

Dear Parents and Carers

We are delighted to introduce Skylar Mary, Miss Quinn's gorgeous daughter, who was born recently. Mum and baby are doing well, and Mrs Quinn is a very proud granny!



Today saw the return of sporting events where a whole host of Merton schools can participate. Boys and girls from Years 3 and 4 went along to Dundonald Recreation Ground to play in Merton's Football Festival and we are so glad we did! The buzz of the atmosphere was electric and everyone who was there clearly had a fantastic time. Holy Trinity Team A and Team B represented us, and they were able to play at least 8 matches each against Bishop Gilpin, Wimbledon Park, Park Community and All Saints to name just a few! It was not a competitive tournament, in that there were no awards or placings, but our players were outstanding and did win the majority of their games, showing great sportsmanship and skill. Well done to Luke, William, Aiden and Poppy in Year 3, and to William, Cecilia, Johnny, Matty, Monas, Mirei, Ridhanya, Max, Rafferty, Amelia, Jay, Diego, Luca, Siena and Oliver in Year 4!



Year 2 have been thinking about where we get our food from. We've been learning about how our food is farmed, harvested and packaged before we eat it. This week, we planted grass for an experiment to find out what helps crops grow.



Year 6 have been learning about the classification of living things.



Members of Year 3 had great fun building a Stone Age Hut in the Wild Garden.



Year 3 further developed their art skills this week by creating different shades of green using two primary colours.

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>

Further information for parents/carers can be found by following this link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak/step-4-update-what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges>

Video Parent Teacher Consultations: Monday 18th to Friday 22nd October

If you haven't yet signed up for a Parent/Teacher appointment, please do so via Parentmail by 7.00pm this evening.

Messages from HOTS

Christmas is on the horizon (yikes!)

We have already started selling Christmas trees and Panettone on the HOTS website, if you are feeling ultra-organised and want to get your festive ducks in a row, here's a quick summary of what's on offer, both of these schemes raise a lot of money which goes directly to supporting our school:

Christmas Trees

We are selling our beautiful no-drop Nordman Fir Christmas trees, which will be available for collection from the school on Saturday 4th December 10am-noon. Trees will be on sale for the next month and are available to buy via the HOTS PTA website, here: <https://bit.ly/3iGLL2m>

Panettone from Vallebonna

The perfect gift for a loved one this Christmas. These delicious panettones come to us exclusively from Vallebonna, suppliers of London's finest restaurants and hotels. These artisan Panettone are handmade by a small family producer in Italy with carefully select the finest ingredients including Belgian butter, Italian flour, and Turin chocolate. Each one is individually wrapped and beautifully presented ready for gifting to your loved ones or enjoying around your family table this Christmas. They are available to order via the HOTS PTA website - The deadline for ordering is **Friday 22nd October**. They will be delivered to school in November. Place your order, here: <https://bit.ly/3AoFYV0>

Foundation Governors

We will shortly be looking for Foundation Governors to serve on our Governing Body. If you attend Holy Trinity Church, Christ Church (Colliers Wood) or St John the Divine (Merton) and would be keen to find out more about what being a Foundation Governor involves, please email headteacher@holytrinity.merton.sch.uk in the first instance. Foundation governors do not need to be parents, so if you know of someone else who might be interested, please do let them know.

Naming Clothes

Please ensure that all items of clothing are clearly named (please don't just use initials). Special labels are not necessary – a Sharpie pen is perfect!

We already have a number of unnamed jumpers and PE sweatshirts/tracksuit tops in the lost property. We have a good system of returning named items!

Packed Lunches – no nuts please

This is just a reminder that we are a no nut school. Please ensure that there are no nuts or products containing nuts in packed lunches or snacks. Please also remember that we are a healthy school, and packed lunches should reflect this. Thank you.

Emotion Regulation Training for Parents/Carers - Tuesday 12th October – 7.30pm

'Merton Mental Health Support Team would like to invite you to a free evening webinar on Emotion Regulation. Creating common approaches for supporting your children's ability to regulate emotions at home and at school. These key skills are important for development and future outcomes.

To sign up and reserve your place, please follow this Eventbrite

link: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/merton-mhst-the-primary-years-supporting-big-emotions-at-home-and-school-tickets-175277609047>

The Primary Years is a time of rapid development and huge change; it is also a time where emotions can be expressed and experiences in many different ways.

This free session for parents of primary school children in Merton schools looks at Emotion Regulation skills and strategies. These key skills involve being able to identify how we are feeling, understand why we are feeling a certain way, and find ways to bring us back to a place where we feel more in control. Emotion Regulation is a core skill that helps us with our relationships; ability to concentrate; and self-esteem. The session aims to discuss: -What is Emotion Regulation and why is it important -Present a way of talking about emotion regulation for home and school (the zones of regulation -Discuss how parents can help support Emotion Regulation skills? -Introduce an Emotion Regulation Toolbox -Discuss Frequently Asked Questions and Next Steps (Resources and Ideas)

This Webinar is delivered for free to parents of pupils at select Merton Schools where Merton Mental Health Support Team delivers 1-1 Early Help and Preventative Wellbeing Support for Anxiety and Common Tricky Child Behaviours. Presenter - Dr Joshua Eldridge (Clinical Psychologist/Service Lead). Contact InfoMertonWVP@swlstg.nhs.uk for more information or any questions

Attached/Linked items:

Acacia Newsletter

Term dates 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)

Term Dates 2022-2023

Autumn Term 2022

- First day: Thursday 1 September 2022
(INSETs Thursday 1st and Friday 2nd so children back Monday 5th September)
- Last day: Friday 16 December 2022
- Half term: Monday 24 October to Friday 28 October 2022

Spring Term 2023

- First day: Tuesday 3 January 2023
(INSET Tuesday 3rd so children back Wednesday 4th January)
- Last day: Friday 31st March 2023
- Half term: Monday 13th February to Friday 17th February 2023

Summer Term 2023

- First day: Monday 17th April 2023
- Last day: Friday 21st July 2023
- Half term: Monday 29th May to Friday 2nd June 2023
(INSETs Monday 5th June and Friday 21st July, so children end Thursday 20th July 2023)

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
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		Nasal Flu Vaccinations for those who have signed up for them	
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
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	
12 th November		HOTS Quiz Night	
15 th -19 th November		Anti-bullying week	
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	
11 th December	4.00-6.00pm	HOTS Carols by Candlelight	
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	

I hope you have a wonderful weekend.

Izzy Rickards