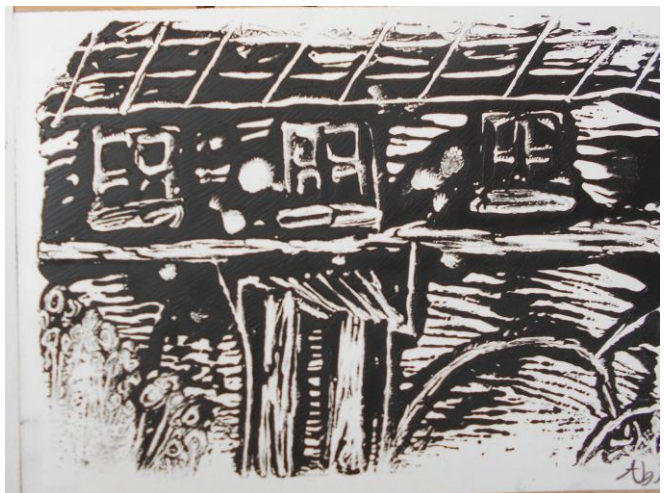


Dear Parents and Carers

Thank you once again for your support as we adjust to the new way of doing school. Your children are amazing, and have adapted so well to the changes and new routines – we are so proud of them.

In worship (mostly virtual!) this half term we are focusing on People of Prayer. Do ask your child whether they can remember any of the people of prayer we have looked at so far!

Year 5 have been busy creating these fabulous monoprints of houses in Art this week, as part of their Formal Elements of Art topic.



Morning Drop off and safety for all

Over the last few days there have been a few bottle-necks at drop off in the morning, and a few people not observing social distancing.

As you know, we are very happy for children, even as young as Year 1, to enter the school gate on their own. Please ensure that you say goodbye to your child away from the gate. If your child has a tendency to rush on ahead of you on their bike or scooter I will be encouraging them to enter the school gate, and wait just inside for you, to try and avoid a jam at the gates.

Please continue to respect each other, and observe social distancing at all times. If there is congestion at the gate, please just wait patiently – do not push past others in a rush to get your child into school. Please continue to wear face masks/coverings and keep your distance from others. Thank you for your support with this.

Absence Reporting

We are trialling the use of ParentMail to report absences. Therefore, you now have two options if you need to report your child's absence from school:

- Telephone the school office (not class teacher) on 020 8542 1591 by 8.45am. If you get the answerphone, please leave a clear message
- Log in to ParentMail and navigate to 'Notify Absence'. Complete the form by 8.45am

Whichever method you choose, please give as much information as possible, especially if your child is having to self-isolate or take a Coronavirus test, to avoid us having to telephone you for more details.

Is it cold, flu or Coronavirus?

Boots have produced a very helpful chart which outlines the common symptoms of these 3 illnesses – you might find it useful.

<https://www.boots.com/resource/blob/2234726/9d28a4dae5610a61200e9e828910549a/health-coronavirus-recognising-coronavirus-symptoms-pdf-download-data.pdf>

School Streets Scheme – Important Update

I have now been informed that the School Streets Scheme will start next Monday. From **Monday 28th September** you will no longer be able to drive down Effra Road or Faraday Road at drop off and pick up times, or park in these roads. If you do, you will face receiving a penalty notice.

If you have a valid Blue Badge concession, please email headteacher@holytrinity.merton.sch.uk. Residents will also be exempt and should receive notification of this from Merton council. Please see <https://www.merton.gov.uk/streets-parking-transport/traffic-management/school-streets-programme> for further information.

After School Club

We currently have a number of **regular spaces in our After School Club on Fridays**. To register, or to add your name to the waiting list for other days of the week please email Alex Walker: afterschoolclub@holytrinity.merton.sch.uk.

We also offer **Ad Hoc places where available**. These are one-off sessions in After School Club which come up because children with regular spaces are not attending on the day in question, or because we have vacancies in After School Club. Ad Hoc Full Sessions run until 5.45pm and cost £20 per session.

Ad Hoc Sessions, when available, must be booked and paid for via ParentMail (please visit 'Payments' then 'Shop' to locate them). If no sessions are visible, then no spaces are available. Please do not telephone the school office or contact the administrator to check – please just keep checking ParentMail.

Prayer Group for Parents and Carers

The first parent/carer prayer meeting will be held next Friday 2nd October on Zoom. It will start at 9.15 and finish around 9.45, anyone is welcome and we will be focussing on praying for our school and supporting one another. If people are interested in joining please contact Sarah Williams on timso.williams@gmail.com.

Naming Clothes

Please can you make sure that all items of clothing are named so that we can return them to their owner if they are found around the school. We have a growing number of un-named items in the school.

Second Hand Uniform

We are delighted that HOTS have now taken over management of our pre-loved uniform and that all of the proceeds from future sales of second hand items will go directly to HOTS funds.

If you have good quality, clean uniform to donate, please ensure that you remove all labels (or scrub out any visible names if written in pen) and then drop it off at the HOTS Second Hand Uniform Collection Point at the Faraday Gate at school drop off time in the mornings. Please do not hand it in to the office.

If you would like to buy second-hand uniform, please look out for information which will be circulated through the class rep network next week. An inventory will be sent around so you can see what is available but if you need anything urgently please email hotsemail@gmail.com and the team will do their best to help.

Might you be eligible for Free School Meals and extra funding for school?

To make the application process easier school can now check eligibility on your behalf. All you need to do is email your name and National Insurance number to sbm@holytrinity.merton.sch.uk giving your consent, and we can check your eligibility and let you know.

From Bliss in the Park

The Barrel outside Bliss In The Park is having a paint job 🎨 & we need some beautiful self-portraits from the Children of South Park Gardens.

Take a picture 📷 of your self-portrait drawings with your name and age and send into Blissinthepark@gmail.com by Tuesday 29th of September or pop along and hand them in 😊

The Super Yummy Kitchen from Chartwells

The place where fun, food and education meet. We at Chartwells aim to nourish every young mind and body with exceptional food and learning. We also want to go beyond our kitchen, to teach young people and families the joy of cooking great food, together with great nutrition. We believe that it's so important to teach children about food, health and how to cook in a fun and engaging way!

Chartwells Chef Andrew has teamed up with Chef Allegra McEvedy MBE, of CBeebies & Junior MasterChef, to bring together a series of fun, educational cook-a-long videos, recipes & tips, for young children to follow along at home with their families.

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCyu3gIIGSmMJAqGQGOJr7MA/videos?disable_polymer=1

Free Parent Workshops

This company are offering free virtual workshops for parents to attend - from wellbeing to sensory issues to supporting children with speech and language issues.

<https://contact.org.uk/about-us/family-workshops/>

Invitation to Merton Council's School Street Webinar

Tues, 29 September 2020

7:00 – 8:30pm

To register for this online event, please click [here](#).

Wed, 7 October 2020

1:30 – 3:00pm

To register for this online event, please click [here](#).

Speakers:

Councillor Eleanor Stringer, Cabinet Member for Children's Services and Education, Merton Council

Katie Halter, Climate Change Officer, Merton Council

Sam Dillon, Healthy Streets Officer, SusTrans

This session will introduce the expansion of Merton's School Streets programme and offer an opportunity to ask questions and share your views with the speakers.

School Streets restrict motor vehicle access around schools which aim to create a safer, healthier and more liveable street environment for everyone.

The school streets programme is in a phase of rapid implementation, with 25 school streets being put in place over September and October.

For more information about school streets go to: <https://www.merton.gov.uk/schoolstreets>

Key Dates for 2020-2021

Autumn Term 2020

Thursday 3rd September - Fri 18th December 2020

*NB Thursday 3rd and Friday 4th September INSET days so **children start on Monday 7th September***

Half term Monday 26th October – Friday 30th October 2020

Spring Term 2021

Monday 4th January – Thursday 1st April 2021

*NB Monday 4th January 2021 INSET day so **children start on Tuesday 5th January 2021***

Half term Monday 15th February to Friday 19th February 2021

Summer Term 2021

Monday 19th April – Friday 23rd July 2021

NB Monday 7th June and Friday 23rd July INSET days

Term ends for children on 22nd July 2021

Half term Monday 31st May – Friday 4th June 2021

As further dates are added, these will be highlighted.

Date	Time	Event
12-16 th October and 19 th – 23 rd October	Afternoon/ evening	Parent/Teacher meetings will be held over a 2-week period for different year groups. These will all be held virtually. Further information will be sent out about booking slots nearer the time.
15 th October	All day	Individual School Photographs (if these are able to take place)
21 st October	AM	Flu Immunisations (only for those for whom we have consent for)
23 rd October		Break up for half term
16 – 20 th November		Anti-bullying week
18 th December	Staggered ends TBC	Break up
4 th January 2021		INSET Day
5 th January		Children start back

I hope you all have a wonderful weekend.

Izzy Rickards