

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

As we prepare to celebrate Advent Sunday this weekend, our Reverse Advent Calendar is ready with challenges for us to give to our school community this Advent. The first door, opened today, encourages us to tell someone what what's the best thing about them.

Mary and Joseph have started their Posada Journey around the school. They will visit every classroom and return to the crib on the last day of term.



We are thrilled that Mrs Aasa (former Chair of HOTS) 'opened' Reception's new ship in their playground. The children love playing on it. We are so grateful to HOTS, the governors and a number of other sponsors who have made this possible.



Reception had a real treat this week when Uzay's dad came to play his guitar for them and to talk to them about his job.



Year 4 started their DT unit on Fastenings by learning about different types, and thinking about the advantages and disadvantages of each different fastening.

Forthcoming Christmas Events

Christmas Jumper day – Friday 8th December

Once again, we will be taking part in Save the Children's annual Christmas Jumper Day on Friday 8th December. Children may come to school wearing a Christmas jumper with their usual school uniform bottom half! For the privilege of wearing a Christmas jumper, children are invited to donate to Save the Children Fund. If you would like to donate to Save the Children Fund, please use this link: <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/CJD230029690>

Reception Nativity

Parents/carers of Reception children are warmly invited to watch their Nativity performance on Tuesday 12th December @ 9.15am (Robins' parents/carers), or Wednesday 13th December @ 9.15am (Owls' parents/carers). If you cannot attend on your class' particular day, just come to the other one. All of the children will be in both performances.

Year 2 Christmas Performance

Parents/carers of Year 2 children are warmly invited to watch their Christmas performance on Thursday 14th December @ 9.15am.

Nursery Christmas Performance

Parents/carers of our Nursery children are warmly invited to watch their Nativity on Friday 15th December. The morning nursery and Red Bumblebees will be performing at 10.30am and the afternoon children and Blue Bumblebees at 2.30pm. All Bumblebees will be in both performances, but the performances stated will be when your child has a specific role. Do contact the nursery team if you need more information.

Year 1 Christmas Concert

Parents/Carers of Year 1 children are warmly invited to the Year 1 Christmas Concert on Monday 18th December @ 9.15am.

Carol Services – 18th/ 19th December, 6.30pm @ Holy Trinity Church (see further information below)

The children are busy preparing for their carol services. The Carol Service for **all** children in Year 3 and Year 5 takes places on Monday 18th December, with the Year 4 and Year 6 service being held on Tuesday 19th December. Both services are held at Holy Trinity Church, and start at 6.30pm. Children should arrive by 6.15pm, and wear their school uniform.

Children in the orchestra and choir will be participating in both services.

All children are expected to attend, as they will all be participating.

Retiring collections will be taken at the end of each of our Christmas events for local charities.

Christmas lunch

Caterlink, our catering company, will be cooking a delicious Christmas lunch on **Wednesday 13th December** for children in Nursery (who stay for lunch), Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 and **Thursday 14th December** for children in Years 3, 4, 5, 6. Please note that on 13th December all children in KS2 will need to bring in a packed lunch, and children in Nursery, Reception and KS1 will need a packed lunch on 14th December.

Next week year 5 & 6 pupils will be given the opportunity to audition for solos at the carol service which will involve them singing the solo they would like to do. This week the music teacher Miss Neil-Smith has given sign-up sheets to class teachers however if your child wants to audition but hasn't already signed up they can add their name to the sign-up sheet on the music room door before Tuesday lunchtime. The auditions will take place during lunchtimes next week Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday morning. They will be told their audition slot on Tuesday morning. When all the children have auditioned the soloists will be announced the week beginning 11th December. There will be other opportunities in the year for pupils to do solos so please reassure them that if they are not allocated a solo at these events there will be opportunities later in the academic year.

- 1st verse of 'Once in Royal David's City'
- Final verse of 'Child in a Manger Born'
- Final verse of 'In the Bleak Midwinter'
- A chorus of 'Christmas is a time to love' (choir members only)

Carol Service Practise resources

There is also a project on the learning platform labelled 'School Choir 2023'. Please note that the resources in this project are for those who attend the extra-curricular school choir rehearsals on Friday lunchtimes so only choir members will be singing these in the carol service. If your child is not already part of this it is not too late to join as they can just turn up and sing at 12:45pm on a Friday lunchtime in the small hall.

Please see below a photo of the small or valuable lost property that we have in the school office. If you spot anything that belongs to you, please visit the office or email info@holytrinity.merton.sch.uk. Everything that is left at the end of term will be thrown away or recycled.



Mobile Phones

If your child walks to/from school on their own we request that they have a mobile phone (ideally a brick phone rather than smart phone) so that they can be contacted by you during the journey. This must be handed in to the class teacher on arrival at school

Absences and Punctuality

This is a reminder to contact the school on each day of absence by 8.45am, so that we know why your child is off school.

Please remember that the children should be on the school premises by 8.45am each day. Gates open at 8.30am and are shut promptly at 8.50am. We have seen a growing number of children arriving after this time.

Responsible Teenager Required

A teacher at HT who lives on Trinity Road is looking for a responsible teenager who would be happy to earn a little bit of pocket money by feeding her cat 2 or 3 times (and emptying the litter tray) over the Christmas holidays (24th, 26th and possibly 27th Dec). If you know someone who is interested, please contact

headteacher@holytrinity.merton.sch.uk

PE Uniform

We have noticed that recently some children are wearing the wrong PE uniform on their PE days.

The correct PE uniform is as follows:

- Holy Trinity PE T-Shirt (in house colour)
- Black PE shorts, with no white or coloured piping and with no visible branding
- Holy Trinity branded black PE sweatshirt (Reception and Key Stage 1) or Holy Trinity branded tracksuit top (Key Stage 2)
- Holy Trinity branded black joggers (Reception and Key Stage 1) or Holy Trinity branded tracksuit trousers (Key Stage 2)
- Plimsols or trainers of any colour, preferably dark.

Leggings or 'skins' may not be worn. We do not allow a 'mix and match' approach i.e. the green jumper/ sweatshirt should not be worn with the PE trousers, nor should the tracksuit top or PE sweatshirt be worn over a shirt/ polo shirt or with the grey skirt/ trousers.

All school-branded items are available through ParentMail. Alternatively, HOTS sell good quality second hand uniform at <https://www.pta-events.co.uk/hots>. If you need financial assistance to enable you to buy the school uniform please just let us know.

Spring Activity Clubs

Please see the attached document which outlines which clubs will be available during the Spring Term. Bookings go live on Monday 4 December 2024 at 7.00pm with the final booking deadline at 12noon on Friday 15 December.

HOTS NOTICES

Christmas Carols at School - Saturday 16th December

The HOTS committee cordially invites all our families to a merry evening of carolling on December 16th from 4-5:30pm in the school hall. It will be a night of family enjoyment, with singing our favourite Christmas carols, enjoying festive refreshments, and treats for everyone to celebrate the Christmas season! Please buy your tickets online:

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

Christmas Trees

For those who have pre-ordered, Christmas trees will be delivered to school by 10am tomorrow morning (Sat 2nd) and the collection window is 1.5 hrs from 10.30am-12pm. To speed up collection please have your booking details to hand.

Happy December!

The HOTS Committee

hotsemail@gmail.com

Cost of Living Crisis

If you are struggling financially there is information and support available. Take a look at some of the links below or visit Mitcham library on the 9th December for the next cost of living roadshow.

Information for staff and parents about Merton cost of living resources can be found here: [Cost-of-living support | Merton Council](#) . There is also a cost of living directory https://www.merton.gov.uk/system/files/1110.63-c_colaction_a5_l6pp_directory_final.pdf

There is a two weekly Merton cost of living newsletter which includes useful updates. You can sign up here: <https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/UKLBM/signup/36286>

For support and advice about heating homes: [Warm & Well in Merton \(wimbledonguild.co.uk\)](http://wimbledonguild.co.uk)

The next cost of living event will be at Mitcham library on 9th December between 10:30 and 1:30.



Attached Items:

- Spring Term Activity Clubs

Term Dates 2023-2024

Autumn Term 2023

- Last day: Thursday 21st December

Spring Term 2024

- First day: Monday 8th January 2024
(INSET Monday 8th January so children back Tuesday 9th January)
- Last day: Thursday 28th March 2024
- Half term: Monday 12th February to Friday 16th February 2024

Summer Term 2024

- First day: Monday 15th April 2024
- Last day: Wednesday 24th July 2024
- Half term: Monday 27th May to Friday 31st May 2024
(INSETs Monday 3rd June and Wednesday 24th July, so children return after half term on Tuesday 4th June 2024 and term ends Tuesday 23rd July 2024)

Key Dates for the Term (Any new dates added will be highlighted.)

Date	Time	Event
7 th December	8.45-9.30	Parent/Carer Prayer Group
8 th December		Christmas Jumper Day
12 th December	9.15	Reception Nativity
13 th December	9.15	Reception Nativity
13 th December	Lunchtime	Christmas lunch for children in Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2. All other children to bring packed lunches please.
14 th December	9.15	Year 2 Christmas show
14 th December	Lunchtime	Christmas lunch for children in Year 3 to 6. All other children to bring packed lunches please.
15 th December	10.30/2.30	Nursery Nativity
18 th December	9.15	Year 1 Concert
18 th December	18.30	Year 3/5 Carol Service @ Holy Trinity Church
19 th December	18.30	Year 4/6 Carol Service @ Holy Trinity Church
21 st December	14.00	Break up
8 th January 2024		INSET Day – School closed
9 th January 2023		Term begins for all children
11 th January	9.45	Nursery Open Morning for entry in 2024
9 th February		Break up for half term
19 th February		2 nd half of term begins
11 th – 22 nd March		Assessment weeks
18 th – 22 nd March		Year 6 in France
20 th March	8.15-8.45	Share my Learning – an opportunity for children to share their learning, and books, with their parents/carers
25 th -27 th March		Parent/Teacher Meetings
28 th March	14.00	Break up for Easter holidays
15 th April		Summer term begins
19 th April	8.15-8.45	Year 6 Share my Learning – an opportunity for children to share their learning, and books, with their parents/carers
8 th – 10 th May		Year 4 PGL
13 th – 16 th May		Year 6 SATS
24 th May	8.15-8.45	Share my Learning – an opportunity for children to share their learning, and books, with their parents/carers
24 th May		Break up for half term
3 rd June		INSET Day – School closed
4 th June		2 nd half of term begins
4 th – 7 th June		Year 4 Multiplication Check Week
10 th – 14 th June		Assessment Week
10 th – 14 th June		Year 1 Phonics Screening Check Window
29 th June		Summer Fair
19 th July	8.00-8.45	Extended Share My Learning
23 rd July	9.15 14.00	Leaver's Service @ Holy Trinity Church Term ends
24 th July		INSET Day – School closed

I hope you have a lovely weekend.

Izzy Rickards