

Dear Parents and Carers,

I have just returned from the Southwark Diocesan Head's Conference in Canterbury, which was not only inspiring, but was a valuable time to network with other headteachers in Southwark Diocese. Our conference began with this prayer that I would like to share with you:

Father, bless us in abundance to:
soar like eagles, but not so high that we are out of reach;
shine like stars, but not so brightly that others cannot be seen;
be ourselves, embracing our flaws as well as our strengths;
encourage; by praising strengths in others,
strengthen; with words of affirmation,
comfort; with grace and compassion,
so that others may know You through us.
In Jesus' name. Amen.

52 Lives Kindness project

Last year the whole school participated in the 52 Lives Kindness Project. The children made cards and gifts for a boy called TJ. This is the message that we received from TJ and his mum:

"We found it very overwhelming. They are all awesome and some of our favourites we are planning on framing and putting them on TJ's bedroom wall. Thank you so very much."

Individual School Photographs – 18th October 2018

On 18th October the school photographer will be coming in to take individual photographs of all of the children. Please ensure the children are in smart uniform for their photograph!

Birthdays

Please may I remind you that no sweets or cakes should be brought in to school to celebrate a child's birthday. If you would like to share your child's birthday with the rest of the class then you are very welcome to bring in small items of stationery, stickers or fruit. Alternatively, you may wish to buy a book for the class which can be read on your child's birthday. Thank you for your co-operation with this.

Clothing Labels

Please take some time over the weekend to ensure that all items, including shoes, are clearly labelled with the correct child's first name and surname (not just a surname and not the name of a sibling who has now left the school!). If the uniform is second hand, please ensure that the original child's name is no longer visible. If the labelling has been done in pen, please check that the writing has not faded. Any named lost property is being returned to the appropriate class immediately - our staff and prefects can only reunite items with their owners if the name on the label matches a name on our current student list.

Free School Meals/Pupil Premium

Might you be eligible for Free School Meals or Pupil Premium? You may not know, but in addition to getting hot meals free of charge, the school also gets an amount of money to support your child at school. In the past this money has been used to help fund interventions, books, school trips, residential trips and activity clubs. Have a look here <https://www2.merton.gov.uk/learning/schools/schoolservices/catering/freemeals.htm> to see if you are eligible for the funding. This applies to children from nursery through to Year 6.

Share My Learning – Wednesday 17th October 8.15-8.45am

At the Parent Forum last term parents were keen for the school to explore further ways to enable them to see what the children are learning in class. As a result of this we are introducing ‘Share My Learning’ sessions. Children will be able to take their parents/carers up to their classroom and share what they have been learning. The first session is on Wednesday 17th October, from 8.15-8.45am.

A Message from Merton’s National Autistic Society Group

At NAS Merton we are currently organising some fantastic workshops about Sensory Processing Disorder, which often affects children with Autism, and other developmental conditions. We will have a professional OT offering advice and will be giving families the opportunity to borrow sensory toys to try at home.

We have a mailing list of over 400 members, but know that there are many families with children on the spectrum, or with SEN Support, or awaiting diagnosis, who are not yet aware of our services. The workshops, and other events we offer really help families and offer a great community for those affected by Autism in Merton. To join the mailing list please email us at merton.group@nas.org.uk

Key Dates for 2018-2019

Date	Time	Event
11 th October	9.00am	6T Class Assembly
17 th October	8.15-8.45am	Share my Learning – an opportunity for children to share their learning, and books, with their parents/carers
18 th October	6.30pm	Maths Workshop for parents/carers
19 th October	9.00am	Parent Prayer Group – Club Room
19 th October		Break up for half term
29 th October		2 nd half of term starts
1 st November	9.00am	6H Class Assembly
2 nd November	9.00am	SEND Parent Support group – Small Hall
2 nd November	PM	HOTS Disco
8 th November	9.00am	5H Class Assembly
12-16 th November		Anti-bullying week
15 th November	9.00am	3H Class Assembly
16 th November	9.00am	HOTS AGM
19-23 rd November		Assessment week
22 nd November	9.00am	2B (Badgers) Class Assembly
23 rd November	9.00am	Parent Prayer Group – Club Room
5 th December	3.50-7.00pm	Parent/Teacher meetings
6 th December	3.50-6.00pm	Parent/Teacher meetings
7 th December	9.00am	SEND Parent Support group – Small Hall
8 th December	PM	Christmas Carols in South Park Gardens for Women in Need
10 th December	2.15pm	Reception Nativity
11 th December	9.30am	Reception Nativity
12 th December	9.15am	Year 2 Nativity
13 th December	9.15am	Year 2 Nativity
14 th December	10.30am/2.30pm	Nursery Nativity
18 th December	9.15am	Year 1 Concert
19 th December	6.30pm	Year 3/5 Carol Service @ Holy Trinity Church
20 th December	6.30pm	Year 4/6 Carol Service @ Holy Trinity Church
21 st December	2.00pm	Break up
7 th January 2019		INSET Day
8 th January		Term begins for all children
18 th January	9.00am	Parent Prayer Group – Club Room
24 th January	9.00am	5T Class Assembly
31 st January	9.00am	3T Class Assembly
7 th February	9.00am	1M (Moles) Class Assembly
13 th February	8.15-8.45am	Share my Learning – an opportunity for children to share their learning, and books, with their parents/carers
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
20 th March	All day and evening	Year 5 at the Royal Albert Hall
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
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

I hope you have a lovely weekend.

Izzy Rickards – Headteacher