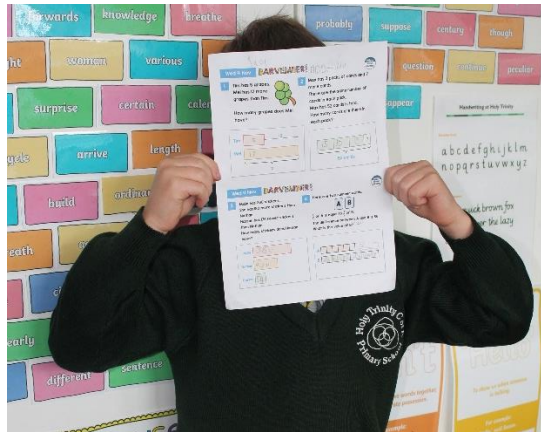


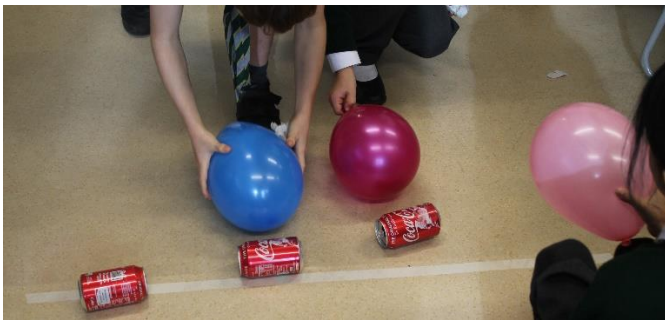
Dear Parents and Carers

It is wonderful to be back at school, and to see the children running into school happily each day. The children continue to amaze me by their resilience and their positive attitude to learning. Thank you for your continued support and encouragement during these strange times.

Year 3H are raring with energy and have already started solving the first few Barvemember problems. It's so wonderful to see their love for maths grow!



Year 3 were super charged to learn about static electricity in their first Design & Technology lesson. They took part in a drinks can race, water and balloon experiment and tried to pick up glitter with a balloon. Fun was had by all, especially the teachers!



Year 4 had great fun making their own stamps and printing with them.



## **New DfE Guidance**

We have now received further guidance from the Department for Education following the new national lockdown restrictions. The full document can be found here <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/education-and-childcare-settings-new-national-restrictions-from-5-november-2020>

The document can be summarised as follows:

- Schools remain open, and should continue with the protective measures that are already in place
- All children, provided they are well, should attend school as usual
- Wraparound care (Breakfast Club and After School Club) may continue, as it provides childcare to support working parents
- Children who were originally classed as clinically extremely vulnerable should contact their health professionals to see if they continue to be in this category – if they do, then they should not attend school during the lockdown period (please email [headteacher@holytrinity.merton.sch.uk](mailto:headteacher@holytrinity.merton.sch.uk) if this applies to you)
- Children who live with someone who is clinically extremely vulnerable should still attend school
- Sport/Physical activity can still take place – preferably outdoors, or in a well-ventilated space
- Music lessons (including those conducted by peripatetic teachers) can still take place, provided they do so in a well-ventilated space
- Face coverings do not need to be worn in primary schools (the guidance actually states that children aged 11 upwards should wear masks in communal settings, but I have sought advice on this, and 11 year olds in primary schools do not need to wear masks) – I am happy for children to wear masks/face coverings in school, as long as they use them properly

## **Remote Learning**

If your child has to self-isolate because they have been in contact with a positive case of coronavirus, then they will be issued work on the learning platform.

If a whole bubble has to self-isolate, then the work will also be set on the learning platform, but this will include some virtual face-to-face contact with the teacher (providing the teacher is well) each day. The learning platform will indicate which work needs to be completed each day, and how children should upload the work so that they can receive feedback.

## **Warm Clothes**

It can be cold in school! Please consider allowing your child to wear an extra layer of clothing under their school shirt/polo shirt. School fleeces can also be worn indoors.

## **Parent Governor Nominations**

The term of office for one of our parent governors is coming to an end. They are eligible to stand again and we would welcome nominations from other parents too. If more than one parent is nominated, we will hold an election. If you would like to be nominated please email [headteacher@holytrinity.merton.sch.uk](mailto:headteacher@holytrinity.merton.sch.uk) for a nomination form, which will need to be returned by midday on Friday 20 November 2020.

If you would like to find out more about the role of a governor please email our Chair of Governors, Kirsty Warwick, at [kirsty.warwick.governor@holytrinity.merton.sch.uk](mailto:kirsty.warwick.governor@holytrinity.merton.sch.uk).

## **Parent Prayer meeting**

The next parent prayer meeting will be on 13th November 9.15-10am on Zoom. Anyone is welcome to join in, we will have a short time to chat before spending some time in prayer for our school and the families connected with it. If you'd like to join us the zoom log in is [675 540 5982](https://6755405982.zoom.us/j/zvDZ80) password zvDZ80. If you would like to get in touch beforehand please contact Sarah Williams on [timso.williams@gmail.com](mailto:timso.williams@gmail.com)

## **Guitar lessons in school (and many other instrumental lessons) with Merton Music Foundation**

After many years of teaching at Holy Trinity, our guitar teacher, David Roden, has moved away and will no longer be teaching guitar in school. We have a new guitar teacher starting who comes highly recommended from Merton Music Foundation as an amazing flamenco guitarist with a classical background. If your child was learning with David and would like to continue learning the guitar in school, then please follow the link to MMF

<https://mmf.org.uk/lessons/> go to 'Sign up for lessons', then 'Create an account'. You will then be able to select guitar lessons.

The procedure is the same if your child has not yet started to learn the guitar, or indeed if they want to learn another instrument. Any queries, please email Mrs Quinn [hilary.quinn@holytrinity.merton.sch.uk](mailto:hilary.quinn@holytrinity.merton.sch.uk)

### **No Smart Phones**

This is just a reminder that children should not be bringing Smartphones into school. Only those children who walk to and from school unaccompanied, may bring a phone into school. All phones must be handed to the classteacher on arrival at school.

### **Emails**

Whilst we are aware that communication with the teachers is more difficult at this time, I would like to remind you that you should only email teachers about urgent matters. Please continue to email the office. Many of our teachers do not get a chance to read their emails during the school day, but they will respond to you within 48 hours. Thank you for your cooperation with this.

### **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](mailto:sbm@holytrinity.merton.sch.uk) giving your consent, and we can check your eligibility and let you know.

### **HOTS' Notices**

#### **Lockdown Lego Competition**

We are excited to announce a new weekly competition - the **Lockdown Lego Competition!**

The theme will be announced in the Friday Bulletin each week. Children can get creative and build something original using Lego they have at home. (If you want to borrow Lego from school, please speak to your class teacher.)

The theme for this week is '*Ultimate Vehicle.*'

To enter, [purchase a 'ticket' for £2 on the HOTS website.](#) Submit a photo of your Lego creation to [hotsemail@gmail.com](mailto:hotsemail@gmail.com) by midnight on Wednesday. You can buy a 'season pass' for £10 which gains you entry every week until Christmas.

The photos will be included in the following week's Friday bulletin together with the name of the winner. **The winner each week will receive a Lego prize!** All proceeds will go to HOTS and directly benefit the school. [Click here to buy your entry ticket.](#)

**Best of luck to all entrants!**

#### **Preloved Uniform**

**"There's no such thing as bad weather, only bad clothes" - Swedish proverb**

Don't forget HOTS are [selling second hand uniforms](#) and we have a great stock of jumpers and fleeces to keep your little ones warm and dry in this cool autumn weather. [You can buy your preloved uniform here.](#)

#### **5-a-side Football**

Don't forget that if you are interested in playing **5-a-side football** and having a chance to meet other parents and have some fun, we hope to get started once lockdown is over. Please email to register your interest at [hotsemail@gmail.com](mailto:hotsemail@gmail.com)

Finally, why not sign up to our **HOTS newsletter** to keep up to date with how you can support the school. We promise to keep it brief, informative and relevant. [Click this link to sign up, it only takes a few seconds.](#)

#### **Some helpful books**

<https://www.littleparachutes.com/>

Little Parachutes is the World's most useful (and friendly) collection of [Parachute Books](#) : picture books that help children cope with worries, health issues and new experiences (big and small). There are SO many fantastic picture books to help children out there, but sometimes it's not easy to find the one YOU need for your child's situation. Our lovely team endlessly searches, assesses and reviews picture books on milestones such as [starting school](#), [potty training](#), [moving house](#), or a [new baby in the house](#). We have sourced hundreds of books on really challenging situations ([divorce](#), [serious illness](#), [infectious diseases](#), [operations](#) and [bereavement](#) to name a few). We have books to encourage children to behave well, [explore their feelings](#) and develop [positive traits](#) such as [resilience](#), [confidence](#), [courage](#), [gratitude](#) and [kindness](#)

**Attached items**

- Soundsteps Music Leaflet

**Key Dates for 2020-2021**

**Autumn Term 2020**

Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September - Fri 18<sup>th</sup> December 2020

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

**Half term** Monday 26<sup>th</sup> October – Friday 30<sup>th</sup> October 2020

**Spring Term 2021**

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January – Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021

*NB Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2021 INSET day so **children start on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2021***

**Half term** Monday 15<sup>th</sup> February to Friday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2021

**Summer Term 2021**

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> April – Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2021

*NB Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June and Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> July INSET days*

**Term ends for children on 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2021**

**Half term** Monday 31<sup>st</sup> May – Friday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2021

As further dates are added, these will be highlighted.

Date	Time	Event
16 – 20 <sup>th</sup> November		Anti-bullying week
23 <sup>rd</sup> – 27 <sup>th</sup> November		Assessment week
11 <sup>th</sup> December		Christmas Jumper Day – children can come to school wearing a Christmas jumper, with their school uniform on the bottom half! We will work out a COVID-friendly way to collect £1 in aid of Save the Children Fund.
18 <sup>th</sup> December	Staggered ends TBC	Break up
4 <sup>th</sup> January 2021		INSET Day
5 <sup>th</sup> January		Children start back

I hope you all manage to have a good weekend.

Izzy Rickards