

Holy Trinity C.of.E Primary School

Founded 1858



March 31st 2017 Newsletter

News from Holy Trinity School

With the end of term having drawn to a close, I would like to begin the newsletter by wishing you all a wonderful Easter holiday wherever you may be. There is no doubt that the children have earned a break. The last six weeks, like every term, seem to have been enormously busy and I do hope your child has enjoyed engaging with the range of activities which have taken place. They have certainly embraced every opportunity with great enthusiasm! Whatever the level of difficulty, we have been impressed with the growing resilience of the children and the determination they have shown in reaching final goals. We continue to work hard on developing growth mind-set and teaching our pupils that effort is always rewarded. In helping them to see how making mistakes and sometimes experiencing failure is valuable in the learning journey, some classes have found it interesting exploring the lives of famous people who, despite early disappointments, found the strength to persevere and, as a result, achieved great success. Do ask them about this!

In the meantime, enjoy the holiday and I shall look forward to seeing you all back on Tuesday 18th April.

Collective Worship

This term in the run up to Easter, we have been learning about how Jesus spent his last days on earth. The Easter story was told through readings and songs at our end of term service in church which I was delighted some of you were able to join us for. Special thanks go to the Junior and Senior Choir who performed at the service and Alice Mizelli and Max Mitchell in Year 6 who read the lesson with such tremendous composure and meaning. During the holiday, your child might like to busy themselves with Mrs Nicol's Design Technology challenge. They are to design and plant a miniature 'Garden of Gethsemene' which tells the Easter story. (Please refer to the attachment for more details.)

Inspiring Young Minds During 'Book Week'

In a break from tradition, this year we decided to celebrate World Book Day not on just one day, but by planning events either side of it during a 'Book Week'. On Monday we kicked things off with a visit from the 'Story Telling Bus'. While Cygnet Class boarded the bus and enjoyed hearing tales of the 'Gruffalo', the rest of the school was immersed into the Wonderland world of Alice. In a mock court scene the children explored the values of justice and democracy before taking a plunge into the depths to think about world conservation! It was certainly a terrific way to start the week!



During the remainder of the week, as some classes compiled their 'Desert Island Books' and others designed book covers, some children actually managed to dive into their storybook with the help of some clever ICT and our green screen. Several had fun reading stories to our special visitor, Mrs Cornwell's dog! The dog's attention span was excellent although her comprehension skills need a little work!



Other visitors during the week included published author Mr Beale (grandfather of Ollie) and his dog Crumble who features in his stories and Mrs Marsden, mum of Jonny and Sam both of whom thrilled with workshops on how to go about writing a novel. They shared some excellent tips with the children, many of whom were inspired to have a go at starting their own stories! Thank you Mrs Marsden and Mr Beale for giving up your time to make our Book Week special.



On Wednesday and Friday we enjoyed welcoming two storytellers to school. Valentine entertained with traditional tales which required a considerable amount of audience participation and Vanessa took us on a journey into the Underworld with Orpheus. In another activity which is always enjoyed by everyone, an older and younger pupil paired up to share a book ahead of dressing up day!



The week finished with everyone joining in our dress up day which saw an enormous number of book character come alive!



If you looked closely, a number of Wallies could also be seen wandering the site!



Showing Support for Comic Relief

Comic Relief always provides us with a wonderful time to have fun and be creative and this year we went all out to support the charity.

Our fund raising began with Gosling Class making some delicious sounding 'cheesecake sneezecakes'. Despite the rather unusual look, they were successful in selling their entire stock to eager customers. This was followed by a cake sale the next day. Again we were successful in selling all the delicious cakes you had so kindly donated within just 15 minutes of opening shop! One minute they were there, the next they were gone! We ended the week with everyone showing their support for the charity by dressing in red. Some even dyed their hair and had no end of accessories to complete the look! Several came along to the special showing of two rather funny films after school although I suspect the tuck shop rather than the entertainment was the highlight for many! Overall it was a terrifically fun week during which we managed to raise a tremendous £687.94 for the charity.

After watching in assembly the story of Hassan, a little boy living in Sierra Leone whose life has been tragically turned upside down by the effects of Ebola, the significance of the money we have raised perhaps has even more meaning for the children. We are all so grateful to have helped Hassan and others like him. Thank you for your enormous support in making our Comic Relief Week such a success.



COMIC RELIEF

Ensuring our Children are 'Internet Safe'

The term began with a focus on Internet safety. We were delighted to be joined for a day by Paul Hay, an Internet expert, who has visited Holy Trinity a number of times in the past. He began the morning by leading an assembly before visiting each class in turn to deliver workshops which encouraged the children to be acutely aware of specific safety rules to follow when online. In the afternoon he worked with the older children on topical issues including cyber bullying and appropriate use of social media.

The use of ICT and the Internet is very much an integral part of learning in school so we are always aware of the importance of teaching the children how to use it sensibly. Every classroom displays safety rules and advice on how to use the Internet wisely, and our computing programmes of study also incorporate these important messages.

Once the children had gone home, Paul delivered a training session to the staff and then ran a workshop for parents in the evening which I was delighted some of you were able to attend. It was an incredibly successful day which everyone seemed to enjoy.

If you would like to see the resources the children used or find out more information on this topic, do refer to the school's website where you will find advice and details we hope you find useful.



News from Key Stage 1

Swans Have Plenty to Talk About

We love books and really enjoyed participating in all the book week activities at the beginning of term. We also designed and made our own bookmarks as we are now beginning to read longer books that we might not finish all in one go!



Our maths skills are certainly progressing well and one morning we had fun measuring capacity while making delicious fruit cocktails.



Swans Learn about Fire Safety

Last Tuesday we welcomed four members of the Fire Service into school. After a talk about fire safety, we went outside to re-enact a scene from the Great Fire of London, passing buckets of water along a line to put out our Pudding Lane blaze! A tour of the fire engine followed, along with experience of squirting water from a powerful hose. What an exciting way to bring our history learning to life!



Cygnets go Intergalactic!

This term has been a busy one for Cygnet Class! We have been focusing on the topic of 'Space' which we have loved. Some of the things we have done include learning the names of the planets, learning about how rockets launch and land, creating our own aliens and naming them, acting as astronauts in our space station, as well as lots of other things related to the topic. We even took a trip to the moon in our class rocket! We have also focused on books about space such as 'Aliens Love Underpants' and 'How to Catch a Star'. It really has been a fantastic term!



Making the Most of the 'Green Screen'

This term Kingfishers have been using the green screen in order to visit different environments. It has helped us enormously in our work across the curriculum but was particularly fun for our dramatic retelling of The Tiger Child.



Proud Mums for Mothers' Day Assembly

There wasn't a dry eye in the house as the children of Cygnet, Swan and Kingfisher class showed their Mums just how much they care during their Mothers' Day assembly. The pupils performed poetry, songs and videos to their proud parents, showing great confidence and humour.



Kingfishers Learn Some New Skills

The children in Kingfisher Class have learned a new game this term - Ha Do Do. The game originates from India and Bangladesh and requires a great deal of speed and determination on the part of the raider to eliminate the opposition.



News from Key Stage 2

Lots of Inspiration for Goslings

Year 3 began the term with a trip to Pitt Rivers Museum, Oxford to support their geography study of Canada. In particular, we were looking at the Haida Totem pole. The children were fascinated to learn about the Haida people and discover how and why these monumental structures were built. They have been working on their own designs and are looking forward to constructing their own totem pole to represent our school.

During Book Week, Year 3 thoroughly enjoyed having Mike Beale and his dog Crumble in to visit our classroom. Crumble slept happily while Mike read one of his stories after which the children were invited to write their own ending! Following this, they were given the opportunity to ask Mike about the writing process.

Goslings were very excited to contribute to Red Nose Day fund raising. Inspired by success stories from Comic Relief, they put their aprons on and got baking! The kitchen was busy all day as the class mixed and baked their 'sneezecake cheesecakes' which they then sold after school raising a whopping £73.00!



Knights of the Garter

At the start of the month Year 6 welcomed Ray Allen to the class to introduce a fun art initiative. Mr Allen explained the history of the century-old tradition of the 'Knights of the Garter' in the UK and how each member designs their own shield (you can see them hanging in Windsor Castle today!). Mr Allen introduced the idea of having 'Knights of Holy Trinity' and showed the children how to design a shield that best represented their own personal interests. Some spectacular art work has been produced by the pupils and Mr Allen will soon judge all of the contributions and announce winners of the competition. Well done to all who took part!



Journey Through Sound and Aztec Wonders

It has been another superb term in Year 4. In English, Year 4 have read the book "Toro! Toro!" by Michael Morpurgo which has been highly successful. The children have written some outstanding pieces of writing covering a range of genres, including diary writing, newspaper reports and informative fact files about bull fighting. History has been another exciting topic this term with Teals learning about the Aztecs. The children have enjoyed finding out about the Aztec Empire, life in Tenochtitlan, describing an Aztec home and learning about the Aztec Gods. Continuing the topic of the Aztecs, the children have made some stunning clay Aztec pots and Aztec mosaic masks out of card. In Science, they have begun exploring 'Sound'. Earlier on in the term, Teals investigated how different pitches of sound are made by using different size containers and different thicknesses of elastic bands. They also enjoyed using Miss Davies' cello to see if their findings were correct.



Senior Choir Wows at 'Maidenhead's Got Talent'

After weeks of hard work learning and perfecting a variety of songs, our Senior Choir were ready to impress at the annual 'Maidenhead's Got Talent' concert organised by Rotary. The event, staged at Taplow Court, is always a highlight of the year as it gives young performers a chance to showcase their talents.

This year was no different. Acts from across Maidenhead, including soloist, magicians, dance troops, theatre schools and five primary schools assembled at the venue all keen to impress an eagerly awaiting audience. Holy Trinity opened the concert with a medley of three songs, each very different. The children performed superbly and all seemed to enjoy taking the spot light!



Royal Albert Hall Spectacular

On Friday 17th March, Year 6 set off on a journey which would take them to The Royal Albert Hall in London for a 'Classical Spectacular' concert.

On arriving at the venue, they enjoyed a picnic lunch in Kensington Gardens sitting just below the Prince Albert Memorial. There they were joined by hundreds of other school children all excited about hearing the concert too!

Before long it was time to find our seats. We all felt very important having been assigned boxes and it was from these that we sat back, relaxed and enjoyed some fabulous music. Many famous classical tunes were brought alive with spectacular light shows. We were treated to lights, lasers, cannon fire, dancing and pyrotechnics! It was quite magnificent! Everyone returned to school thrilled at having been part of such a special event.



Recount of the Y6 visit to The Royal Albert Hall by Milo Adams-Strang: 19th March 2017

The day started when we got on the coach and set off for the Royal Albert Hall. Excitedly, we clambered onto the bus desperate to get a seat alongside our friends. I sat next to Finley. We set off on the one hour drive to The Royal Albert Hall. The atmosphere was positively buzzing on the coach. The anticipation was killing me, I just didn't know what to expect. Well, when we arrived, it was absolutely astonishing, it completely defied all my expectations. The size was overwhelming.

We walked to Kensington Park and ate our lunch in front of a gargantuan statue made of gold. When we had finished, we went back into the Albert Hall and found our seats. I was sitting next to Tim and Max B. We were very lucky to be situated in the boxes. The view was perfect! We sat and talked for a couple of minutes before a spot light shone down the middle of the auditorium. The conductor said to remain quiet throughout the performance, then, suddenly the loud music from the orchestra began. The music was all classical and I thought it was very good. The lasers and lights were absolutely blinding and the noise was immense. My favourite part was the 1812 Overture. The melodies were stunning. The only thing I didn't enjoy was when the cannon went off suddenly and I was not expecting it. I nearly had a heart attack! At the end of the concert, they had an array of sparklers that mesmerised me. The coach journey was a lot quieter on the way home as everyone was exhausted. We arrived back at school at a quarter to four and our parents collected us. I told my mum that it was the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra that played the music and she was very impressed. So, overall it was a marvellous trip and I would have not missed it for the world!

Fun through Maths

At the end of February, Year 6 enjoyed a maths workshop led by Explore Learning. In a very hands-on practical session, the children designed and made 3D shapes in a project to create packaging for an X-box. A variety of nets were turned into 3D structures which were then decorated in eye-catching ways in a bid to attract sales! Some tricky mathematical concepts were explored in a fun and engaging manner. Other classes this term have also enjoyed visits from Explore Learning.



Cormorant Activity

In English this term, the children have really enjoyed reading the Hobbit. They have used the book as a stimulus to write some wonderful play scripts and stories. In addition Year 5 have been learning about the life of J.R.R. Tolkien, the author, and written his biography. In history the children have been learning about the tomb of Tutankhamen! They decided for themselves whether they believed in the curse Howard Carter discovered or whether the eerie train of events that followed the discovery were simply a coincidence. They also enjoyed making their own Egyptian death masks!



Sporting Updates

Rugby

After the success of the girls' Tag Rugby Team, the pressure was on the mixed team to deliver this term and they did not disappoint. With an incredible unbeaten run of 22 games, the Year 5/6 mixed team won both the Six Nations League and cup. The team have trained and practiced relentlessly, and as a result have played magnificently. Performances have been excellent across the squad but special mention must be made to captain Jacob Youthed whose attitude and skill has been outstanding. Mr Gosling couldn't be more proud of the team and is already looking forward to next season's sporting events.



Netball

On Thursday 9th March, the Holy Trinity Netball Team came up against Courthouse. It was a tough match with Courthouse dominating possession for the first two halves and managing to score 15 goals. HT were not disheartened though and showed incredible resilience for the second half. The score at the end of the game was 27-2 to Courthouse. The HT team worked hard and left with their heads held high. Well done HT!

On 16th March, Holy Trinity played their last match of the season against Lowbrook. The squad went out onto the court with lots of positivity and excitement. The match itself was close and HT had to keep up the pace to ensure a win. The final result was 6-4 to HT and the children were delighted. They showed superb team spirit and sportsmanship. Player of the match was Macey Yazdi.

Football

Year 5 too have had great success on the football field this term. They lined up against some very stiff opposition in a tournament at Cressex School. The boys dominated their group scoring 20 goals and conceding just 1 before they progressed as winners through to the final stages. A dominant 3-0 win over Lowbrook and an amazing comeback against Hazelmere meant the boys only needed a draw against a very strong Courthouse team to win the entire competition. In a nail biting final match, the team managed to hold out and were winners! Mr Gosling was incredibly impressed and proud of the of the team's determination, teamwork and skill. Well done everyone for a great achievement!



On Tuesday 14th March, the Yr. 5/6 Football Team had another successful outing with wins over Courthouse and Waltham St Lawrence. The team won both games comfortably, 3-1 and 5-1, with stand out performances from Josh Parrot and Tim Golding.

On the 8th March, 10 children from Year 3 and 4 took part in the Ascot and Maidenhead Year 3/4 Football Tournament. It was a great morning where the children played extremely well. In the first round of matches they won 3 out of 4 games. Unfortunately however, this did not qualify them for the semi-finals, but the children showed true sportsmanship and should be incredibly proud of their achievement in getting as far as they did.



In news hot off the press, last night the Yr. 5/6 team played Holyport and secured another terrific win, 3-0! Well done all!

Dates for your Diary

Tuesday 18th Apr - Return to School

21st Apr - 'Pennies for Change' collection + 'Bags to School' collection

26th — 28th Apr - Book Fair

28th Apr - Teals - Class Assembly—2.45

1st May - Bank Holiday

5th May - Swans - Class Assembly—2.45

8th May - Cormorants - School Trip - Sky Academy

'Star of the Week' Awards



Cygnets Class— Rhys Harris for showing resilience when learning spelling star words and showing good progress in reading

Swan Class— William Wood for always being polite, thoughtful and hardworking

Kingfisher Class— Daisy Mizelli for hard work and growing confidence across the curriculum

Gosling Class— Charles Ganachaud and Anum Munir for being supportive and hard working maths buddies and showing great teamwork

Teal Class— Jake Hyslop for showing tremendous effort in his handwriting resulting in a pen license being awarded

Cormorant Class— Sadie Huddleston for her warm, friendly and kind nature along with her outstanding attitude to learning

Moorhen Class— Aisha Ahmed for being a kind and loyal friend, often putting others before herself

Activities for over the holiday-Details found in attachments

* Rugby—MRFC—4th—6th April

* Alice Through the Looking Glass—15th April



Follow us on twitter and see more of what we are up to! @HTSchoolCookham

* Additional Information regarding the Sailing Club meet—Saturday May 13th

'Partners for Change' News

In support of 'Partners for Change' and to support the Gende Tesfa Breakfast Club, Holy Trinity School will be organising a clothes and shoe collection in partnership with 'Bags2School' to help raise much needed funds.

With the 'Bag2School' collection you have an opportunity to sort through your cupboards and wardrobes and donate unwanted textiles into the bag which can be found in your child's book bag – this can include adults' and children's clothes, shoes (tied together please), hats, belts, handbags and soft toys, (please refer to <http://uk.bag2school.com/> for full details). The clothing needs to be in a re-sellable condition please. Each bag will generate money which will then be sent to 'Partners for Change'.

'Bag2School' will be collecting from Holy Trinity School next to the Reception area on the morning of the **21st April**. Please put the date in your diary, have a good sort out of your cupboards and bring your bag (or bags) to the school on that day. Together let's make a difference.

Also on the 21st April the money your child has earned during the 'Pennies for Change' project will be collected. Ava and Arthur Knight, who have coordinated the project are grateful for everyone's support!