

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you know this week is Children's Mental Health Week. Our school has been involved in excellent workshops, assemblies, lessons and talks, all aimed at encouraging our children to be healthy inside and out. For further information click on this link <https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/>.

Dick Moore, a mental health first aider, gave an inspiring talk to staff and parents on Monday. His last thought was this: *Life is not about waiting for the storm to pass; it is about learning to dance in the rain.* If you want to find out more about his work please follow this link <https://www.dickmoore.org/>

The children enjoyed being part of World Safer Internet Day on Tuesday and each year group focused on different topics within their classes including: sharing images safely; creating safety superheroes; keeping passwords secure and safe and talking safely online. Teachers reiterated the message of being safe, and continuing to stay safe, while using the internet and the key message this year was 'Consent'.

If you would like to follow this up with your child, you can find some useful resources on this website <https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/safer-internet-day-2019/education-packs/activities-parents-and-carers>

Hats off for Kindness – Thursday 14th February

On Thursday 14th February, we will be celebrating our very own Kindness day and this year our theme is 'Hats off for Kindness'. Why not come to school wearing your favourite hat to spread the Kindness trend! Any voluntary donations of £1 will go towards the Charlie Waller Memorial Trust, who support young people to look after their mental well-being.

You might also like to have a look at the *Action for Kindness* Calendar attached to this newsletter.

Have a Heart for Kibera

To link in with our Kindness Day next week, and Valentine's Day, members of our Growing Together in Spirit team will be selling small coloured soapstone hearts next week. The hearts are made in Kenya and cost £1 each. £1 is enough to provide 3 hot meals to the orphans in Lindi Village. The Growing Together team will visit classrooms each day to sell the hearts. See <https://www.lunchbowl.org/schools-work.html> for further information about this local charity.

Sport, Health and Well-being Parent Forum – Monday 25th February, 7.00-9.00pm

As a governing body, we need your input.

In 2018, feedback from both the NFER survey and the Parent Forum, brought Sport Provision and Health and Well-being to the top of our Action Plan for 2019. We feel that both these topics are key to the school's ethos and values and as such, we are keen to hear more from you. As school budgets tighten, we need to ensure the work we do in these areas is as effective as possible.

The first day back after half term, (Monday 25th February) we are holding our first ever Sport, Health and Well-being Forum, to talk openly about sport provision and the promotion of Health & Well-being at our school. We will aim to cover issues such as: what Holy Trinity does well at in terms of sports provision; what we could improve upon; how we could encourage and make better use of parent involvement in these topics; communication with parents; participation in Merton Schools Sports Partnership competitions and any other issues about sport/health that you want to bring to the meeting.

The session will also include a talk from the school on how Sport, Health & Well-being is led and what is included within the national curriculum. We are also lucky enough to have Merton Schools Sports Partnership (MSSP) giving a presentation about their work and to answer any questions you may have.

Caroline Hopper (governor responsible for leading on sport) is leading this first meeting and is very keen for everyone to participate - you are all welcome. If you want to help inform and input into the school's approach to these important topics, please come along and participate.

If you are able to attend please complete the ParentMail form, sent to you today, by Friday 15th February.

Un-Named Lost Property

This is a photo of all of the un-named lost property from the office. Any unclaimed, un-named lost property that is left in school will be donated to a charity shop (or our second-hand uniform store) during half term.



Lunchboxes

Unfortunately, quite a few of the lunchboxes which had been left on the racks outside school overnight were damaged by foxes and have had to be thrown away. Please try to remember to take all lunchboxes home after school every day. Any which are left in school during half term will be thrown away.

KS2 Pencil Cases

As you are aware, we ask that all Key Stage 2 children bring in their own named pencil cases for use in class. Please check that your child has the following equipment to use in school:

- Simple pencil case (please do not send expensive pencil cases or those with 'gadgets' as these can be a distraction in the classroom)
- 2 x black handwriting pens (e.g. Berol Handwriter or Frixion 0.7mm Rollerball)
- Simple HB pencil
- Fluorescent highlighter pen
- Ruler
- Eraser
- Pencil sharpener
- Glue stick
- Colouring pencils (not smelly or glitter pencils)

Half term might be a good opportunity to re-stock the pencil case. Thank you.

EAL Coffee Morning – Monday 11th February, 9.00am

A reminder that the next Coffee Morning for families for whom English is not their first language will be held on Monday 11th February from 9.00am. Please enter the Small Hall via Effra Road.

Share My Learning – Wednesday 13th February, 8.15-8.45am

Our second 'Share My Learning' session will be held on Wednesday 13th February from 8.15-8.45am. Children will be able to take their parents/carers up to their classroom and share what they have been learning. If you are arriving between 8.15am-8.30am then please enter via the main front door on Effra Road. After this time, enter via the back doors from the playground. Please remember that you are responsible for your children until the bell goes at 8.45am. We will ask parents to vacate the building at 8.45am so that we can start the school day promptly.

Are you a scientist?

We are looking for a parent Scientist who could come into school during science week 11-15th and 18th March and talk about their job and how to become a scientist. Please contact Mrs Gorynski on kelly.gorynski@holyltrinity.merton.sch.uk if you might be able to help.

Science Week Competition

We are looking forward to our Science Week after half term (Starting 11th March). Please find attached details of a competition which is open to all of our children to enter. It might be a good half-term project!

Head Lice

Please remember to check your child's hair on a regular basis for head lice. We have had reported cases of head lice in Reception. If you need any help or advice about treating your child's hair, please do have a word at the school office.

Polka Theatre Intergenerational Choir Project

As you may be aware, Polka is closing its building soon for around 18 months, whilst it undergoes a huge refurbishment programme. Consequently, Polka will be running a number of projects and productions in various alternative venues across the borough from the summer.

Re: Sound is a new intergenerational choir project, where children, parents, grandparents and carers can come together to celebrate Polka's 40th year by learning 4 songs from previous Polka productions, one from each decade, plus a new song to take Polka into the future. The 4 choirs, placed across the borough, will be run by MMF staff - Soo Bishop, David Rees and Adam Saunders. Follow this link to find out more information <https://polkatheatre.com/event/resound>

Adult Education Opportunities

Please see attached 2 opportunities for adult education being run in Merton.

Key Dates for 2018-2019

Date	Time	Event
11 th February	9.00am	EAL Coffee Morning – Small Hall
13 th February	8.15-8.45am	Share my Learning – an opportunity for children to share their learning, and books, with their parents/carers
14 th February		Kindness Day – Spread a little love
15 th February	9.00am	Parent Prayer Group – Club Room
15 th February		Break up for half term
25 th February		2 nd half of term begins
28 th February	9.00am	2S (Squirrels) Class Assembly
7 th March	9.00am	4H Class Assembly
11 th – 15 th March		Science week
14 th March	9.00am	1F (Foxes) Class Assembly
15 th March	9.00am	Parent Prayer Group – Club Room
18 th March		Assessment week
18 th March	9.00am	EAL Coffee Morning – Small Hall
20 th March	All day and evening	Year 5 at the Royal Albert Hall
22 nd March	9.00am	SEND Parent Group – Small Hall (enter via Effra Road)
28 th March	9.00am	4T Class Assembly tbc

2 nd April	9.15am	Easter Service @ Holy Trinity Church
4 th April	1.50-7.10pm	Parent/Teacher meetings NB School closes at 1.30pm
5 th April		Easter Bonnet/Hat Parade
5 th April	2.00pm	Break up for Easter holidays
23 rd April		Summer term begins
23 rd – 26 th April		Year 4 PGL Residential
26 th April	9.00am	Parent Prayer Group – Club Room
3 rd May	9.00am	SEND Parent Group – Small Hall (enter via Effra Road)
13 th – 16 th May		Year 6 SATS
20 th – 24 th May		Book Week
24 th May	9.00am	Parent Prayer Group – Club Room
24 th May		Break up for half term
3 rd June		INSET Day
4 th June		2 nd half of term begins
17 th – 21 st June		Sports Days for all year groups TBC
21 st June	9.00am	Parent Prayer Group – Club Room
24 th – 28 th June		Year 6 in France
11 th July	TBC	Open Afternoon/Evening
17 th /18 th July	7.00pm	Year 6 Production
22 nd July	2.00pm	Term ends
23 rd July		INSET Day

Have a good weekend.

Izzy Rickards – Headteacher