednesday before school, start time: 8am	Selected children informed	Arrive through the back door of the hall
Spanish Club	Year 1	Wednesday before school at 8.20am	Book directly by contacting Mrs Pow: 07939 045722 or francesca@the-pows.co.uk	Arrive through the back door of the hall
iPro Football	KS2 girls	Wednesday lunchtime	Book directly: Office 07908 172175 Email: office@iprofootballcoaching.co.uk	Pupils taking part may come to school in their school PE kit to avoid the need to change
Spanish Club	Year 3	Wednesday after school, finish time 3:50pm	Book directly by contacting Mrs Pow: 07939 045722 or francesca@the-pows.co.uk	Collect from the front entrance of school
Yoga & Mindfulness	All	Wednesday, finish time 4:30pm	Book directly by contacting Sallie Windsor: 07846 992824 or sallie.windsor@nurturekidsyoga.com	Collect from the back door of the school hall
Senior Choir	Years 5 & 6	Thursday before school, start time: 8am	All welcome, simply come along larainebrownbda@gmail.com	Arrive through the back door of the hall
Ukulele Club	Years 5 & 6	Thursday lunchtime	Mrs Lucas will be running the club for those invited	Look out for more details of an Easter Ukulele experience soon to be advertised
Young Samurai	Years 3 - 6	Thursday after school, finish time: 4:15pm	Book directly: 07828 534817 or www.SamuraiKickboxing.com See: info@SamuraiKickboxing.com	Collect from the back door of the school hall
Spanish Club	Year 4	Friday before school at 8.20am	Book directly by contacting Mrs Pow: 07939 045722 or francesca@the-pows.co.uk	Arrive through the back door of the hall
Sewing Club	Year 1 – 6	Friday after school, finish time: 4:30pm	Book directly: 07782 253565 anita@dhaaga-sewing.co.uk	Collect from the front entrance of school
IPro Football	Years 1 - 6	Friday after school, finish time: 4:30pm	Book directly: Office 07908 172175 Email: office@iprofootballcoaching.co.uk Children attending this club are permitted to come to school wearing their school P.E. kit with a football shirt to change into at the end of the day if they wish.	Collect from the back gate
Maestro Music Lessons	EYFS – Y6	Various days during the week	Book directly: lornarennie@berkshiremaestros.org.uk	Times of lessons determined by Maestros

Cross Country Championship Success:

Following the cross-country event at Alfred Major before half term which twenty of our Year 5 and Year 6 students participated in, we are thrilled to share the news that four of them have been chosen to represent the Cookham and District team at the National Primary Schools Cross-Country Championships next month in Loughborough. Our congratulations go to Sienna Kay, Bella Blake, Scarlett Mason and Annabel Perkins for being selected. We wish them well on 3rd March at the [National Primary and Year 7 Cross Country Final - National Primary and Year 7 Cross Country Finals \(nationalprimary-year7crosscountryfinal.com\)](http://nationalprimary-year7crosscountryfinal.com)

Bags2Schools Event in Support of Partners for Change, Ethiopia:

In just over a week's time our latest fundraising campaign for Partners for Change, Ethiopia will be taking place. On Tuesday 5th March, in a Bags2School event, you are invited to drop bags containing clothing at Mrs. Ransome's house next to school. They will be collected at 9:15am and converted in to cash which will then be donated to the charity. Please see the flyer sent out again today as an attachment.

Term Dates:

At the beginning of the week, we were thrilled to hand out 114 certificates for 100% attendance last term. Our whole school attendance currently sits at 96.9% which is excellent. However, we hope to see an increase as this term goes on in light of the research that has been carried out linking good attendance to achievement.

Today you have been sent the borough's agreed term dates for 2025-2026. We are yet to determine when our school training days will be but, for now, please do not book holidays within the term dates specified. Thank you for your support in helping us to achieve the best possible learning outcomes for your child.

While there have been many positive things to celebrate already this term, the first week back ends with some sadness. After two years working as a teaching assistant at our school, today we have said goodbye to Miss Ford. Miss Ford has decided to take a different career path because of an exciting opportunity which has come her way. She will be leaving Holy Trinity and heading off to Pinewood Studios where she will be involved in some of the behind-the-scenes logistics. We will all miss Miss Ford very much indeed but she has promised to stay in touch and I am convinced we will see her again. In the meantime, I am sure you will join with us all in thanking her for everything she has done for our school and wishing her well in her new career.

Finally, I hope to see lots of you tomorrow at the ball otherwise have a wonderful weekend.

Anna Smith

CALENDAR DATES

24 th February	PTA Ball at Odney – 6:30pm start
27 th February	B team netball match vs All Saints Junior (away) - selected children informed by letter
28 th February, 2:00pm	A and B team netball matches vs St Pirans (away) - selected children informed by letter
29 th February	B team football match vs Furze Platt (home) - selected children informed by letter
4 th – 8 th March	Book week
5 th March	Virtual Parent Consultations (no after school clubs running other than WrapAround4U)
5 th March	Bags2Schools event in support of PfC
7 th March	Virtual Parent Consultations (no after school clubs running other than WrapAround4U)
8 th March	Book Week Dress Up Day
12 th March	B team netball match vs All Saints Junior (home) - selected children informed by letter
14 th March	A team football match vs Lowbrook (away) - selected children informed by letter
15 th March	Comic Relief event (details tbc)
20 th March	PTA Meeting (details tbc)
23 rd March	Inter PTA Netball Tournament (details tbc)
27 th March	Rock Steady Concert – 9:30am
28 th March	Easter Service at Holy Trinity Church (tbc)
28 th March	End of Term – Easter break begins (normal finish time: 3:15pm)
29 th March - 12 th April	Easter Holiday
15 th April	Start of Summer Term
10 th May	Cookham Festival: Joint Concert with Cookham Schools
13 th – 16 th May	KS2 SATs
22 nd May	Musical Evening at school 6:30pm
24 th May	Term ends for half term break (normal finish time: 3:15pm)
27 th – 31 st May	Half Term break
3 rd June	Term starts
3 rd June – 14 th June	Window for completion of Year 4 Multiplication Check
7 th June	PTA Disco (details tbc)
10 th – 14 th June	Arts and Culture Week
10 th – 14 th June	Window for completion of Year 1 Phonics Screening
22 nd – 23 rd June	The Big Cookham Wildlife Weekend
24 th – 28 th June	Y6 Residential Trip
26 th June	Junior Music Festival Year 3
24 th – 4 th July	Sports Week
5 th July	Sports Day
6 th July	HT Fest
9 th July	Spanish Assembly – 9:30am
19 th July	End of Term – Summer Holiday begins (normal finish time: 3:15pm)