

### 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

#### The New Term

The first morning staggers in slowly.  
The sun barely bothers to rise.  
The sky dappled dark,  
but we're up with the lark  
pulling socks on and straightening ties.

The worries emerge from the cupboards  
and hover just over the door,  
catch onto your coat as you click the remote and you pick your shoes up from the floor.

Some travel with you to the playground, some sail away in the breeze.  
Surrender their might as they dance in the light and get tangled on branches of trees.

The school gates stand open and ready.  
The holidays pushed to the side.  
The scotches are hopped,  
hands that held are soon dropped,  
as the bell ushers children inside.

And the routine is almost exactly  
as it was just a few weeks before.  
And the classroom was waiting so calmly  
for you all to come back through the door.  
And you'll sit at your desk and you'll listen, and you'll ask and you'll write what you know.



And as hours and weeks run around you,  
you will learn,  
you will change,  
you will grow.

By Kate Aasa

In Worship this week we are looking at the meals that Jesus had with a number of different people. This week we have learnt about his lunch with Levi, and supper at Simon's house!

We have been working hard to encourage creative, collaborative play at lunchtime. Our Playground Buddies (AKA Anti-Bullying Ambassadors) are devising games to teach our younger children too.

At lunchtime, our playground is zoned, and year groups rotate around the zones during the week, to give them variety.

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Zone 1</b> (top MUGA and Wild Garden)</p>  <p>In this Zone you can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Play table tennis</li> <li>✓ Play in the Wild Garden</li> <li>✓ Play small games with a ball or practise your ball skills</li> <li>✓ Play with the equipment in your box</li> <li>✓ Make up your own games</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Zone 2</b> (Trim Trail and Stage)</p>  <p>In this Zone you can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Play on the Trim Trail</li> <li>✓ Play on the Stage</li> <li>✓ Play with the equipment in your box (but not balls)</li> <li>✓ Make up your own games</li> </ul> <p><b>This is a no-ball zone</b></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Zone 4</b> (bottom MUGA and Quiet Garden)</p>  <p>In this Zone you can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Play with the Blue Blocks</li> <li>✓ Play in the Quiet Garden</li> <li>✓ Play small games with a ball or practise your ball skills</li> <li>✓ Play with the equipment in your box</li> <li>✓ Make up your own games</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Zone 3</b> (Astro and Climbing Wall)</p>  <p>In this Zone you can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Play an organised big game of football with the coach</li> <li>✓ Play small games with a ball or practise your ball skills around the edges of the Astro</li> <li>✓ Play with the equipment in your box</li> <li>✓ Climb on the Climbing Wall</li> <li>✓ Make up your own games</li> </ul>



Year 6 have been studying the circulatory system. They used different size holes in cups to test the importance of keeping the vessels in our bodies healthy and clear so that blood can reach our vital organs quickly and we can prevent heart attacks and strokes.

### Thank you

A huge thank you to Matt, Oliver, Tony, Steven and Job for their amazing efforts last Saturday putting up our bamboo fencing. The fencing has been erected to give the children slightly more protection. Occasionally, members of the public stop and chat to the children at playtime, so we are keen to do all that we can to keep our school community safe.

### The Learning Platform

This is a reminder that there is a wealth of information about your child's curriculum, and how you can support them with their learning at home on the class pages of the Learning Platform. Your child will have their own log in for this. The teachers update it each week with information about what your child has/will be learning. Any Home Learning is also posted here.

When your child is off sick, teachers will not set work for them to complete, but the Learning Platform would be a good place for you to look if your child is feeling well enough.

### **Sickness Bug – 48 hour rule**

We have a sickness bug going around the school at the moment. This is a reminder to keep your child off school for 48 hours following their last bout of sickness or diarrhoea. We have been reminding children about the importance of thorough hand-washing. We have also been ensuring that the classrooms are well-ventilated, and have done a deep clean of the classes most affected.

### **Writing Workshop for Parents/Carers – Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2023, 6.30pm**

Following our successful Maths Workshop last term, we will be holding a Writing Workshop on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2023, 6.30pm. The evening will be over by 7.45pm.

This workshop will give parents/carers helpful information to be able to support their child/children with their writing at home. Do take a look at the Parentmail sent out this week.

### **Punctuality**

We have a growing number of children arriving after 8.45am. The gates open at 8.30am and all children should be in their lines by 8.45am. The children complete early work as soon as they enter the classroom so children who arrive to school late are missing this key learning time.

School ends at 3.15 for Reception, 3.20 for Years 1 & 2, 3.25 for Years 3-6 and 3.30 for Nursery.

### **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.

### **Behaviour Policy**

The Governors have recently reviewed and updated the school Behaviour Policy. We have renamed it our Belonging and Behaviour Policy, and have changed some of the language used. Do take a look at the policy, and email me at [headteacher@holytrinity.merton.sch.uk](mailto:headteacher@holytrinity.merton.sch.uk) if you have any questions.

### **Parent/Carer Prayer Meeting – Friday 20<sup>th</sup> January, 9.00am**

Everyone is warmly invited to the parent/carers prayer meeting next Friday 20<sup>th</sup> January, 9.00am. Please enter through the main school entrance on Effra Road.

### **Back to school Health Advice**

Please click on the following link for advice from the UK Health Security Agency.


<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/back-to-school-advice-issued-amid-high-levels-of-flu-covid-19-and-scarlet-fever>

### **Educational Wellbeing Service and Webinars**

We recognise that winter and the start of a new year can often be tricky times for children and their families. This is just a reminder that we are part of the Merton Trailblazer Cluster for Mental Health and Wellbeing. We have access

to the Education Wellbeing Service who provide support for families. Do read on to find out more, or email [headteacher@holytrinity.merton.sch.uk](mailto:headteacher@holytrinity.merton.sch.uk) to find out more. A referral form is attached to this Bulletin too.

The same service offers a number of **webinars** for parents/carers. Do take a look at the attached poster, which gives information of the webinars on offer this term.



# EDUCATION WELLBEING SERVICE

## INFORMATION FOR PARENTS AND CARERS

**WHO WE ARE...** We work with parents and carers of children who are experiencing anxiety, fears and worries, or parents and carers whose children are experiencing common emotional and behavioural challenges. We are a NHS wellbeing service working in your child's school providing evidence-based support programmes. This service is not for children who are already receiving help from Children and Family Services or CAMHS.

**WHAT WE DO...** We help parents understand their child's difficulties with anxiety or emotional/behavioural challenges, and to learn strategies to support and help these challenges. Parent sessions are 1:1, we offer up to 8 sessions that are one hour long. Sessions can be online or in your child's school.

**PRIMARY SCHOOL PARENTS WHOSE...**

**WHO WE SEE...**

- Children who sometimes struggle with their emotions leading to behaviours that can be challenging to support at home (e.g. tantrums, not listening or following instructions, difficulties at bedtimes or in mornings, being rude to parents)

OR

- Children who sometimes struggle with anxiety and worry (e.g. shy, panicky, clingy or fearful of specific things, such as separation, school or social situations, avoiding situations or seeking high levels of reassurance)

## Important information to keep your child safe online

### Child Safety and the Metaverse

Christmas has now ended and a new year has begun. As pupils and staff return to school, the annual playground inquisition will begin. Among their peer group young people will begin to discuss what they got for Christmas. For many the answer will almost certainly be 'a Fortnite battle pass, a new PC, a PlayStation 5 etc'. All devices which allow both unfettered access to the internet and expose children to voice chat, text chat and photo sharing with complete strangers. This year presents an acceleration of vulnerability window as, VR headsets, connected to Facebook's Metaverse have been released onto the marketplace. The Metaverse seeks to link users to the internet as a Virtual Entity through the use of Virtual Reality Headsets. This amplifies the danger children are exposed to online. Over the coming months it will be vital for DSL's to understand these Christmas gifts and the issues linked to them. To help you understand this new, fast changing issue the NSPCC has published a guide to both the Metaverse and VR headsets. To find out more please follow the link:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/about-us/news-opinion/2022/christmas-vr-safety-advice-for-parents-metaverse/>

### Understanding the Playground - Fortnite

Since its release 2017, the battle-royale simulator – Fortnite, has become ubiquitous in classrooms and playgrounds throughout the world. The game, which features cartoonish renderings of characters, bright colours and non-visceral consequence free violence, has had a mass appeal to children. Each Christmas another draft of young pupils are induced into its overcrowded multi-player lobbies, to the point that there is not a school pupil in the country who hasn't owned it, begged their parents for it or played it round a friend's house. As a result, more children than ever

are exposed to multi-player chatting with strangers, and financial exploitation via the game's spend-to-gain-advantage operating style. Allowing children to use real world money to gain perks and costumes. From criminal blackmailing, to the coercion of nude exchanges by online 'friends' posing as children, the danger this game presents from a safeguarding perspective is clear. As an added complication, the verbiage surrounding the game used by pupils is near-incomprehensible, frustrating adepts to secure their safety. Fortunately to allow for greater comprehension of reports to staff involving the game, Internetmatters.org has published a guide to understanding the game and its terms. You can find the link below:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/hub/guidance/fortnite-battle-royal-parents-guide-keep-kids-safe-gaming>

### **Electric Guitar Lessons For Beginners**

Merton Music Foundation have electric guitar lessons for beginners aged 8-12 starting this weekend at their South Wimbledon Centre. Follow the link for more details and to sign up <https://mmf.org.uk/electricguitars/>

### **Attached items:**

- Educational Wellbeing Practitioner referral form
- Educational Wellbeing Webinars
- Letter from the Executive Director of Education about out of school clubs
- Belonging and Behaviour Policy

### **Term Dates 2022-2023**

#### **Spring Term 2023**

- First day: Tuesday 3 January 2023  
(INSET Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> so children back Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> January)
- Last day: Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023
- Half term: Monday 13<sup>th</sup> February to Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February 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
26 <sup>th</sup> January	6.30pm	Writing Workshop for parents/carers
7 <sup>th</sup> February	8.15-8.45	EYFS/KS1 Share my Learning – an opportunity for children to share their learning, and books, with their parents/carers
8 <sup>th</sup> February	8.15-8.45	KS2 Share my Learning – an opportunity for children to share their learning, and books, with their parents/carers
10 <sup>th</sup> February		Break up for half term
20 <sup>th</sup> February		2 <sup>nd</sup> half of term begins
13 <sup>th</sup> – 17 <sup>th</sup> March		Assessment Week
20 <sup>th</sup> – 24 <sup>th</sup> March		Year 6 visit to France

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
May		Year 2 SATS
8 <sup>th</sup> May		Extra Bank Holiday
9 <sup>th</sup> – 12 <sup>th</sup> May		Year 6 SATS
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		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 14.00	Leaver's Service @ Holy Trinity Church Term ends
21 <sup>st</sup> July		<b>INSET Day – School closed</b>

I hope you have a lovely weekend.

Izzy Rickards