

Dear Parents and Carers

I am so proud of our children, who have been working hard, and keeping the Growing Together Rules. In worship this week we have continued looking at Mark's Gospel, at how Jesus healed a man with a withered hand on the Sabbath, and how he appointed his first disciples.

Do read on to find out about the Zones of Regulation which we have introduced in school.



We are delighted that Holy Trinity pupils are featured in local letterbox hats! If you see the letterboxes, why not consider scanning the QR code and giving to charity.



Year 4 learnt about the importance of the taste buds, saliva and smell in their science lesson. They were given fruit gums to eat while blindfolded with nose pinched, then tried another sweet when they were just blindfolded to see if sense of smell was important in taste. A tasty taste test!



Year 4 have also been carrying out a science experiment to see the effects of different liquids on the shells of white eggs as they are similar material to our teeth (orange squash, cola, coffee and water). Children are brushing to see if they can remove the stains (they couldn't!)

Zones of Regulation

As you will have read in yesterday's Parentmail, we are implementing the Zones of Regulation curriculum and aim to teach our pupils to identify emotions in themselves and others and provide them with bank of strategies to help regulate their emotions and improve their wellbeing. *The Zones of Regulation* is a range of activities to help your child develop skills in the area of self-regulation. Self-regulation can go by many names, such as self-control, self-management and impulse control. It is defined as the best state of alertness of both the body and emotions for the specific situation. For example, when your child plays in a basketball game, it is beneficial to have a higher state of alertness. However, that same state would not be appropriate in the library.

The Zones of Regulation are based around the use of four colours to help children self-identify how they're feeling and categorise it based on colour. It also helps children better understand their emotions, sensory needs and thinking patterns. The children learn different strategies to cope and manage their emotions based on which colour zone they are in. Additionally, the Zones of Regulation help children to recognise their own triggers, learn to read facial expressions, develop problem-solving skills, and become more attuned to how their actions affect other people.

We have adopted the four colour zones approach and as a staff, devised our own 'feelings' and 'tools' chart that matches the emotions and behaviours we see regularly in Holy Trinity. To launch the zones at Holy Trinity, the whole school watched the Disney Pixar film *Inside Out* this afternoon, to help the children relate their emotions and the zones of regulation more easily. Do ask your child about the film and the emotions they noticed and let them know that we will experience all zones and there are no good or bad zones- however our success in regulating our emotions depends on us recognising our emotion, understanding it and putting a support strategy in place.

Our decision to adopt the Zones of Regulation came from a fantastic training session we had during our INSET days by clinical psychologist, Dr Joshua Eldridge, who is also works with the Merton Education Well-Being Team. Dr Eldridge will be delivering an online parent session on the Zones of Regulation and how they work in October, so look out for the details coming soon.

Open Door Policy

I wanted to remind all families, that I operate an Open-Door Policy. If you would like to contact me do email me at headteacher@holytrinity.merton.sch.uk

COVID Update

If there is a positive COVID case in your child's class, I will send a Parentmail to the whole class to let them know. Due to changes in the self-isolation rules, only the child (or adult) who has tested positive would need to self-isolate for 10 days. Schools no longer have the responsibility of identifying close contacts as NHS Test and Trace fulfil this role. If your child is in the class of a positive case, even if you are not contacted by NHS Test and Trace, you are advised to get a PCR test for them as a precautionary measure. If you are getting a PCR test as a precautionary measure, the current guidance is that there is no need for your child to self-isolate until the results are in.

If we have a positive COVID case in school, this is reported to the Merton Public Health Team.

If your child has any COVID symptoms, please keep them off school, and arrange for them to have a PCR test. Please keep school informed.

To keep us all safe, families are strongly advised to take regular Lateral Flow Tests to pick up any asymptomatic cases. For further information about COVID and testing click on the link <https://www.merton.gov.uk/coronavirus/test>

Reception Parent/Carer Information Evening – Tuesday 28th September 2021

The Reception team are holding an information evening on Tuesday 28th September. The evening will start at 6.00pm with an optional tour of the school, followed by a short talk at 6.30pm, giving further information about Reception, the Early Years' curriculum and how you can support your child. The evening will end at 7.00pm.

Job Vacancies at Holy Trinity

We have the following vacancies at Holy Trinity:

- Learning Support Assistant
- Casual Lunchtime and After School Club Team members

All of the information can be found on our website https://www.holytrinity.merton.sch.uk/web/job_vacancies/307910

Harvest

We will be taking our KS2 (Years 3-6) children to Holy Trinity Church on Thursday 30th September for our Harvest Service. If the KS2 children would like to contribute items to Christian Care Merton, they should bring them in to school on Thursday 30th September. They will then take them down to church with them. Please do not bring items at any other time. Thank you so much.

Do take a look at Christian Care's website for information about what to donate.

<https://christiancaremerton.org.uk/lists.html>

The younger children will have their own Harvest service during the week at school.

Junior Maths Olympiad

As you may remember some of last year's Year 6 pupils participated in the UKMT Junior Maths Challenge with great success and two of the pupils went through to the Junior Kangaroo Challenge and again scored very highly. In addition, we also had three pupils participate in the UKMT Junior Maths Olympiad and have just received their results. Well done to Kayra and Mats for scoring well and to Timmy who achieved a certificate of merit. We are very proud of you and have no doubt you are showing your new schools what fantastic mathematicians you are!

School Streets

Just a reminder that we are part of the School Street Initiative. Parents/carers are not permitted to drive down Effra or Faraday Roads at the beginning or end of the day (please refer to the signs on the road for further information about timings). If you do, you are likely to receive a Penalty Charge Notice. If you, or your child, has a blue badge, we are able to apply for an exemption permit for you. Please contact the school office if this applies to you.

Music at Holy Trinity – A message from Mrs Quinn

Orchestra will be an afterschool club on a Tuesday and will start on 5th October. If your child has instrumental lessons and would be interested (mainly for Years 4,5 and 6) please let me know as this club is by invitation only.

October Half Term Sports Camp

Fitness4Schools will be running a sports camp at Holy Trinity between Monday 25th and Wednesday 27th October. For more information please see the attached flyer. Bookings are open now.

Secondary School Applications

Please see attached a presentation from Merton with useful information for Year 6 parents, about the secondary school application process. Do contact headteacher@holytrinity.merton.sch.uk if you need support with this process.

Information from Rutlish

Our Open Evening will take place on Thursday 23rd September 2021 between 5pm and 7.30pm.

The event will be a little different this year as we remain Covid aware. In order to protect ourselves and our visitors, as much as is practicable, our Open Evening is a ticketed event only. My Headteacher's speech will be virtual to avoid large gatherings of people in confined indoor spaces and will be available on the website after the event.

The evening will be for **prospective Rutlish students currently in Year 6 only**. Parents and carers are welcome to join (preferably one adult with each Year 6 student). There will be tours of department areas with the opportunity to meet our staff and students.

To register parents/carers can visit our website www.rutlish.merton.sch.uk/admissions/open-evening Once registered they will receive a ticket / QR code which they will need for entry.

As well as Open Evening information you can visit our website to find out more about our school including: a virtual tour, on-line prospectus and "what our students say": www.rutlish.merton.sch.uk

If families are unable to attend our Open Evening, we will be holding Open Mornings on 30th September and 1st October. These will also be ticketed events and the details will be on our website soon.

Information from St Mark's C of E Academy

Year 7 Admission Open Events 2021 at St Mark's Church of England Academy

I am delighted to be able to invite students and parents at your school to our Open Events this half-term. I hope, together, we can encourage them all to become part of the vibrant, dynamic and inspirational community that is St Mark's Church of England Academy.

Our main Open Evening will be on Monday 4th October, from 5:30pm-8pm and our Open Mornings are every Tuesday and Thursday between Tuesday 14th September and Thursday 21st October from 9.00-10.30am. Parents can register to attend any of the Open Events in-person on our website: www.stmarksacademy.org.uk

Attached/Linked items:

- Secondary School Information for Year 6 parents
- Fitness 4 Schools October Half Term Camp
- Caterlink – our school lunch supplier
- Mencap Kid's First and Adult's First Newsletter

Term dates for 2021-2022

Autumn Term 2021

- First day: Wednesday 1 September 2021
(INSETs Wednesday 1st and Thursday 2nd so children back Friday 3rd)
- Last day: Friday 17 December 2021
- Half term: Monday 25 October to Friday 29 October 2021

Spring Term 2022

- First day: Tuesday 4 January 2022
(INSET Tuesday 4th so children back Wednesday 5th)
- Last day: Friday 1 April 2022
- Half term: Monday 14 February to Friday 18 February 2022

Summer Term 2022

- First day: Tuesday 19 April 2022
- Last day: Friday 22 July 2022
- Half term: Monday 30 May to Friday 3 June 2022
(INSETs Monday 6th June and Friday 22nd July, so children end Thursday 21st July)

As further dates are added, these will be highlighted. By next week we will be able to give you all of the dates for this term.

Date	Time	Event	Notes
22 nd September	9.30-10.30	Reception Open Morning for entry in 2022	Talk in hall then tour
28 th September	6.00-7.00pm	Information Evening for Reception Parents	6.00-6.30 Tour 6.30-7.00 Talk
30 th September	9.00	Harvest Service @ Church for KS2 only	
8 th October	9.30-10.30	Reception Open Morning for entry in 2022	Talk in hall then tour
14 th October		School photographs	
15 th October	9.30	Nursery Open Morning for entry in 2022	Talk in Small Hall then visit nursery
18-22 nd October		Parent/Teacher Meetings this week	These will take place virtually this term and information about booking will follow
19 th October	9.30-10.30	Reception Open Morning for entry in 2022	Talk in hall then tour
22 nd October		Break up for half term	
1 st November		2 nd half of term starts	
2 nd November		School Eucharist @ school	Further information to follow
5 th November	9.30	Nursery Open Morning for entry in 2022	Talk in Small Hall then visit nursery
8 th – 12 th November		Anti-bullying week	
10 th November	8.15-8.45am	EYFS/KS1 Share my Learning – an opportunity for children to share their learning, and books, with their parents/carers	
11 th November	8.15-8.45am	KS2 Share my Learning – an opportunity for children to share their learning, and books, with their parents/carers	
12 th November		World Kindness Day	
17 th November	9.30-10.30	Reception Open Morning for entry in 2022	Talk in hall then tour
26th November		Extra Bank Holiday – School closed	*In lieu of Queen's Jubilee Bank Holiday in May 2022
29 th November – 3 rd December		Assessment week	
1 st December	2.00	Nursery Open Afternoon for entry in 2022	Informal talk in nursery and tour
7 th December	9.15	Reception Nativity	Robins' parents/carers to watch
8 th December	9.15	Reception Nativity	Owls' parents/carers to watch
9 th December	9.15	Year 2 Christmas show	Year 2 parents/carers invited
10 th December	10.30/2.30	Nursery Nativity	Nursery parents/carers invited
10 th December		Christmas Jumper Day – children are invited to wear a Christmas jumper to school and give a donation to Save the Children Fund	
14 th December	9.15	Year 1 Concert	Year 1 parents/carers invited
15 th December	6.30	Year 3/5 Carol Service @ Holy Trinity Church	All children in Year 3/5 to attend Parents/carers invited
16 th December	6.30	Year 4/6 Carol Service @ Holy Trinity Church	All children in Year 4/6 to attend Parents/carers invited
17 th December	2.00pm	Break up	
4 th January 2022		INSET Day – School closed	
5 th January 2022		Term begins for all children	

11 th February		Break up for half term	
21 st February		2 nd half of term begins	
1 st April	2.00pm	Break up for Easter holidays	
19 th April		Summer term begins	
9 th – 12 th May		Year 6 SATS	
27 th May		Break up for half term	
6 th June		INSET Day – School closed	
7 th June		2 nd half of term begins	
6 th June -17 th June		Year 1 Phonics Screening Check Window Year 4 Timetables Check Window	
21 st July	9.15	Leaver's Service @ Holy Trinity Church	
21 st July	2.00pm	Term ends	
22 nd July		INSET Day – School closed	

***NB The Government has asked schools to select one extra day of holiday during the 2021-2022 academic year, in lieu of the extra Bank Holiday for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, which falls within the May half term. This extra date has been confirmed as Friday 26th November 2021**

I hope you have a wonderful weekend.

Izzy Rickards