



Newsletter 5
24th November 2022
Acting Head Teacher: Mr Kurt Doyle
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"A Church School Community aspiring for all to live life to the full"

Dear Parents, Carers & Governors,

I hope this newsletter finds each of you well, especially as we head into the cold and flu season!

We are really excited about the upcoming pantomime. *Please see below for more details.* This is a wonderful opportunity for our children to experience the creative brilliance of the theatre. As you know, we are passionate about the arts and the sports at Holy Trinity and these experiences provide our children with such rich and inspirational learning opportunities beyond the curriculum. **A huge thank you must go to the PTFA for funding and organising this.**

We also have our own upcoming Christmas Service. This will take place at Holy Trinity Church on Thursday 8th December. I have considered how we can make sure that our children remain safe during the return to school. Therefore, I am asking that all children return to school with their class teachers after the service and parents collect children from the playground as normal. This will allow us to make sure that all children are returned, counted and collected safely. I appreciate this is a change from previous church services and thank you in advance for your support with this.

Finally, we intend to add a Wednesday afternoon session to the After School Club, on our return to school in January. More details regarding this will be shared before Christmas. We currently have a vacancy for additional staff to support the school's wrap around care offer. This is a flexible, paid role and would include complimentary places for your own children during sessions worked. The closing date for this role is tomorrow, Friday 25th November. If you are interested, please visit the Vacancies page of the school website.

Thank you for your continued support and positive feedback this term.

Mr Kurt Doyle - Acting Headteacher

Y1 – Y6 Pantomime Trip: We are looking forward to Year 1-6 children attending the 'Dick Whittington and his Cat Pantomime' at The Everyman Theatre next week. A letter was sent out earlier this week in relation to this and we are currently arranging parent helpers to help on this trip.

Children In Need Day: Last Friday we celebrated Children in Need day. The children came into school wearing bright colours and spots. There were lots of colourful outfits and we raised a whopping **£173.67** for children in need. Well done everyone!

Christmas Service: Our Christmas Service will take place on **Thursday 8th December at 2.00pm at Trinity Church.** To ensure that all children are safely collected at the end of the day, we will all be walking back to school after the service and all children will need to be collected from the playground, unless they are booked into after school club. Please could any parent helpers also walk back to school with classes. Please contact the school office if you are able to help walk children to the church and back on Wednesday December 7th and/or Thursday December 8th. (Seats will be reserved for those helpers walking down to the Church on the Thursday). We will look forward to seeing you there. Many thanks.

Reading with your child at home: At Holy Trinity, we consider Reading to be one of the primary vehicles for acquiring knowledge. We believe every child should be able to read to a high standard and read for pleasure as well as to gain information. We want to create a life-long love of reading and books and develop independent, curious and critical readers. Reading at home is an essential part of children becoming excellent readers. Your child has access to a wide range of books levelled to match their developing skills and knowledge which they can read at home as well as in school. **We politely request that you read and discuss what has been read with your child (all year groups) at least 3 times a week or more if possible.** Children's individual reading records are an important source of communication between home and school and it is vital that these are written in and signed to indicate how often your child has read.

Head Injury Phone Calls: If your child bumps their head at school, we will phone you to inform you of this. You will be given information about the incident and the opportunity to check-in on your child or seek further medical advice.

Home School Value- Responsibility: Please attached, Responsibility Home School Values Sheet for you to look at with your child at home.

Parents' Evenings: Parents Evening appointments will take place next week on **Tuesday 29th November** and **Thursday 1st December**. The appointments will be face to face with your child's class teacher in the school hall. We will look forward to seeing you there.

Pokémon cards, Reminder: After much consideration, we have decided to ban Pokémon cards from school. These cards are beginning to cause disruption around the school and at playtimes and lunch times. Please can we ask parents to check pockets, bags and book bags before school.

Reminder: King's Coronation: The Department for Education has now confirmed that schools will be closed to pupils on **Monday 8th May 2023** in celebration of the King's Coronation. **Please make a note in your calendar that School will be closed on this day.**

Christmas Lunch: If you have not already done so, please return your child's paper slip indicating their choice of Christmas Lunch by Friday morning drop-off time at the very latest. Any lunch requests returned after this time will not be included in the order. **Please also ensure your child's ParentPay account has enough credit to cover their Christmas lunch. Children in Reception, Y1, Y2 and children who are entitled to Free School Meals will not need to make payment for this lunch.**

Christmas Lunch Day: Wednesday 14th December is our Christmas Dinner Day! Children are invited to either wear a Christmas Jumper or create a festive top, this could be a top with some tinsel attached. It is not a non-school uniform day, no money needs to be sent to school that day and the rest of their uniform needs to be worn please. There is a PTFA non uniform day on Friday 16th December, the final day of term

Values Certificates

Well done to the following children who received a Christian values certificate or Jigsaw Scroll Award in our weekly Celebration Worship.

10.11.22

Rec --
Y1 --
Y2 Abigail and Amy
Y3 Leela and Rex
Y4 Walter and Laura
Y5 Archie and Scarlett
Y6 Anthony and Mona

17.11.22

Rec Alayna and Samuel
Y1 Theo and Alice
Y2 Tyler and Emma
Y3 Zac and Edith
Y4 Noah, Billy and Luna
Y5 Bozhidara and Tarun
Y6 Hadee, Freddie and Ryan

Attendance - Class Percentages (08.11.22 – 23.11.22):

Reception: 91.1%
Year 1: 94.5%
Year 2: 92.8%
Year 3: 96.6% - Well done Year 3!
Year 4: 95.9%
Year 5: 94.7%
Year 6: 94.5%

Overall School Attendance: 94.3%

National: 93.5%

The Year group with the highest attendance will receive extra playtime with Mr Doyle and Mrs Nelson.

Woodwind Tuition: Mrs Maughan has some availability for new starters on woodwind instruments after the Christmas holiday. Mrs Maughan offers lessons on the Dood, recorder, clarinet, flute and saxophone. If your child is in Year 2 and above, they can begin to learn the recorder or the Dood. If your child is in Year 4 or above, they can (depending on size of their hands, etc) start on the clarinet, the flute or the saxophone.

Lessons are invoiced termly, and will be offered on a first come first served basis.

Lessons are currently priced as follows: £11.00 for 20 minute individual lessons. £16.00 for half hour individual lessons or £8.00 for a 30 minute group lesson (groups of 2-3 children).

If you would like to find out more, please email Mrs Maughan, or take a look at her website for more information (including a link to the Dood - as not many people have heard of one!) www.annamaughan.com
annamaughanmusic@gmail.com

Please note: In order to start lessons in January 2023, you will need to make contact with Mrs Maughan no later than Friday 9th December to start next term.

Support for families: As a school we are aware that families may be finding the cost of living challenging at this time. We are able to support families who are finding things difficult through issuing vouchers for the local Foodbank and vouchers for the Pantry, which is an organisation supporting families with food parcels, based in different parts of Cheltenham. If you would like some support in this way, please contact Mrs Hall at the following e-mail address: senco@holyltrinity.gloucs.sch.uk or phone the office and ask to speak to Mrs Hall.

Trinity Church Nativity on Christmas Eve: Gather your friends and family and join Trinity Church for their Christmas Eve service starting at **4.00pm** as they reflect on the true meaning of the season. This 60-minute service will include Christmas carols, a nativity by our children's drama group, a very special guest, games and a short message. There will also be a small gift for everyone to celebrate Christmas. All are welcome and a flyer will be sent home with children in December.

Forthcoming Dates

- Friday 25th November Y1 PTFA Sale & Christmas Jumper Sale 3.15pm
- Tuesday 29th November Parents Evening 3.30pm-6.00pm
- Wednesday 30th November Y2 & Y6 Panto Trip to Everyman Theatre
- Thursday 1st December Parents Evening
- Friday 2nd December Y1 & Y4 Panto Trip to Everyman Theatre
- Tuesday 6th December Y3 & Y5 Panto Trip to Everyman Theatre
- Wednesday 7th December Christmas Service Rehearsal at Trinity Church pm
- Thursday 8th December Christmas Service at Trinity Church 2.00pm - 3.00pm
- Friday 9th December PTFA Christmas Fayre
KS1: 5.00-6.00pm & KS2: 6.00-7.00pm
- Monday 12th- Friday 16th Dec **No Clubs this week**
- Wednesday 14th December Christmas Lunch Day Details to follow
- Friday 16th December PTFA Non Uniform Day £1.00 Donation
- **Friday 16th December End of Autumn Term 2**
- **Monday 19th Dec – Monday 2nd Jan Christmas Holidays**
- **Tuesday 3rd January INSET Day – Teachers only in School**
- **Wednesday 4th January All Children return to school**

Yours sincerely,

Mr Kurt Doyle
Acting Headteacher