



School Lane
Cookham
Berkshire
SL6 9QJ

Jesus said, "Just as I have loved you, you should also love one another."

John 13:34-35

KEY INFORMATION FOR THE WEEK

This week, as the temperature has fluctuated, some days have felt a little cold around school. As I wrote in the newsletter last week, it is therefore becoming more important for you to send your child in wearing vests and other underlayers. It is also helpful if you can send him/her in each day with a coat, particularly a waterproof one on the days when it is raining and when your child has P.E. We are still aiming to use the outside space as much as possible and with good ventilation being important in reducing the spread of illness, classroom doors and windows remain open throughout the day whatever the weather. Navy tracksuit trousers and hoodies are perfect for days when your child has P.E. and sending in a spare set of clothes will enable them to change if they get caught in a shower. (For details on uniform, including P.E. kit, please refer to our policy on the website.)

School Protocol for Managing Covid-19:

In case you missed last week's newsletter, let me direct you to the NHS website at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/> which provides clear guidance on what to look out for if you suspect your child or anyone else in the family may have Covid-19 symptoms. **If you or anyone in your household does show symptoms, the entire household MUST isolate.**

If your child becomes ill at school with Covid-19 symptoms, we will isolate them and ask you to come and collect them (and any siblings) as soon as possible so that you can seek advice from the NHS on whether or not they require a test.

If your child, currently in a different setting, is sent home to get a test, please inform us immediately and be prepared to come and collect siblings from our school office. While awaiting test results please do not send your child to school and only do so when you are in receipt of a negative test result for whoever has been tested.

Should you receive a positive test result for anyone in the household, please inform the school office without delay to allow us to contact Public Health England to seek advice on what to do as a result. We have a strict protocol to follow in such circumstances and we will need to act quickly.

Should we need to, we will disseminate work to those children unable to attend school for an extended period through Google Classroom. This has already happened in some cases. **Please do email the school office (office@holytrinitysch.co.uk) if you are still having difficulty accessing this system for homework tasks.** Sorting out these problems early on will help us to ensure everyone is set up should we need to rely more on our online platform for sending out work at a later date. As I wrote in last week's newsletter, increasingly we will also use this platform and Google Meet to communicate with you.

Harvest:

Thank you for the generosity you showed when sending your child to school on Tuesday with harvest gifts. We amassed a huge amount of produce which has all been collected by 'Foodshare, Maidenhead' ahead of it being distributed to families in the local area who need help most. This was a project we ran in conjunction with Holy Trinity Church.

Today I received a letter from Lester Tanner, Trustee of Maidenhead Foodshare, thanking us for our donations. He informed me that the charity is helping around 400 people every week at the moment with a greater demand expected over the winter months. He asked me to pass on his thanks to you all.

All week we have been considering the fruits of the harvest and although we haven't been able to visit church for our annual festival of celebration, the church has come to us. This has been through virtual presentations delivered by Father Nick and his team. We remain enormously grateful to the clergy for the support and guidance they are able to offer us, as well as the wider community, during these worrying times.

Phonics Workshop (Reception, Y1 & Y2):

For those of you who were able to attend, thank you for logging on to our virtual Phonics Workshop this week. The team hope that you found the session useful. If you were unable to join us, you might be interested in taking a look at the presentation and some of the resources that were shared. These can be found on Google Classroom. Simply log in and locate them in the Homework Topic folder.

Nasal Flu Immunisation:

This year's flu immunisation programme is set for next week. A team of nurses will be coming in to administer the vaccination on Thursday. Many of you have now indicated whether or not you wish your child to take part. If you are yet to decide, it is important that you do so by noon of the day before (Wednesday 21st October). Please do take a moment to read through the leaflet, which was sent out with the original letter, as it contains important information on things like allergies. As you will see from page 11 of the guide, the vaccination contains porcine gelatine which may mean it is not suitable for some children. To book a vaccination for your child, look out for the E-consent link which has already been sent to you. Thank you.

Science Week:

On Monday we are looking forward to launching Science Week. Some of you have very kindly agreed to deliver virtual presentations and we hope the children come home speaking positively about these and other events we have planned.

Yesterday, your child was set a DT challenge via Google Classroom. Having designed and made their prototype perhaps over the weekend and at the beginning of next week, they should then bring it into school on Thursday (22nd October). We will use time during the day to test each product before drawing conclusions about everyone's design. The children will then be able to take their work home ahead of the half term holiday.

Times Table Rock Stars:

This week we have launched 'Times Table Rock Stars' across KS2 and 'Numbots' in KS1. These are two online maths programmes which support the children in getting to grips with times tables and basic number facts. Already it has generated a lot of excitement in school. The children have been shown how to log on and many have had the opportunity to become familiar with the different stages of the game during lesson time.

This is a project that we hope you will support at home too. It has enormous educational benefits and it is clear that the pupils are full of enthusiasm for it and keen to engage. Do look out for details of how to help your child access the games at home and encourage them to show you how it works this weekend!

Breakfast Club:

Breakfast Club will continue to run next week. As you will have seen from last week's newsletter, the cost of dropping your child off early, anytime between 8:00am and 8:45am, is now £2:20 which will be charged to your Scopay account. Please note, this does not include a breakfast.

Bikeability-Year 6:

Every year we organise a Bikeability course for the children in Year 6. Over the course of a week, they learn how to look after their bicycle and how to stay safe when cycling on the road. We had hoped that, despite the restrictions on many activities, we would still be able to invite the instructors into school this year and run the course again. After careful consideration and some intensive planning, we feel happy that the course can run.

If you have a child in Year 6 you will have received a letter this week outlining the programme. If you wish your child to take part, please complete the relevant forms and send them back to school as soon as you are able to secure a place. Thank you.

Samaritan's Purse-Operation Christmas Child:

With half term approaching and with more time to spend together as a family, you may like to embark on a project. Samaritan's Purse is a charity which provides Christmas gifts to poverty-stricken children all over the world. Every year we ask you to bring shoe boxes to school that you have filled with toys and hygiene products, before they are then collected by the charity. This year, again, we would like to support them in the wonderful work they do. However, we will not be collecting your shoe boxes at school. Instead, by using the link: <https://www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/find-your-drop-off-location/> you will be able to find your nearest drop-off location in Maidenhead to take your gift. National Collection Week falls between 9th - 16th November. If you and your family do take part, please send a photograph to the office; it would be lovely to share pictures with the children in school of the gifts you have sent.

Twitter:

Don't forget to follow the school on Twitter. To sign up and be the first to hear of events as they happen go to @HTSchoolCookham

This week, amongst other things, we posted news of 'Sandwichbot' visiting Year 4 during their English lesson, a picture of all the harvest gifts we collected for 'Foodshare', art work produced by Year 5 as they listened to the festival of harvest at Holy Trinity Church, information on the Phonics Workshop, news from Cygnet Class as they learnt about autumn, leaf people brought to life by Swans and singing from the choir as they rehearsed before school.

This is a great way of finding out what has been going on in class and seeing the school in action, especially at a time when there are restrictions limiting your access to the site.

Next week, do look out for our end of term newsletter which will contain news from every class teacher. We appreciate how frustrating it must be for you not to have the usual contact with staff and how disappointing it is not to be able to see the lovely work the children are producing in books and on wall displays. Therefore, we hope the news we share will be of interest and give you an insight into some of the things that have been happening over the last few weeks.

RBWM Advice:

Finally, some of you may have seen a rather hard-hitting message from the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead following the Prime Ministers announcement earlier in the week, reminding everyone of the importance of following advice, sticking to the rules and behaving responsibly. The fear is that with the number of Covid-19 cases rising rapidly in the borough, we could face tighter restrictions to get the figures back under control. Now is the time to act and to consider the necessity of play dates, for instance, which seem to be causing particular concern for those heading up action plans in the borough. Several primary schools, as well as secondary schools, in both Windsor and Maidenhead have now reported cases which have resulted in bubbles being shut down and children forced to isolate at home.

I fully appreciate that this is an anxious time for everyone. If you need support, particularly around wellbeing, there are some useful resources on the borough site. These can be located at:

<https://rbwm.afcinfo.org.uk/pages/community-information/information-and-advice/covid-19-latest-information-and-advice/useful-resources-covid-19>

Although a lot of this material was disseminated around the time we were in lockdown, you can still find some relevant resources for children including a list of books around the topic. I urge you to take a look.

Keep safe this weekend and I shall look forward to seeing you and your child on Monday ready for Science Week.

Anna Smith

CALENDAR DATES

16 th Oct	Closing date for Theresa May's Christmas Card competition
19 th – 23 rd Oct	Science Week
22 nd Oct	Nasal Flu Immunisation (All Years)
31 st Oct	Deadline for Secondary School Applications (Sept 2021)
26 th – 31 st Oct	Half Term
3 rd Nov	BucksCC Transfer Practice Test (11+)
5 th Nov	BucksCC Transfer Test (11+)
10 th Nov	PTA AGM via zoom
13 th Nov	Children in Need (details to be confirmed)
17 th Nov	Virtual Open Evening for Parents of Children starting in September 2021
23 rd – 27 th Nov	Maths Week (details to follow)