

Dear Parents and Carers

It has been so wonderful having the children back in school. Welcome to our new families – I hope your child/children enjoy their time at Holy Trinity and settle in quickly.

Your children are amazing! They have quickly got used to new routines and measures that are in place to try and keep us all safe. Handwashing is taking a long time, but the children and staff are finding creative ways to speed up the process – including the handwashing Conga!

The children have enjoyed playing in our 'new' Wild Garden – my thanks to HOTS again for masterminding this project, and for creating another safe space for the children to play in.

Thank you for bearing with us whilst we adjust our procedures to ensure that, especially pick up, runs as smoothly and quickly as possible.

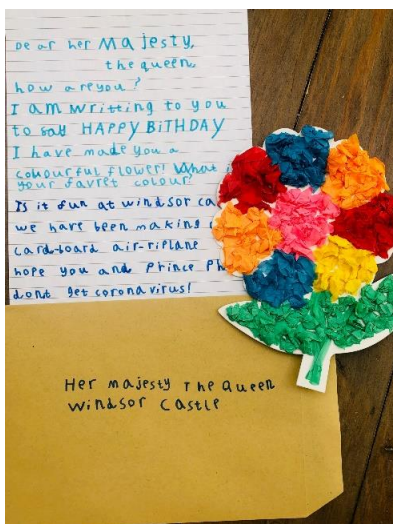
Carol Scott, our wonderful teaching assistant in 3T, will be retiring next Friday. She has worked with us for many years, and we will miss her wisdom, kindness and wonderful smile. We wish her and Mr Scott well as they enter the next phase in their life.

Mrs Hunt will be moving to work in 3T with Miss Seckington.

At the start of this new year, I would like to remind you that I have an Open Door policy and am always happy to receive emails from parents/carers. You can email me at headteacher@holyltrinity.merton.sch.uk

Letter from the Queen

During home schooling, Sebastian wrote a letter to someone different every Monday – including the Queen. he was thrilled to receive a reply from Her Majesty!



Drop off and Pick Up Times

Just a reminder about the timings for morning drop off and afternoon pick up. There will always be someone on the Faraday Road gate in the mornings – I am very happy for all children, from Year 2 upwards, to be dropped outside the gate so that they walk into school on their own.

Please try and arrive on time – any child arriving early can just come straight into the playground.

When collecting your child at the end of the day please ensure you arrive on time, so that our system can run smoothly.

Year Group	Drop off time	Drop off location
Nursery	8.30/12.30	Nursery gate
Reception	8.50	Classroom outside gate
Year 1	8.45	Classroom door
Year 2	8.45	Playground labelled cones
Year 3	8.40	Playground labelled cones
Year 4	8.40	Playground labelled cones
Year 5	8.35	Playground labelled cones
Year 6	8.35	Playground labelled cones

Year Group	Pick up time	Pick up location
Nursery	11.30/12.30/3.30	Nursery gate
Reception	3.00	Robins/Owls Outside gates
Year 1	3.05	Foxes/Moles doors
Year 2	3.10	Playground
Year 3	3.10	Playground
Year 4	3.15	Main school front gate on Effra Road
Year 5	3.20	Main school front gate on Effra Road
Year 6	3.25	Main school front gate on Effra Road

Parents/Carers Face Coverings/Masks and Social Distancing

In order to protect each other, and members of our community I **strongly urge** parents/carers to wear a face covering/mask at drop off and pick up.

Please ensure that you are observing social distancing at drop off and pick up. Please also ensure that you move away from the school as soon as you have collected your child/children. Please do not stop to have a chat with others, as we need to keep the area around school as clear as possible.

Road Safety

I had a message from one of our residents to say that a child stepped out into the road yesterday without looking. We will be reminding children how to cross roads safely, but please can you talk this through with your child too, especially those in Year 5 and 6 who walk home alone.

Scooters and Bikes – Year 4/5/6

Whilst we encourage all families to walk, scoot or cycle to school, if you are in Year 4, 5 or 6, and can walk rather than bring a scooter or bike to school, this would really help. Thank you.

PE Kit

Thank you so much for sending your child/children into school in their PE kit on PE days. This has been a real help to us.

I'm sorry for the confusion regarding trainers – these do **not** have to be black. If they can be as plain as possible that would be fantastic. Thank you.

Message from the library

As library books were not collected before the school closed in March, we now have over 200 books that still need to be returned to our library. This is a significant number of books that the school does not have the budget to replace. Please could you take some time to have a look for any library books at home and give them to your child to return to school as soon as possible. We would like to reassure you that we have robust procedures in place to ensure that all books are quarantined before they are returned to the library.

Hand Sanitiser/Kitchen Towel and Liquid Soap

We would be grateful for any donations of hand sanitiser, kitchen towel or liquid soap. Children, now from Year 2 upwards, are very welcome to bring their own supply of hand sanitiser to keep in their bag, desk or tray.

Lunch Menu

We have had to make some minor changes to 3 of the desserts and one main meal in the lunch menu. We are waiting for updated menus from Chartwells, which will have the changes. The main meal change will be on the Friday of Week 3 – from herby roast fish to fish fingers! The herby fish has not proved popular with the children!

Learning Platform

All class specific information will now be found on the Learning Platform (which you can access through our website via a log in) rather than in the public area of the website.

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 are unable to have a Lost Property box in school at the moment.

Could you be 3T's Class Rep?

3T are still looking for a parent/carer to be their representative. If you are interested, please email me and I can forward your name on. Thank you.

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@holyltrinity.merton.sch.uk giving your consent, and we can check your eligibility and let you know.

Secondary School Application Information

Merton have updated their information regarding secondary school applications for Year 6 pupils. Please click on the link for more information. <https://www.merton.gov.uk/education-and-learning/schools/admissions/secondary/dates>
Information regarding the process for applications to St Cecilia's can be found here <https://www.stceciliaslondon.com/admissions-open-events>

Attached items and Useful Links:

- Transferring to Secondary School Information
- Merton Music Foundations' Virtual Open Day
- Virtual Recorder Club
- Dancebites via Zoom
- Early Years Social and Emotional activities
- <https://www.partnershipforchildren.org.uk/what-we-do/resources-for-parents/early-years-social-emotional-learning-activities.html>

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

At this time, we usually give you all of the key dates for the academic year. This year, obviously, there is so much uncertainty about our usual events. Sadly, we are not yet able to invite you in for Class Worship, so these will be recorded and uploaded to the Learning Platform. We are not sure what will happen regarding our usual Christmas events.

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

A prayer for the start of a new academic year

We thank you, Lord God, that you created us and the world, and you love all you have made.

We thank you that whatever else may happen, your love and care for us never changes.

At the beginning of this new school year we ask your blessing on all the students, teachers, and staff of our school / in our schools, and on their friends and families.

Give us wisdom and understanding; fill us with hope and aspiration; bind us together in community; enable us to respect each other and bring out from each other the unique gift each of us has from you.

Set our hearts on fire with your love, to live and work to your praise and glory,

In the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

I hope you all have a wonderful weekend.

Izzy Rickards