

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a very busy first week back after half term!

Children from Year 4, 5 and 6 took part in a First Aid Taster course run by St John's Ambulance, where they learnt important skills. They all had the basic training and then Year 4 had a focus session on choking, Year 5 worked on the recovery position, and Year 6 practised mouth-to-mouth resuscitation on Resusci Anne.

Merton School Sports Partnership delivered leadership training to Year 5 this week, and Nuffield Health began a series of health and well-being workshops that they are going to deliver throughout the year.

Yesterday we welcomed Mr Colin Powell (Director of Education for The Southwark Diocesan Board of Education) to our school. As he walked round he was so impressed by the children, who were polite and articulate. I could not have been more proud of them.

As you know we launched our *Growing in Awesomeness* programme before half-term. Do encourage your children to participate in this exciting programme. Booklets are available from school. We look forward to celebrating the wonderful achievements of our children.

Thank you in advance to the HOTS team for organising yet another fun activity for our children. The excitement for the Spooky Disco has been very great today! We are so grateful for all that they do for our school.

Remembrance Week – 4th – 8th November

We are looking forward to our Remembrance Week next week. If you have a relative or a friend who might be able to come in to school that week to talk about their experiences of World War II we would love to hear from you. Please email headteacher@holytrinity.merton.sch.uk

Infectious Illnesses

We have a number of children and staff who have serious ongoing health conditions or are recovering from major surgery, and who could become seriously unwell if they develop symptoms of some of the common viruses that typically go round school.

In accordance with school policy and advice from Public Health England, please keep your child at home if they have symptoms of *flu like illness* and please do not send your child back to school for *48 hours after the last episode of diarrhoea or vomiting*. Please also remember to inform the school office if your child is suffering from an infectious illness such as *Chicken Pox, Shingles or Scarlet Fever*. We also need to know about *Impetigo and Cold Sores*. Although these things may seem minor, we have a list of parents and staff we need to inform if these viruses are in school, to enable them to seek medical advice or stay away from school where necessary.

Sporting Success

Our Year 5 and 6 Netball teams took part in the Merton netball tournament this week, and finished 5th. The girls actually beat the eventual winners 6-0! Miss Banks was so proud of how they played and their team spirit. Well done to everyone who represented our school.

Playground Safety

Please can I remind you that children (including younger siblings) should not play on the trim trail before or after school even if they have parental supervision. Also, please remind your children that bikes and scooters should not be used in the playground, but should be walked to the bike/scooter park. We are keen to keep everyone as safe as we possibly can and it is currently difficult for staff on duty before and after school to do this. We would appreciate your support with this.

No orchestra rehearsal on 19th November.

There will be no orchestra rehearsal on Tuesday **19th November** as Mrs Quinn has a meeting after school. Apologies that the wrong date was sent out earlier this week.

General Election – Thursday 12th December 2019

As you will know a General Election is planned for Thursday 12th December. We have not yet received official confirmation from Merton about our school being used as a polling station, but it is highly likely that school will be closed on that day. As soon as we have this confirmed I will let you know. We are aware that the Year 2 Christmas Performance was scheduled for that day – we will let you know the arrangements for this very soon. I am so sorry for the inconvenience that this will cause.

30 Hour Nursery Places

From September 2020 we are trialling offering 30-hour nursery places. Further information can be found on our website.

Halls for Hire

We currently have some lettings capacity (slots on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays in the large hall and on Fridays in the small hall) so if you know of a local organisation which needs a venue for a weekly early evening activity please let us know!

Did you know that we also hire out our school halls for birthday parties on Saturday afternoons between 2pm and 5pm? If you are interested, please speak to the team in the school office.

Outdoor Paint

We are very keen to paint the planters in our playground with brightly coloured paint suitable for use outside. If you have any suitable half-used tins of paint that we could use, we would be very grateful. Thank you.

Messages from HOTS

Christmas cards – your child's design

You will have received your child's Christmas card artwork this week in the bookbags, with details on the back of how to order Christmas cards.

Their artwork will be accurately reproduced in full colour onto A6 cards (sold in packs of 12). Additional items are also available, such as larger luxury cards, wrapping paper and gift tags. To order, simply visit www.apfsorders.co.uk and input the unique code found on the label on the reverse of your child's artwork. Instructions are also on the back of the artwork.

Orders must be placed by midnight on **November 7**. Any orders placed after this date will be classed as a late order and will be subject to a handling and postage fee (and will not raise any fundraising for the school). You can also make any changes you want to your child's name/class, and create your own custom greetings during the online ordering process.

The final products will be delivered back to you via your child in late November, in good time for international posting dates.

Please remember, every order is more money raised that goes right back into the school!

AGM November 15

November 15 is our AGM, **9am after drop off in the small hall**. All are welcome. It's your chance to hear how we raised our funds and what we spent it on in the last year. We are also looking for new committee members. Nominations should be emails to hotsemail@gmail.com by the night before.

Christmas Trees

Once again, we'll be selling beautiful non-drop Nordman Fir Christmas trees, which will be available for collection from school on **Saturday 7 December**. A range of sizes (5' / 6' / 6'8"+) at very reasonable prices (£30 / £39 / £48). Please place your order on www.pta-events.co.uk/hots

Mulled Wine and Carol Singing

Join us in the school hall on **Saturday 7 December**, 4:30-6pm, to sing some of your favourite carols and festive tunes and enjoy a cup or two of mulled wine. All the money raised goes to a local charity. Please bring mince pie donations.

Crackers & Carol Services

As per previous years, HOTS will be funding refreshments at the two KS2 carol services (**Wednesday 18th & Thursday 19th December**) – we will be asking for mince pie donations and helpers closer to the time...

Raise money while you shop!

Don't forget that you can also raise lots of money for the school just by doing your online shopping for all those lovely presents via the **Easyfundraising** portal. Simply register by going to www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/hots, then log on whenever you're ready for a shopping spree, select your preferred retailers (John Lewis, M&S and over 2,700 more!) and start shopping. It's really easy and simple, and there are money-off vouchers for many stores too. They also have a special app that can be downloaded, which will remind you to shop via this portal each time you log into your favourite retailer. So sign up and get spending! While you are registering for that please also register with Amazon Smile. If you select HOTS as your charity, Amazon will give a donation every time you shop. It would be amazing if we could all use Amazon smile for our Christmas shopping this year <https://smile.amazon.co.uk>

Key Dates for 2019-2020

Any new dates are highlighted

Date	Time	Event
4 th – 8 th November		Remembrance Week
7 th November	9.00am	6H Class Worship
8 th November	9.00am	Coffee Morning for parents of children with Special Educational Needs or Disability
11-15 th November		Anti-bullying week
11 th November	9.00am	Coffee Morning for families for whom English isn't their first language
12 th November	Evening Time TBC	Maths Information Session for Parents/Carers – Fluency in the Curriculum
14 th November	9.00am	3T Class Worship
15 th November	10.00am	Reception Open Morning for entry in 2020
18-22 nd November		Assessment week
21 st November	9.00am	2B Class Worship
22 nd November		Nursery Open Morning for entry in 2020
25 th – 29 th November		Book Fair at school
28 th November	9.00am	4H Class Worship
28 th November		Nasal Flu Vaccinations
4 th December	3.50-7.00pm	Years 1-6 Parent/Teacher meetings
5 th December	3.50-6.00pm	Years 1-6 Parent/Teacher meetings
9 th December	2.15pm	Reception Nativity
10 th December	9.30am	Reception Nativity
11 th December	9.15am	Year 2 Christmas show
12 th December		General Election – school likely to be closed TBC
12 th December	9.15am	Year 2 Christmas show Arrangements TBC
13 th December	10.30am/2.30pm	Nursery Nativity
13 th December		Christmas Jumper Day – children are invited to wear a Christmas jumper to school
18 th December	9.15am	Year 1 Concert
18 th December	6.30pm	Year 3/5 Carol Service @ Holy Trinity Church
19 th December	6.30pm	Year 4/6 Carol Service @ Holy Trinity Church
20 th December	2.00pm	Break up
6 th January 2020		INSET Day – School closed
7 th January		Term begins for all children
17 th January	9.00am	Parents' Prayer Meeting
23 rd January	9.00am	5T Class Worship
30 th January	9.00am	3H Class Worship NB Date change
3 rd – 7 th February		Mental Health Awareness Week
6 th February	9.00am	5H Class Worship NB Date change
12 th February	8.15-8.45am	Share my Learning – an opportunity for children to share their learning, and books, with their parents/carers
13 th February	9.00am	6T Class Worship
14 th February		Kindness Day
14 th February		Break up for half term
24 th February		2 nd half of term begins
28 th February		Parents' Prayer Meeting
5 th March	9.00am	2S Class Worship
6 th March	9.00am	PGL Meeting for Year 4 parents/carers
10 th March	Evening Time TBC	Maths Information Session for Parents/Carers – Reasoning in the Curriculum
12 th March	9.00am	1F Class Worship
16 th – 20 th March		Assessment week
19 th March	9.00am	1M Class Worship
26 th March	9.00am	4T Class Worship
27 th March		Parents' Prayer Meeting
31 st March TBC	9.15am	Easter Service @ Holy Trinity Church
2 nd April	1.50-7.10pm	Parent/Teacher meetings NB School closes at 1.30pm

3 rd April		Easter Bonnet/Hat Parade
3 rd April	2.00pm	Break up for Easter holidays
20 th April		Summer term begins
22 nd -24 th April		Year 4 PGL Residential
24 th April		Parents' Prayer Meeting
28 th April		Class Photographs
7 th May		Polling Day – School closed
8 th May		VE Day Bank Holiday – School closed
11 th – 14 th May		Year 6 SATS
22 nd May	9.00am	France Trip meeting for Year 6 parents
20 th – 24 th May		Book Week
22 nd May		Break up for half term
1 st June		INSET Day – School closed
2 nd June		2 nd half of term begins and Assessment week
8 th – 12 th June		Year 1 Phonics Screening Check Year 4 Timetables Check
15 th – 19 th June		Healthy School Week Sports Days for all year groups
16 th June	AM	KS2 Sports Day @ Garfield Park
17 th June	AM	Reception Sports Day @ school
18 th June	AM	KS1 Sports Day @ school
19 th June	AM/PM	Nursery Sports Day @ school
22 nd – 26 th June		Year 6 in France
26 th June	9.00am	Parents' Prayer Meeting
9 th July	TBC	Open Afternoon/Evening
TBC	7.00pm	Year 6 Production
17 th July	9.15am	Leaver's Service @ Holy Trinity Church
17 th July	2.00pm	Term ends
20 th July		INSET Day – School closed

I hope you have a lovely weekend.

Izzy Rickards

Headteacher