



## KEY INFORMATION FOR THE WEEK

Thank you for all your support this term in responding to requests about all things Covid-19 related. This has meant that we have reached the half term holiday without the need to collapse any bubbles. It is unfortunate that we remain in a position where we are unable to invite you in to school but I do hope your child has spoken positively about the things that have been going on in the classroom. Despite the restrictions placed upon us, we have managed to pack a lot into the last few weeks. Perhaps your child has spoken about the following:

### Cygnets Class (EYFS):

Cygnets have been living in 'The Age of the Dinosaurs' throughout Term 5. They have researched different dinosaurs to find out what they looked like, how they behaved and what they ate. They had fun digging for fossils and dinosaur remains. Dinosaur display boards were created containing pictures of dinosaur fossils made from pasta. They also found out about volcanoes which provided a stimulus for writing and there was great excitement when they exploded a volcano as part of a science experiment! If you follow us on Twitter you may have seen a photograph of this. Ahead of Arts and Culture Week the class has been immersed in all things Spanish. Their Flamenco steps are coming on a treat!

### Swan Class (Year 1):

On returning to school in March, Swan Class learnt about the Great Fire of London. Inspired by the topic, they have produced some excellent diary entries during 'Big Write' sessions when they imagined they were in London, witnessing events back in 1666. You will have seen the sunflowers they have been growing as part of their topic in science. These too have inspired them in writing tasks which required them to produce poems and descriptive pieces. Recently the class have journeyed far afield to China to prepare for Arts and Culture week. The story of the Magic Paintbrush has helped them get a flavour of the county and they have just about finished making clay tiles with our Christian values written on in Chinese!

### Kingfisher Class (Year 2):

Year 2 began the term by looking at a book, set in Venice, called 'The Glassmaker's Daughter' which led on to them learning about the process of glassmaking before they then made Venetian masks. More recently, another fiction text 'Bog Baby', took them to a pond in a bluebell wood. This inspired them to create relief tiles using clay and plaster of Paris which captured the detail of several wildflowers. Number work has been the focus in maths while in R.E. the big question has been 'Can Stories Change People?' They began by listening to a selection of tales and discussing how each story made them feel, before making a short list of their most memorable Bible stories. It was those from the Old Testament which came out on top!

### Gosling Class (Year 3):

The science topic in Year 3 this term has been food and nutrition. The children have also travelled back in time to see how the Romans lived and a lot of their English work has centred around the book 'Escape from Pompeii'. They have been lucky enough to have the borough's dance specialist, Jane Douglas, teaching them each week. Together they have choreographed wonderful routines in which Romans and Celts have featured. Mrs Douglas has given some wonderful feedback about how well the children have engaged with the learning and thrown themselves into the project. The topics of fractions and time have been the focus in maths with, as you might expect, lots of discussion around Roman numerals!

### Teal Class (Year 4):

Teal Class has journeyed to South Africa this term where they strode tentatively among the magnificent beasts of the veld of Timbavati. Basing their work around Michael Morpurgo novel 'The Butterfly Lion' the children have found out about the wildlife, explored maps of the continent of Africa and written in a range of genres. As always, they have put their vivid imaginations to use as they've put themselves in the shoes of a young boy named Bertie, growing up in this incredible landscape, and encountering the rarest of animals: the white lion. Broadening horizons, the children have discussed weighty issues such as apartheid and segregation as well as finding out about the extraordinary life of Nelson Mandela.

#### Cormorant Class (Year 5):

Year 5 have been busy delivering messages of inspiration to other year groups in a project linked to their R.E topic. This led them to find out about the life of Prince Philip and gain an understanding of how he provided inspiration to others. Philip Pullman's book 'Clockwork' has generated some fantastic fictional writing in between opportunities to learn about the Vikings and travel the rivers of Europe. When you have arrived to pick up your child from school on a Wednesday, maybe you have heard Year 5 playing the steel pans. They have made considerable progress since the beginning of the year and are now able to play a number of tunes. Listen out next time you are passing!

#### Moorhen Class (Year 6):

Year 6 have been busy taking part in a number of particularly special events this term. Entering the Rotary Young Writers' Competition, they were required to write stories on the theme of 'My Happiest Day'. Via a Zoom meeting with schools across the borough, they learnt that Lois Sellman had been selected by the judges as the winning entry from Holy Trinity. In another Zoom session, this time with Heathrow Young Explorers, they learnt about jobs at Heathrow Airport and took part in a number of activities including creating of a new mode of transport using an ICT software program. Another ICT programme, Scratch, has allowed them to create maths games. Their local history topic was launched with the children sending cards to Cookham's oldest resident and of course there was great excitement over the election of House Captains. The children have subsequently been involved in a number of projects to rally their teams!

Do ask your child about these activities which we hope have created enthusiasm and enjoyment.

#### Visioning:

In school we talk a lot about what is at the heart of Holy Trinity. Our vision, inspired by the quote from John 13:34-35 in the Bible:

**Jesus said...**

***34" I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. 35 By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."***

This reminds us of the importance of love and kindness. During the last two days of term we have explored our vision in greater depth to understand how this message guides us on a day to day basis. In a section called 'Sharing our Vision' on Google Classroom, over the next few weeks you will start to see examples of our vision in action. Do take a look and ask your child about it.

#### Booster Classes:

Our Catch-Up programme is going well. When we return to school on 7<sup>th</sup> June, there will be no early morning or after school booster classes for that first week. Instead letters will be circulated informing you of sessions beginning in the second week of term which your child may be invited to attend.

#### Reading Workshops:

If you were able to attend our Reading Workshops in the week, we do hope you found them useful. The presentations along with the Reading Booklets which we have created for you, will be posted on Google Classroom when we return from the holiday if they aren't there already. During the break you might like to explore the value in turning on television subtitles which I have drawn your attention to before. Details can be found by using the link: [Home - Turn On The Subtitles](#)

#### Success in the Wild Challenge Project:

You may remember, during the last lockdown, a project we set the children. Their success in meeting the challenge has led to us receiving a Wild Challenge Bronze Award and a personal message from the RSPB:

***'Congratulations on achieving your Bronze Wild Challenge award! We love how children of all ages within the school are involved in the process. Thank you for your amazing efforts. Every action you take makes a real difference.'***

The next plan is to tackle the silver medal so, in the weeks to come, look out for ways of how you can help your child get involved.

#### Contact Tracing Over Half Term:

If your child develops symptoms of Covid-19 during the first few days of the half term holiday, we are required to engage with NHS Track and Trace. Therefore, please inform the school office [office@holyltrinitysch.co.uk](mailto:office@holyltrinitysch.co.uk) if your child tests positive for Covid-19 in order for us to identify close contacts. Thank you.

In light of the government announcement that from Monday 17<sup>th</sup> May international travel can gradually resume as destinations are added to England's 'green list', the DfE has asked all schools to remind parents that people should not travel to 'amber' and 'red' countries, and that strict rules on testing and quarantine remain in place to protect public health and the vaccination programme. Further information can be found using the link: [Red, amber and green list rules for entering England - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

#### Half Term Rugby Camps:

Maidenhead Mohawks, based at Maidenhead Rugby Club, is running a 2-day Touch / Tag rugby camp during May Half Term on Thursday 3rd & Friday 4th June. It will be delivered in different groups for different ages and is for both boys & girls. The camp is suitable for children aged 5 to 14 years of age. More details can be found in the flyer emailed to you.

#### Henley Literary Festival – Creative Competitions:

During the holiday your child might be interested in taking part in a couple of Creative Competitions, organized by the team behind the Henley Literary Festival. Budding writers are encouraged to write a story or a poem of up to 500 words and there is an illustration competition for those keen on art. The closing date for entries is 1<sup>st</sup> August. Please refer to the flyer, emailed to you, for more details.

#### Active Travel Competition:

The Royal Borough is inviting children to design a poster around one of four themes all linked to road safety. Details of the competition can be found on the flyer emailed out to you. Please note the closing date is 9<sup>th</sup> July.

#### Violin and Viola lessons:

Currently we have a teacher from Berkshire Maestros who comes to school once a week to give violin lessons to children. This summer term, Berkshire Maestros is providing a number of introductory offers for students wanting to take up an instrument for the first time. Viola lessons are currently given under the 'endangered instruments' offer which means lesson fees are reduced and rental of an instrument is free. Violin lessons are also offered at a discount. For more information about your child taking up the violin, viola or any other instrument visit Berkshire Maestros' new website at [www.berkshiremaestros.org.uk](http://www.berkshiremaestros.org.uk) You have also been sent a flyer containing information.

When we return on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June, we will continue to operate a staggered start and end to the day. Although we have specified the times year groups should arrive (see below), the gate to the back playground is open at 8:55am so the children can enter at any time from then. Please note, however, it is locked just after 9:10am. Thank you for being prompt.

Bubble	Year Group	Start Time	Collection Time
1	Reception	8:50am	2:50pm
2	Year 6	8:55am	3:00pm
3	Year 2	9:00am	3:05pm
4	Year 5	9:02am	3:10pm
5	Year 4	9:05am	3:15pm
6	Year 1	9:07am	3:20pm
7	Year 3	9:10am	3:30pm

Useful Website for anything Covid-19 related:

- [Holy Trinity Church of England primary School, Cookham - Home \(holytrinitysch.co.uk\)](http://holytrinitysch.co.uk)
- [Symptoms of coronavirus \(COVID-19\) - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](http://www.nhs.uk)
- [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): getting tested - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk)
- [Stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus \(COVID-19\) infection - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk)
- [Testing for coronavirus \(COVID-19\) - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](http://www.nhs.uk)

During half term, the Department for Education coronavirus (COVID-19) helpline remains open and is available to answer questions about COVID-19 which relate to education settings and children's social care.

Phone:0800 0468687

Opening hours: Monday to Friday from 8am to 6pm  
Saturday and Sunday from 10am to 6pm

I hope you have a lovely half term break and we shall all look forward to welcoming the children back to the classroom on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June.

Anna Smith

## CALENDAR DATES

<b>31<sup>st</sup> May – 4<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<b>HALF TERM</b>
7 <sup>th</sup> June	Return to school
21 <sup>st</sup> – 25 <sup>th</sup> June	Arts & Culture Week
5 <sup>th</sup> – 9 <sup>th</sup> July	Sports Week
9 <sup>th</sup> July	Sports Day (spectators may be invited to attend)
15 <sup>th</sup> July	Last day of Academic Term



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