

School Lane
Cookham
Berkshire
SL6 9QJ

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

What a lovely week we have had! The sun has shone and we've all enjoyed how positive this has made us feel. Thank you for your diligence in sending your child(ren) into school wearing sunscreen and with a hat. There are some shaded spaces on the field but the children do seem to prefer running around in less shaded spots so we are grateful that they have been protected. As we move further into the summer term, please continue to be mindful of these things.

Welcome Ducklings:

There has been great excitement this week with all five of our duckling eggs hatching. The ducklings, which Cygnets have named Daffodil, Daisy, Dandelion, Dizzy and Pecky, are perfectly happy in their new home and the children are looking after them brilliantly. Lots have been in to Cygnet Class to see them and we're all looking forward to next week when they take their first splash in our paddling pool.

We are incredibly grateful to you, who through our PTA, fund this project for us every year. It brings so many benefits and is a real highlight for many. We have Open House next week so if you are visiting other classes and would like to pop into Reception Class to see the ducklings, you are very welcome to do so.

Open House:

Open House will run next week giving you a chance to visit your child's class, spend time with them looking through their books and talk informally to class teachers. Those of you with children in Key Stage 2 (Years 3-6) are invited in on Tuesday and Reception Class and the classes of children in Key Stage 1 (Years 1 & 2) are open on Wednesday. Do come along.

Sports News:

We were thrilled to welcome the borough's dance specialist, Jane Douglas, into school on Monday. Many of you will know Jane from the Dance Festival; she coordinates it every year and is a regular visitor to our school. This term she will be working with children in Year 1 and Year 2 as we prepare for our Arts and Culture Week event next term. Do ensure that you are free on the afternoon of Friday 13th June to come in and see all our performances. The work we are doing towards this very special event in our school calendar is a unique way in which we enhance the learning experience for the children.

A Fabulous Visit to see Starlight Express:

Yesterday Year 4 had a wonderful time in London when they went to see 'Starlight Express'. It was spectacular! With lots of other trips coming up before the end of term, including Year 6's residential trip to Devon, do keep a look out for letters and emails and keep referring to the weekly newsletter, in particular the calendar below.

Planning these trips, and we have many in our school, take a huge amount of organising. A lot of work goes in to researching places and compiling the relevant paperwork but staff do it because we see how much these activities also enhance the learning experience for the children. They become a highlight of the year and something we hope the children remember long after they have left our school.

Year 5's Trip to Holy Trinity Church and Swan Upping:

Before the end of the academic year, Year 5 will be going out on a couple of local trips. You have already completed OA4 forms granting us permission to take them out so with no further consent to give, we will be visiting Holy Trinity Church on 22nd May and The Ferry on 15th July. On the afternoon of 15th July when we have been invited to see the Swan Upping, the team have advised us that the media will be there so they have asked that the children of any parents who do not wish them to be filmed or photographed should **not** be included in the party. Unfortunately, we cannot do anything about this request so **if you do not wish your child to attend, please inform us immediately.**

While there, the children will learn about this historic event and its significance in the past and the present day. They will be able to see very young cygnets at close hand and answer questions posed by The King's Swan Marker about swans, their ecology and the tradition of Swan Upping; we are hoping that as many of the class can go as possible.

Attendance:

This week the borough's Education Welfare Officer was in school to discuss the attendance of individual pupils. Attendance data will be published on end of year school reports with the aim of every child's attendance being above 95%, the target the Department of Education strives for. Research has shown that high attendance rates have a significant impact on attainment as pupils move through school, a fact that is perhaps obvious but is worth reiterating. Your support is essential in this. To guide you in supporting your child through their learning this term, staff have compiled class newsletters which have been sent out to you today. We hope you find these helpful in explaining what topics will be covered over the next few weeks. Assembly ended on a high today when over 60 children were presented with certificates for 100% attendance last term.

Clubs:

To see which clubs will be running this term, see below.

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 8:30am. 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: information sent out via email
iPro Football	KS2 boys	Monday lunchtime	Book directly: Office 07908 172175 Email: office@iprofootballcoaching.co.uk (school PE kit may be worn)	N/A
Ukulele Club	KS2	Monday lunchtime - All welcome	Children should speak to Mrs Lucas	N/A
Art Club	Year 3 & 4	Monday after school, finish time: 5pm	Book directly by contacting Mrs Hyslop: Nickyw1@hotmail.co.uk	Collect from the front entrance of school
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
Junior Choir	Years 3 & 4	Tuesday before school, start time: 8am	larainebrownbda@gmail.com	Arrive through the back door of the hall
Netball	Years 4 & 5	Tuesday before school, start time: 8am	Please speak to Mr Lucas for more details	Arrive at the side gate promptly at 8am ready to be let in by Mr Lucas
Spanish Club	Year 2	Tuesday before school at 8.20am	Book directly by contacting Mrs Pow (see above)	Arrive at the front entrance of school by 8:20am
Art Club	Year 5 & 6	Tuesday after school, finish time: 5pm	Book directly by contacting Mrs Hyslop: Nickyw1@hotmail.co.uk	Collect from the front entrance of school
Little Samurai	EYFS, Y1 & Y2	Tuesday, finish time: 4:15pm	Book directly: 07828 534817 www.SamuraiKickboxing.com info@SamuraiKickboxing.com	Collect from the back door of the school hall
Hand Chime Music Club	Y2 & Y3	Tuesday, finish time 4:15pm	Led by Miss Smith Limited spaces – please email the office to confirm a space	Collect from the front entrance of school
Rock Steady	EYFS – Y6	Wednesday morning	Book directly: 0330 113 0330 Rocksteadymusicschool.com	N/A lessons take place during the school day
Spanish Club	Year 1	Wednesday before school at 8.20am	Book directly by contacting Mrs Pow: (see above)	Arrive at the front entrance of school by 8:20am
iPro Football	KS2 girls	Wednesday lunchtime	Book directly: Office 07908 172175 Email: office@iprofootballcoaching.co.uk (school PE kit may be worn)	N/A
Spanish Club	Year 3	Wednesday after school, finish time 3:50pm	Book directly by contacting Mrs Pow: (see above)	Collect from the front entrance of school
Yoga & Mindfulness	Year 1 - 6	Wednesday, finish time 4:30pm	Book directly by contacting Sallie Windsor: 07846 992824 sallie.windsor@nurturekidsyoga.com	Collect from the back door of the school hall
Senior Choir	Years 5 & 6	Thursday before school, start time: 8am	larainebrownbda@gmail.com	Arrive through the back door of the hall
Young Samurai	Years 3 - 6	Thursday after school, finish time: 4:15pm	Book directly: 07828 534817 www.SamuraiKickboxing.com or 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: (see above)	Arrive at the front entrance of school by 8:20am
Maths Club	Year 3 (by invitation)	Friday before school at 8:15am	Organised by Mrs Neal with a rota of children invited to attend every few weeks	Arrive at the front entrance of school by 8:10am
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	To find out more, go to: Homepage - Berkshire Music Trust (berksmusictrust.org.uk)	Times of lessons determined by Maestros

Summer Music Concert:

As I hope you saw in last week's newsletter, our summer musical evening will take place on Thursday the 5th of June at 6.00pm in the hall. Our choirs will be singing and some of our most advanced instrumentalists will be performing solos. Any child who would like to audition for a solo performance slot should speak to their private music teacher and prepare a piece ready for the auditions on 9th May.

We are enormously grateful to Mrs Brown who is organising this event to give the children a platform on which to shine. It is sure to be a wonderful evening.

Celebrating VE Day with a Picnic on the Moor:

We are all very excited about the VE Day Picnic this Sunday (4th May) on the moor. If you're coming, look out for the bunting which we made a few weeks back and, if you can, get there for 12:55pm when the choir will be taking to the stage and many others will be performing a special dance choreographed by Mrs. Lucas. Mrs. Brown and Mrs. Lucas would like the children to gather at the performance area at 12.40pm. Cookham Rise and Cookham Dean schools will be performing just before us so it's sure to be a wonderful celebration of young talent! Several flyers have been sent out again today about the event including information on a fancy-dress competition and a chance to 'Bake for Victory!' You have also been sent a 'Community Singing Booklet' so you are ready to join in with a singalong!

Next Thursday when VE Day falls, we will be celebrating in school with the company, 'As Creatives', who are coming in to lead an assembly and a day of workshops for all the children. To find out more, go to: [VE Day School History Workshops - 80 Years Since VE Day](#) Again we are enormously grateful to you for being part of our PTA and raising funds to make this workshop happen.

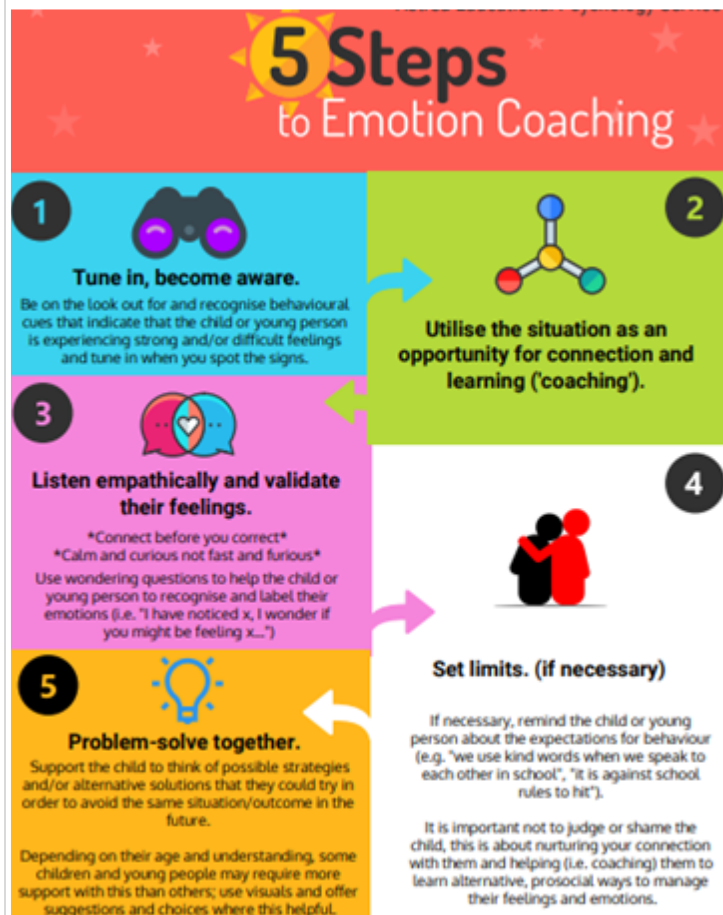
As we've previously shared with you, on the day, your child is invited to come to school dressed in 1940s clothing. To help you put together a costume, a couple of flyers have been sent out today with ideas.

PTA News:

As a reminder, the PTA would like to invite you to their Eurovision Party on Saturday 17th May at 7pm in the school hall. Please see the flyer and PTA social media sites for more details.

News from Miss Buckley about the 'Attachment Aware Schools' Award': How do we support children to meet their potential at Holy Trinity?

At Holy Trinity, alongside prioritising relationships, staff using emotion coaching techniques to help children reflect on their emotions in a healthy way, something which is essential for them to be in a state of 'learning readiness'. You can support us by using emotion coaching at home by practising the same principles and strategies to create consistency for your child. Here are some ways to do so:



- 1. Acknowledge Emotions:** When your child expresses feelings, listen without judgement. Validate their emotions by saying things like, "I see you're feeling frustrated. That's okay, let's talk about it."
- 2. Label Emotions:** Help your child identify and name their emotions, like saying, "It seems like you're feeling angry. Let's find out why."
- 3. Model Calmness:** Show your child how to manage emotions by staying calm during stressful situations. Children learn by watching their parents.
- 4. Problem-Solving:** After acknowledging the emotion, guide your child to think about how they can handle it, such as suggesting ways to calm down or work through a difficult situation.
- 5. Encourage Reflection:** After an emotional event, talk about what happened, what worked well, and what could be done differently next time.

By reinforcing emotion coaching at home, you can help your child develop emotional intelligence and resilience, supporting the learning happening at school.

Smartphone Free Childhood:

You are perhaps aware from previous newsletters, that a number of our parents have been actively involved in promoting the Smartphone Free Childhood movement which aims to bring parents together to stand up for healthier, happier childhoods where our children are safeguarded from the harmful effects of being exposed to certain online material. When children first started getting smartphones a decade ago, there was no research about their impact. Now there is, and it's overwhelming. According to latest findings, exposing children to things their brains aren't yet developed enough to deal with can cause a whole host of problems from triggering anxiety and eating disorders to opening the door to cyberbullying or sexual predators. We have noticed this year how few children in Year 6 have mobile phones, and, as a result, we have also noticed a significant decrease in the number of issues caused by them. I am sure you know how toxic WhatsApp and other messaging services can become, often providing a platform for negative material to be circulated. It leads to unhealthy dialogue that can affect us all.

Next week I will be attending a meeting with lots of other heads, primary and secondary, from across the area to discuss the issue. If anything further comes to light, I will share it with you. In the meantime, you might like to visit the Smartphone Free Childhood website [Smartphone Free Childhood](#) where you can find a link to the parent pact. Up until very recently, our school was at the top of the leaderboard of schools whose parents have signed up. We now sit in second place having been overtaken by another local school ([Smartphone Free Childhood Parent Pact](#)). Our reception parents are leading the way with 21 out of 30 having signed so if you support the message and are yet to make it clear, do find time to sign up. Thank you.

Have a lovely weekend and I hope to see you on Sunday at the picnic.

Anna Smith

CALENDAR DATES

4 th May	VE Day Picnic on the Moor, 12 – late, (performers meet at the performance space at 12:40pm)
6 th May	KS2 Open House
7 th May	EYFS & KS1 Open House
8 th May	VE Day 80 th Anniversary – come dressed in costume from the 1940s
9 th May	Auditions for the Summer Music Concert (soloists wishing to audition should bring their instrument, music and any musical accompaniment)
12 th – 15 th May	KS2 SATs
12 th May	Mathemagical Competition for selected Year 4 pupils (4.30pm till 6pm) at Cookham Dean CE Primary School, (team to be decided)
17 th May	PTA Eurovision Song Party
20 th May	Year 6 Quadkids Athletics Festival, Newlands Girls School, 3:45-5:15pm (selected children informed by letter)
20 th May	MBR Volunteers Meeting 7:45pm at the Maidenhead Community Centre (see above)
22 nd May	Y3 Junior Music Festival Rehearsal - Courthouse School am (details sent out in a letter)
22 nd May	Year 5 Visit to Holy Trinity Church ahead of Heritage Day (details tbc)
23 rd May	Mufti Day – in exchange for tombola items for HT Fest

26th May – 30th May Half Term Break

4 th June	PTA Meeting
5 th June	Summer Music Concert 6pm
6 th June	PTA Disco (details to follow)
7 th June	Royal Windsor Flower Show
8 th June	Special Eucharist to Celebrate the Opening of Holy Trinity Church, Cookham 11am
9 th – 13 th June	Arts and Culture Week
12 th June	Y3 Junior Music Festival Rehearsal - Courthouse School am (details sent out in a letter)
13 th June	Arts and Culture Week Performance pm
17 th June	EYFS Trip to Braywick Nature Centre
18 th June	Arthur Burgin Science Exhibition – Year 6
19 th June	Mathemagical Competition for selected Year 2 pupils (4.15pm till 6pm) at Waltham St Lawrence Primary School, (team to be decided)
23 rd – 27 th June	Y6 Residential Trip
23 rd – 3 rd July	Sports Fortnight
26 th June	Junior Music Festival – A Night at the Movies 12 noon – 8:15pm (please refer to letter)
4 th July	Sports Day (no after school clubs operating)
5 th July	HT Fest
9 th July	Rock Steady Concert am
11 th July	Spanish Assembly 9:30am
15 th July	Year 5 Trip to The Ferry to see the Swan Upping event 1:15pm (details above)
17 th July	Last day of term & Leavers' Service