

### 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

I hope you enjoyed your half term. It has been wonderful to see the children back in school, excited about their learning. This week we had visits from our Merton Education Partner (who also happens to be an Ofsted Inspector!) and the Merton School Sport Partnership (MSSP). Our MEP was looking at maths throughout the school, and she was so impressed by how articulate our children are at explaining their maths learning. MSSP were equally impressed by the sports teaching at Holy Trinity. Both visits were very encouraging, and affirming.



Nursery have had a very first week back. We have stated our new topic, 'Growing.' We explored the life cycle of the frogs. This week we also celebrated Pancake day or Shrove Tuesday. We discussed why it was important to Christians and shared what we might want to give up. Miss Ade loves buying books, she will be pausing her purchasing for Lent!



On 22<sup>nd</sup> February we marked World Thinking Day and Founder's Day. Children were invited to wear their uniforms to school. It was wonderful to see how many of our children are involved in these uniformed organisations.



Ryan, his mum Charmaine and I (Ms McHenry) went to Buckingham Palace last week for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Art Competition prize winners' event. (winner's entries can be found here: <https://platinumjubilee.lgfl.net/the-platinum-jubilee/gallery-of-artwork>).

It was initially in The Queen's Gallery which is part of Buckingham Palace and houses art from the Royal Collection. We had a couple of speeches from staff from the Royal Collection as well as LGfL, and the 12 winners were presented with their framed artwork with stamps confirming their art had been on display in Buckingham Palace! After an opportunity to look around their current exhibition, which displays Japanese art and crafts from the last 300 years which has been gifted to the Royal family, we were given an exclusive guided tour of the State Rooms at Buckingham Palace! We were guided up the grand staircase, through the various drawing rooms where the Royal family meet important guests, the throne room, the ballroom, the music room, and along cavernous corridors housing magnificent pieces of art by famous artists such as Rubens, Vermeer, Canaletto, Van Dyck and Titian. We were shown secret, hidden doors and admired stunning frescos and huge chandeliers and were dwarfed by the high ceilings, some reaching up to 58 feet! No one else was in the State Rooms as it doesn't open to the public until August, so we felt truly honoured to have been given such access.

This was all down to Ryan's amazing talent and artwork that he created for the competition, and a reminder that entering these competitions really is worth it, so read on to find out more about our next competition.



In assembly this week, the children found out about a new competition they can enter to design some artwork inspired by the Fourth Plinth in Trafalgar Square. They can create something in 2D or 3D, ideally inspired by modern art, London, the fourth plinth, or any current issue. They can do this on a template which is available at school, or without it.

There are 2 age categories: 5-7 and 8-11. The closing date is Friday 10th March.

There will be winners and runners up in each age group, as well as winners from every borough in London.

Winners will attend a presentation ceremony in City Hall, and all winning entries will be in an exhibition later this year. For any questions, contact Miss McHenry.



As a result of the huge number of books that our families bought at the travelling Book Fair before Christmas, we have been able to purchase these new books for our library. The books range from ones that are heavily borrowed and often requested, to some new titles suggested by the Reading Ambassadors.

Thank you so much for purchasing books at the Book Fair – the more books purchased the more rewards the school gets!

### **World Book Day Token Information**

This week pupils were given their very own World Book Day book token to take home. This token holds the value of £1 and can be used in exchange for a free World Book Day £1 book or to use for £1 off a book of their choice. We strongly recommend making use of this offer! The book tokens are valid from **Thursday 16 February to Sunday 26 March 2023**. Please see the attached information sheet for further details.



### **Strike Day – Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March**

As you know, the NEU have announced strike action on 2<sup>nd</sup> March (also 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> March). Some of our classes will be closed on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March. Please look at the Parentmail sent on 23,02,23 for further information. I will update you about 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> March in due course.

I would like to say that our teachers are not taking the action lightly. They are, quite rightly, standing up for schools to be appropriately funded in relation to teachers' pay rises. Currently, any increments have to be provided from the school budget, and whilst teachers' salaries are decided at government level, a rise for teachers without the appropriate government funding for school to pay for them means that a cut has to be decided from elsewhere, ultimately taking money from the children in other areas. This is something that we as school leaders find very difficult. What should be lost? Resources? Educational visitors? Curriculum enrichment? A member of support staff? The teachers at Holy Trinity and across the country are passionate about their jobs and care deeply about providing the very best for your children, therefore those striking are doing so to highlight the unfairness of the lack of funding for all our children. In addition to providing the highly skilled services that they do, many have the added stress of a below inflation increase meaning that in real terms, many teachers are challenged with the cost of living and being able to make ends meet for themselves and their families.



# Poetry Competition



Do you love to write?  
Are you a poet and you know it?

Then enter your poem into the Holy Trinity poetry competition!

## The theme is 'Spring'

You could write about:

- How Spring makes you feel
- What colours you see in Spring
- What changes the new season brings
- Anything that makes you think of Spring

There will be prizes for the winners and the winning poems will be displayed in the school.

Your poem can be any style, any length and can be rhyming or non-rhyming.

Resources and entry forms can be found on class pages on the Learning Platform.

Please submit your entries by Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March via the envelope by the office.

**Good luck and happy writing!**

### **Governor Committee Clerk required**

We are looking for a clerk to take the minutes at our governor committee meetings. This is a voluntary post. Might you have a few hours a term to spare please to serve in this way? If you would like more information please email Shipra Gupta (Chair of Governors) at [governors@holytrinity.merton.sch.uk](mailto:governors@holytrinity.merton.sch.uk)

### **Room available?**

One of our families at school is in need of support. Does anyone have, or know of, a room that might be available for a family to stay in short-term? If you think you might be able to help, please email [headteacher@holytrinity.merton.sch.uk](mailto:headteacher@holytrinity.merton.sch.uk)

### **International Day of Mathematics**

Do take a look at the attached presentation for further information about the forthcoming maths competition.



## HOTS Notice

### Spring Fling Fundraiser 🍷🌸

*The kids' disco is back!*

**SAVE THE DATE: Friday 21st April**

KS1 5.30-6.30pm

KS2 6.45pm-8pm

Tickets go on sale soon for this vitally important school fundraiser.

Tickets are always in high demand and will be offered on a first come, first served basis.

We'll be looking for volunteers on the night to help on the stalls; nail painting, tattoos, glow sticks, cakes, sweets etc and of course on the adult bar(!). A request will go out shortly.

Any budding chefs, we are asking for cake & biscuits contributions to sell on the night.

Finally, if you're a first aider please let us know. We need a volunteer for both sessions.

More info to come SOON! 🌸🍷



NHS Wellbeing Workshops

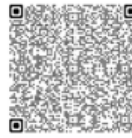
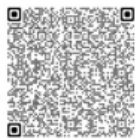
### **Online Webinar for Parents: Supporting Common Child Anxieties and Worries – Including Around Exams 20<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>, or 24<sup>th</sup> March**

Anxiety and worries during childhood are completely normal. At the same time, they can cause stress for both children and those supporting them.

*This webinar looks at different ways you can:*

- *Talk with your child about worries*
  - *Identify key worries*
  - *Support your child with their anxieties and worries*
- And it will provide parents with some key resources.*

**Sign up for free via Eventbrite:  
[www.eventbrite.com/cc/primary-parents-nhs-wellbeing-workshops-682309](https://www.eventbrite.com/cc/primary-parents-nhs-wellbeing-workshops-682309)**



# GIVE YOUR TIME & MAKE A **BIG** DIFFERENCE

Just a few hours a week can make a positive impact on a local family



Discover more about the opportunities on offer;  
[HOMESTARTMERTON.CO.UK](http://HOMESTARTMERTON.CO.UK) | [ADMIN@HOMESTARTMERTON.ORG](mailto:ADMIN@HOMESTARTMERTON.ORG)  
OR CALL OUR FRIENDLY TEAM ON 0208 646 6044

**HOME  
START**  
Merton

## Attached items:

- International Day Of Mathematics Competition
- World Book Day Token Information

## Term Dates 2022-2023

### Spring Term 2023

- Last day: Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023

### Summer Term 2023

- First day: Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2023
- Last day: Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2023
- Half term: Monday 29<sup>th</sup> May to Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2023  
(INSETs Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June and Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July, so children end Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2023)

## Term Dates 2023-2024

### Autumn Term 2023

- First day: Monday 4 September 2023  
(INSETs Monday 4<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September so children back Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> September)
- Last day: Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December
- Half term: Monday 23 October to Friday 27 October 2023

### Spring Term 2024

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

### Summer Term 2024

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

| Date  | Time          | Event  |
|---|---------------|--|
| 28 <sup>th</sup> February                     |               | Year 3 to Kew Gardens  |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> March                         |               | Teacher's Strike – see Parentmail for more information   |
| 7 <sup>th</sup> March                         | 9.00          | School Eucharist @ school  |
| 13 <sup>th</sup> – 17 <sup>th</sup> March     |               | Assessment Week  |
| 14 <sup>th</sup> March                        | PM            | Year 3-6 Choirs to SingFest @ St Mark's Church   |
| 15 <sup>th</sup> /16 <sup>th</sup> March      |               | Potential Teacher Strike Days – information TBC  |
| 20 <sup>th</sup> – 24 <sup>th</sup> March     |               | Year 6 visit to France<br>Science Week   |
| 21 <sup>st</sup> March                        | 8.15-8.45     | EYFS/KSI Share my Learning   |
| 22 <sup>nd</sup> March                        | 8.15-8.45     | KS2 Share my Learning  |
| 27 <sup>th</sup> – 31 <sup>st</sup> March     |               | Parent/Teacher Meetings  |
| 28 <sup>th</sup> March                        | 9.15          | Easter Service @ Holy Trinity Church   |
| 31 <sup>st</sup> March                        | 14.00         | Break up for Easter holidays   |
| 17 <sup>th</sup> April                        |               | Summer term begins   |
| 21 <sup>st</sup> April                        | Evening       | HOTS Disco   |
| May   |               | Year 2 SATS  |
| 8 <sup>th</sup> May                           |               | Extra Bank Holiday   |
| 9 <sup>th</sup> – 12 <sup>th</sup> May        |               | Year 6 SATS  |
| 10 <sup>th</sup> – 12 <sup>th</sup> May       |               | Year 4 to PGL  |
| 23 <sup>rd</sup> May                          | 8.15-8.45     | EYFS/KSI Share my Learning – an opportunity for children to share their learning, and books, with their parents/carers |
| 24 <sup>th</sup> May                          | 8.15-8.45     | KS2 Share my Learning – an opportunity for children to share their learning, and books, with their parents/carers      |
| 26 <sup>th</sup> May                          |               | Special 125 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration – details TBC<br>Break up for half term                              |
| 5 <sup>th</sup> June                          |               | <b>INSET Day – School closed</b>   |
| 6 <sup>th</sup> June                          |               | 2 <sup>nd</sup> half of term begins  |
| 5 <sup>th</sup> June -16 <sup>th</sup> June   |               | Year 4 Timetables Check Window   |
| 12 <sup>th</sup> June – 16 <sup>th</sup> June |               | Year 1 Phonics Screening Check Window  |
| 12 <sup>th</sup> July                         | 8.00-8.45     | Extended Share My Learning TBC   |
| 20 <sup>th</sup> July                         | 9.15<br>14.00 | Leaver's Service @ Holy Trinity Church<br>Term ends  |
| 21 <sup>st</sup> July                         |               | <b>INSET Day – School closed</b>   |

I hope you have a lovely weekend.

Izzy Rickards