

Growing together as children of God



At Holy Trinity C of E Primary School:

- ✓we want our pupils to **grow** in confidence, independence, resilience and knowledge, so that all achieve their full potential and develop a life-long love of learning and of the world around us.
- ✓we work **together** with families, community and church to model positive relationships, supporting each other and acknowledging that we are stronger when we work together.
- ✓we are growing together as **children of God**, strengthening our faith, secure in the knowledge we are unique, loved and cherished.

Dear Parents and Carers

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our Harvest Celebration by donating food items for the DONS Foodbank. We are so grateful for your generosity. Our theme was water, and each year group contributed to the service, thanking God for his provision of water for us, and thinking about those who cannot just turn on a tap.



The Reception children loved watching the 'tree team' yesterday, as they gave our tress a good trim to keep them healthy!



Many congratulations to Henry who was one of the Summer Reading Challenge winners this year. Keep up your reading!

Confirmed GMB Strike Action – Friday 9th October 2026

GMB Union, the union that many of our support staff are members of, have called a strike on **Friday 9th October**.

This is to confirm that our school will be closed to children (other than clubs and wraparound care) on Friday 9th October 2026.

As you may recall, historically, Merton teachers have been paid *Inner London* rates, whilst Merton support staff have been paid *Outer London* rates. GMB staff in Merton, and some other London boroughs, have raised for some time now an important grievance about this pay fairness and equity and strike action is an escalation of this. This is a dispute with the Council/government over pay, not against our individual school.

Where a member of the GMB chooses to take strike action, we are not permitted, under the terms of the strike, to cover their duties and responsibilities (first aid, break and lunch duties, 1:1 support of children with particular needs, learning support in class, pastoral support of children, supporting the teachers in many other ways etc) hence the reason why I have had to take the difficult decision to close the school to all pupils, to ensure their safety.

I apologise for the inconvenience this will cause our families.

Mrs Brent (Inclusion)

BOOK RECOMMENDATION



NAME OF BOOK:

The Miraculous Journey of
Edward Tulane

AUTHOR:

Kate DiCamillo

AGE RANGE:

9-12 years

MY STAR RATING



ABOUT THE BOOK:

"The magical story of the adventures of a lost toy rabbit from a New York Times bestselling author, twice winner of the Newbery Medal. Abilene loves her blue china rabbit, but Edward Tulane is extremely vain and only loves himself. On a voyage from New York to London, Edward falls overboard and from there finds himself on an amazing journey. He travels with strangers, works as a scarecrow, comforts an unwell child ... and finally learns what it is to truly love."

I read this book with both of my children and then I read it again on my own! It is the beautiful story of a toy rabbit who becomes lost, the adventures he goes on and his many different owners. If you have ever had a favourite toy, you will love this book.

Every year, the children at Holy Trinity create amazing Christmas themed artwork which can then be made into cards or other personalised items to share with friends and family. You can purchase them from 'Art Projects for Schools' (APFS), and at the same time **help raise money for our school!**

Your child will bring home their Christmas card design and information leaflet today or next week. If you would like to order some cards, wrapping paper, labels, bags or mugs, please follow the instructions on the leaflet.

You must order from APFS before midnight on the 26th October and items will be dispatched w/c 9th November.

Thank you,
Miss McHenry

HOTS Updates

AUTUMN DISCO FRIDAY 16th OCTOBER: Nursery & KS1 17:30 - 18:30, KS2 18:45 - 20:00

The event of the season is quickly approaching, don't miss out! DJ Didi will be pumping out the tunes and there will be yummy treats, novelties and party delights on sale as well as a licensed bar. Book your tickets on our website (link sent via your class rep) and support the school whilst having a rocking time!

We are also in need of parent volunteers to help at the event. If you are able to assist, please sign up on the ticket website.

*Please note all children **MUST** be accompanied by a responsible adult and unfortunately, we do not have enough space for younger siblings to attend.



[HOTS Friends of Holy Trinity](http://pta-events.co.uk)
pta-events.co.uk

Christmas Wreath Workshop: SOLD OUT!

Our Christmas Wreath Workshop is officially **FULLY BOOKED!**

A huge thank you to everyone who purchased a ticket — we're so excited to see you for a festive evening of wreath making, mince pies and Christmas cheer!

We can't wait to kick off the festive season with you!

Thank you, as always, for supporting HOTS and our school.

Is my child too ill for school?

Does your child have a high temperature (38°C or more)?

YES Keep them off school until it goes away.

NO Follow the guidance below.

Your child can usually go to school with a mild cough or cold if they are otherwise well. If you do keep your child at home, it's important to phone the school or nursery on the first day and give them the reason.

Should go in	Should go in (let the school know)	Seek treatment before returning to school	Keep them off (at first)
A cough, cold or sore throat Fine with slight cough or common cold symptoms, such as a runny nose, sore throat or headache, as long as they're otherwise well and do not have a high temperature.	Cold sores Encourage them not to touch the blister or kiss anyone while they have the cold sore, or to share things like cups and towels.	Impetigo They'll need treatment from a pharmacist or GP, often with antibiotics. Keep them off school until all the sores have crusted over and healed, or for 48 hours after they start antibiotic treatment. Encourage your child to wash their hands regularly and not to share things like towels and cups with other children at school.	Ear infection If your child has an ear infection and a high temperature or severe earache, keep them off school until they're feeling better or their high temperature goes away.
Threadworms Speak to your pharmacist, who can recommend a treatment.	Conjunctivitis Fine unless they are feeling very unwell. Seek advice from your pharmacist. Encourage your child not to rub their eyes and to wash their hands regularly.	Ringworm See your pharmacist unless it's on their scalp, in which case you should see a GP. It's fine for your child to go to school once they have started treatment.	Measles They'll need to see a GP. Call the GP surgery before you go in, as measles can spread to others easily. Keep your child off school for at least 4 days from when the rash first appears. They should also avoid close contact with babies and anyone who is pregnant or has a weakened immune system.
	Head lice & nits You can treat head lice and nits without seeing a GP.	Scarlet fever They'll need treatment with antibiotics from a GP. Otherwise they'll be infectious for 2 to 3 weeks. Your child can go back to school 24 hours after starting antibiotics.	Vomiting & diarrhoea Stay away from school until they have not been sick or had diarrhoea due to illness for at least 2 days (48 hours).
	Hand, foot & mouth disease If they seem well enough to go to school, there's no need to keep them off. Encourage your child to throw away any used tissues straight away and to wash their hands regularly.	Chickenpox Keep them off school until all the spots have crusted over. This is usually about 5 days after the spots first appeared.	
	Slapped cheek syndrome Once the rash appears, they're no longer infectious. Let the school or teacher know if you think your child has slapped cheek syndrome.		

Feeling worried or anxious: It's normal for any of us to feel worried sometimes. We may get a tummy ache or headache, or have problems eating or sleeping. Avoiding school can sometimes make a child's worries about going to school worse. If your child is struggling, please speak to school as soon as possible to explore available help. If your child is still struggling and it's affecting their everyday life, you should contact GP or school nurse.

To find out more, search www.NHS.uk for the specific illness or infection, or 'Is my child too ill for school?'

Merton Education Wellbeing Service

Merton Education Wellbeing Service is a service offering parents guidance and support from the earliest stages of concern around a range of common challenges. They work with parents of children from ages 3 to 11. NHS Wellbeing Practitioners offer ideas and can offer 1:1 sessions with parents to help with:

- Calmer routines and fewer conflicts at home
- Helping your child feel more confident in new situations or social settings
- Helping your child cope with fears, worries and build resilience
- Helping parents feel supported, reassured and not alone

You can reach out to them and find out more here: <https://forms.office.com/e/9hA10GNKqk>.



Education Wellbeing Service



Education Wellbeing Service Webinar

Through The School Gates: Overcoming daily challenges getting into school

There can be many challenges with supporting your child to get into school well and in as relaxed a way as possible.

This webinar aims to:

- Think about some of the different challenges that can be faced in the morning getting ready for school.
- Understand child anxieties using cognitive-behavioural approach
- Discuss ways to talk about worries
- Provide a step-by-step approach to building confidence with attending school should there be early school avoidance to prevent it becoming problematic.

DATE / TIME

Monday 5th October
7.30-8.30pm



Scan the QR code or [click here](#)

LOCATION

Online - Hosted on Teams

Sign up to either event for free on Eventbrite by scanning the QR Code.

You can also check out our other events by [clicking here](#)

wellbeinginschoolsevents@swlstg.nhs.uk

DATE / TIME

Friday 9th October
1.00-2.00pm



Scan the QR code or [click here](#)

Education Wellbeing Service Webinar

NHS
South West London and
St George's Mental Health
NHS Trust

Education
Wellbeing
Service

Feeding and its difficulties in the Early years

A 1.5 hour long webinar to explore how feeding develops in the early years and how to create healthy eating habits that last a lifetime.



DATE / TIME

Monday 5th October 2027
12.00-1.30pm

Scan the
QR code or
[click here](#)



wellbeinginschoolsevents@swlstg.nhs.uk

LOCATION

Online - Hosted on Teams

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Education Wellbeing Service Webinar

NHS
South West London and
St George's Mental Health
NHS Trust

Education
Wellbeing
Service

Building Strong Bonds: How to build Healthy and Secure Attachment/Relationships with Children

Join us for an insightful workshop designed for parents and carers, where we will explore the Circle of Security model, a proven approach to fostering secure and healthy attachments with children.

This session will guide you through the fundamental principles of the model, helping you understand your child's emotional needs and how to respond in ways that build trust and security.

You will learn strategies to enhance your caregiving skills, promoting a strong, supportive bond that nurtures your child's development and well-being.



DATE / TIME

Thursday 8th October
7.00-8.00pm



Scan the
QR code
or
[click here](#)

LOCATION

Online - Hosted on Teams

Sign up to either event for free on Eventbrite by scanning the QR Code.

You can also check out our other events by [clicking here](#)

wellbeinginschoolsevents@swlstg.nhs.uk

DATE / TIME

Wednesday 14th October
12.30-1.30pm



Scan the
QR code
or
[click here](#)

wellbeinginschoolevents@swlstg.nhs.uk

Education Wellbeing Service

Parent/Carer Webinars

Primary Schedule 26/27

Scan the QR code to sign up to any of these free local NHS webinars for Primary parents & carers

We also provide free 1:1 early support for parents of primary aged children to support their child's common worries and anxieties, or support children's everyday challenging behaviours. Speak to your school to find out more.



Through the school gates - overcoming daily challenges getting into school

Understanding and supporting your child's sleep

Supporting big emotions at home and school - the zones of regulation

Understanding and managing screen time for primary school children

Encouraging healthy habits in children with Autism

Supporting common child anxieties and worries including around exams

Respectful Open Collaborative Compassionate Consistent

Term Dates 2026-2027

Autumn Term 2026

- First day: Tuesday 1 September 2026
(INSET Days Tuesday 1 and Wednesday 2 September)
Children start back Thursday 3 September 2026
- Last day Friday 18 December 2026
- Half term: Monday 26 October to Friday 30 October 2026

Spring Term 2027

- First day: Monday 4 January 2027
(INSET Day Monday 4 January 2027)
Children start back Tuesday 5 January 2027
- Last day: Thursday 25 March 2027
- Half term: Monday 15 February to Friday 19 February 2027

Summer Term 2027

- First day: Monday 12 April 2027
- Last day: Wednesday 21 July 2027
(INSET Day Wednesday 21 July)
Children end Tuesday 20 July 2027
- Half term: Monday 31 May to Friday 4 June 2027
(INSET Day Monday 7 June)
Children return from half term Tuesday 8 June 2027

Key Dates (Any new dates will be highlighted)

Date	Time	Event
9 th October		Strike Day – school will be closed
15 th October	9.30 2.00	Reception Open Morning for entry in 2027 Nursery Open Afternoon for entry in 2027
16 th October	8.15-8.45 PM	Share My Learning – an opportunity for children to share their learning, and books, with their parents/carers HOTS Autumn Disco
Sunday 18 th October	10.30	Schools Sunday @ Holy Trinity Church
19 th – 22 nd October		Parent/Teacher Meetings this week - online
23 rd October		Break up for half term

26 th -28 th October		NEAT Half Term Camp
2 nd November		Autumn 2 begins SEND Parent Meetings this week
5 th November		Reception Open Morning for entry in 2027
16 th – 20 th November		Anti-bullying week Assessment Week 1
17 th November	9.00	School Eucharist @ school
20 th November	9.45	Nursery Open Morning for entry in 2027
23 rd – 27 th November		Assessment Week 2
26 th November	9.30	Reception Open Morning for entry in 2027
27 th November	PM	HOTS Wreath Making
Saturday 28 th November	Pm	HOTS Cheers and Carols
2 nd December		Flu Vaccinations – further details to follow from NHS
8 th December	9.15	Reception Nativity
9 th December	9.15 18.30	Reception Nativity Year 4/6 Carol Service @ Church
10 th December	9.15	Year 1 Concert
11 th December	9.15	Year 2 Concert
14 th December	10.30/2.30	Nursery Nativity
16 th December	18.30	Year 3/5 Carol Service @ Holy Trinity Church
18 th December	14.00	RE Focus Day Break up
4 th January 2027		INSET Day – School closed
5 th January 2027		Spring 1 Term begins for all children
7 th January		Reception Open Morning for entry in 2027
5 th February		NSPCC Maths Number Day
12 th February	8.15-8.45	Share My Learning – an opportunity for children to share their learning, and books, with their parents/carers Break up for half term
22 nd February		Spring 2 term begins
TBC		3H Swimming
1 st – 5 th March		Year 6 to France Assessment Week 1
8 th -12 th March		Book Week Assessment Week 2
TBC		3T Swimming
12 th March		Book Week Dress Up Day – Shakespeare theme
23 rd March	9.15	Easter Service @ Church
24 th March		Mini-Market – Lent Appeal
25 th March	8.15-8.45 14.00	Share My Learning – an opportunity for children to share their learning, and books, with their parents/carers RE Focus Day Break up for Easter
12 th April		Summer 1 starts
15 th April	PM	Parent/Teacher Meeting – in-person
19 th April	PM	Parent/Teacher Meeting – in-person
5 th – 7 th May		Year 4 PGL
10 th – 13 th May		Year 6 SATS
17 th – 21 st May		Art Week
28 th May	8.15-8.45	Share my Learning – an opportunity for children to share their learning, and books, with their parents/carers
28 th May		Break up for half term
7 th June		INSET Day – School closed
8 th June		Summer 2 term begins
8 th – 11 th June		Year 4 Multiplication Check Week
14 th – 18 th June		Sports Week Year 1 Phonics Screening Check Window Assessment Week
26 th June	12-16.00	HOTS Summer Fair
July		Year 6 play TBC
12 th July		Reports sent out to parents/carers
16 th July	8.15-9.00	Extended Share My Learning
20 th July	9.30 14.00	Leaver's Service @ Holy Trinity Church Term ends
21 st July		INSET Day

Have a wonderful weekend.

Izzy Rickards

Headteacher