



KEY INFORMATION FOR THE WEEK

Drawing on our Vision:

Don't you get the feeling that Christmas is coming when high street stores release their Christmas television advertisements? Our school vision is often reflected in these adverts through recurring themes of love and friendship.

The latest John Lewis advert follows a little boy's quest for the perfect Christmas tree. Alfie nurtures the little seed at home but it quickly grows into an energetic and mischievous Venus flytrap named Snapper. It isn't long before it's cast out in place of a conventional pine tree and left in the snow only to dream of being inside with the family, accepted and loved. If you've seen the story, you'll know that on Christmas day Alfie returns to Snapper outside with a gift. Alfie's family look out and inspired by his kindness and empathy, decide to join the young boy in his gift-giving festivities with the plant. All ends well with presents shared.

This week we have enjoyed this story and a cuddly toy Snapper hangs in our school to remind everyone of the importance of accepting people no matter what differences may exist and striving to show love and friendship to everyone regardless. Do ask your child about Snapper and the message he brings. We ended the week with a visit from Sarah Parfitt who shared the good news that our gift of a cuddly toy reindeer named Harmony by the children has arrived at Chole School in Ethiopia. Again, celebrating differences, we learnt how the children there mark Christmas with toys they have made. We're hoping to have a go at making toys of our own. Seema Goyal from Goyals, the uniform fitter in Maidenhead and president of the Maidenhead & District Chamber of Commerce, also came and kindly donated t-shirts to all twenty six of our new PFC ambassadors. These are children who have put themselves forward to drive our next round of fund raising. We are grateful to them and Seema for their commitment to this work.

Cut Your Carbon:

This week our House Captains led an assembly in which they encouraged everyone to support our Eco-Councillors in completing 9 small carbon-cutting actions at home and at school with the help of family and friends. They spoke about the campaign and reminded everyone to fill in the checklist outlining the simple easy-to-deliver actions they are taking. The tick list and instructions have been attached again today. A competition is developing to see which House returns the most survey at the end of November. Your child has just a week left to get involved so do encourage him/her.

Sporting News:

On Tuesday a selection of children from Year 4 and Year 6 took part in an indoor athletics event at Braywick Leisure Centre. They had a wonderful time competing against other schools from the borough in a range of events. On Wednesday our netball squad enjoyed a 10-5 win against Cookham Dean School and our footballers were thrilled with their 1-0 win against Riverside yesterday. There were smiles all round!

A message about sport at Holy Trinity from Mr Whittle, shared by all:

At Holy Trinity our sporting philosophy throughout the school is to encourage children to enjoy all aspects of PE, whether it is competitive or creative, individual or team based. This helps and encourages them to play or participate in sports throughout their lives, bringing many proven benefits both physically and socially. All pupils experience competitive and non-competitive sports at school by playing matches within lessons and by participating in school intra/inter competitions and at wider sports events. Since the introduction of the School Sports Premium, our school benefits from working in partnership with the Ascot and Maidenhead School Sports Partnership (AMSSP) who organise a huge number of sporting events throughout the year for all schools across the borough.

We participate in many matches, festivals and tournaments (both competitive and non-competitive) organised by AMSSP and all the staff involved recognise the need to work towards an inclusive approach that enables as many pupils as possible to experience competitive sport, in some cases representing the school.

Selection for any team event is based on:

- Level of skill demonstrated
- Level of fitness
- Understanding of games, tactics and rules
- Emotional maturity to cope with the pressure
- Performance, effort and behaviour in lessons and practices
- Commitment to training and learning
- Attitude of the player on and off the field of play
- How the player presents themselves in terms of manners, helpfulness, sportsperson ship, etc.
- Performance of the play as a team player

- *Enthusiasm to learn to improve*
- *Understanding of the importance of safety*

While there are many opportunities to participate, ensuring fair selection is always a challenge. We remain committed to ensuring children are selected on as fair a basis as possible so all get some experience in participating in events during the course of the year.

Parents, carers and spectators have a great influence on the children's enjoyment and success in sport. Children participate in sport first and foremost because they love playing. Holy Trinity is dedicated to nurturing that enjoyment and enthusiasm for sport in these events and our annual Sports Week as a foundation for developing skills and tactics for life.

Thank you as always for your support in helping us to do this. We are incredibly grateful to you for your willingness to help transport children to fixtures, sometimes at short notice. Without your commitment we would not be able to offer as many opportunities as we do. Thank you.

Swimming:

If you have a child in Year 3, thank you for sending them in this week with pyjamas or other loose clothes to swim in. They will need the same again for their lesson on Tuesday. They had a brilliant session in the pool learning a range of life saving strategies and experiencing what it's like to try and stay afloat with clothing on. They embraced the challenge fantastically.

School Trips:

Thank you for your support in making payment for trips coming up in the next couple of weeks. On Monday Year 3 had a wonderful time at the Chiltern Open Air Museum. With the help of the team there, they were transported back to The Stone Age. They learnt how to generate fire, make spears, build shelters and generally survive with very few resources. The trip, which was predominantly outside, supported the curriculum by really bringing the period to life in a way we couldn't have done in school.

On Monday Year 1 are off to Windsor Castle and other trips are listed below in the calendar section.

Road Safety:

Trips to places of interest always enhance the learning experience for the children but visitors to school do too. This week we have welcomed the Borough's Road Safety Team into our classrooms to talk to Year 3, Year 4 and Year 6 about a range of matters related to road safety. The interactive sessions were both informative and relevant. Do ask your child about them. A flyer has been sent to you today offering guidance for those who cycle to school with lots of top tips on how to stay safe.

Christmas Cards:

If you are yet to order the Christmas card your child has designed as part of this year's PTA 'My Child's Art' project there is still time. 20% of purchases is returned to our PTA to help fund projects which will directly impact your child so do get ordering! Simply go to www.mychildsart.co.uk, following the instructions using our unique school code and confirming your child's name.

Username: HolyTrinity3

Password: vQKkBA7d

It was unfortunate that this evening's PTA Quiz had to be postponed. The team are keen to find another date, later in the year, so do keep a look out for when this might be. The staff team are keen for competition so get revising! The next PTA activity that you can help with will be at the Cookham Christmas Street Fair. Any support, gratefully received. The event following that is Carols in the Courtyard on 14th December. Please see the flyer emailed out today.

PTA Nativity Costumes:

Our PTA continue to coordinate recycling of pre-used Nativity costumes. If you have older children and therefore any items to donate, please place them in the wheelie bin at the front of school. For those of you with children in EYFS and/or KS1 do speak to your class PTA rep about how to get hold of costumes if they are required.

Tickets for each of our Nativity performances will be released soon. Look out for an email about this coming to you shortly.

Ordering Photographs:

The deadline for free delivery to school is 3rd December. You can still order after this date for delivery to your home address but a postage fee will incur. For details of how to do this, please refer to the leaflet containing a QR code which was given to your child last week.

Clubs:

For details of clubs running next term, please refer to last week's newsletter: [Newsletter 3 11 23 draft.pdf \(holylrinitysch.co.uk\)](http://www.holytrinitysch.co.uk) .

Ordering a Christmas Lunch:

Please refer to the email you were sent last week (14.11.23) with details of how to order a Christmas lunch for your child. Christmas lunch will be served on Wednesday 13th December. Orders need to be placed via your ScoPay by Thursday 30th November in order to give our catering team enough time to place the food order. Requests after this date cannot be accommodated.

Christmas Jumper Day in Support of Save the Children:

We will end the term on Friday 15th December by inviting the children to wear a Christmas jumper to school. We will be collecting for Save the Children if they would like to make a donation. Thank you.

Christingle:

This Sunday (26th November) is Christingle. There will be services at Holy Trinity Church, Cookham at 11.00am and St John the Baptist, Cookham Dean at 4.00pm. During each service the children will be given everything they need to make their own Christingle to take home after the celebration. Do go along if you are able; everyone is welcome.

Cookham Footprint Free Cycling Event:

Please see the flyer about the event organised by Cookham Footprint this Saturday (25th November) at Cookham Library where donations can be dropped off from 9:30am.

Offensive Weapon Legislation:

Following a request from Thames Valley Police, I am sharing with you a link outlining changes to offensive weapon legislation: [Offensive Weapons Act 2019 bans the possession of dangerous items in private - YouTube](#)

X (formally known as Twitter):

On a regular basis information is posted about what has been happening and what is coming up. If you are yet to sign up to follow us, why not make a request to do so. If you are not given access immediately, please contact the office to inform us; occasionally accounts are not recognised because of obscure names. Once we are clear on who is wanting to become a follower it will be granted and then you too will be able to see what is happening across school on an almost daily basis.

Have a lovely weekend.

Anna Smith

CALENDAR DATES

27 th November	Y1 Trip to Windsor Castle
27 th November	A team football match vs Furze Platt Junior (away), selected children informed by letter
30 th November	B team football match vs Furze Platt Junior (home), selected children informed by letter
3 rd December	Cookham Christmas Street Fair
4 th December	B team football match v Waltham St Lawrence (home) - selected children informed by letter
5 th December	EYFS & KS1 Nativity Performance 2pm
6 th December	Rock Steady Concert
6 th December	EYFS & KS1 Nativity Performance 6pm
7 th December	A and B Team Football Matches v Courthouse (away)
8 th December	Y6 Trip to Bletchley Park
12 th December	Y5 Trip to Harry Potter Studios
13 th December	Christmas Service in Holy Trinity Church 10:30am
13 th December	Christmas Lunch
13 th December	pm EYFS & KS1 Christmas party – details to follow
14 th December	EYFS trip to Norden Farm (am) & KS1 Trip to Windsor Theatre's Pantomime (pm)
14 th December	pm KS2 Christmas Parties planned by the children around a theme chosen by them – details to follow
14 th December	PTA Carols in the Courtyard
15 th December	End of Term – Christmas Jumper Day (Christmas break begins - normal finish time: 3:15pm)
16 th December	PTA Christmas Trail around the village begins
18 th December – 2 nd Jan	Christmas Holiday
3 rd January	Start of Spring Term
9 th February	Term ends for half term break (normal finish time: 3:15pm)
12 th – 16 th February	Half Term break
19 th February	Term starts
24 th February	PTA Ball at Odney – save the date!
4 th – 8 th March	Book week
5 th March	Virtual Parent Consultations
7 th March	Virtual Parent Consultations
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
13 th – 16 th May	KS2 SATs
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
10 th – 14 th June	Arts and Culture Week
24 th – 28 th June	Y6 Residential Trip
24 th – 4 th July	Sports Week
5 th July	Sports Day
6 th July	HT Fest
19 th July	End of Term – Summer Holiday begins (normal finish time: 3:15pm)