



Dear Parents

This week has seen the appointment of our new **School Council**. We would like to congratulate Seb and Millie (Silbury), George and Daisy-Mai (Avebury), Oliver R and Eadie (Sarum), Orla and Noah (White Horse) and Jago and Olivia (Stonehenge) and to thank all of the candidates who put themselves forward for election. These are all vital roles that enhance our family ethos, develop pupil responsibility and build positive relationships across classes of different year groups. Our school council have some super plans for writing a school prayer, social action projects, fund raising and competitions to further build on our Christian values and foster team spirit.

Social action Our first social action project this year is linked to our Harvest theme, which we are exploring in our collective worship together. We will once again be supporting Devizes Food Bank with donations of non-perishable foods. No charity can replace the dignity of having enough money for food. Devizes and District Foodbank only works with non-perishable food items (tinned and dried goods), which do not spoil or decay. This means that neither the food bank nor the recipient has to worry about storing food in a fridge or freezer, and there is less likelihood of food going to waste. It also means that they can give each person who comes to the food bank a carefully designed food parcel that contains three days' worth of nutritionally-balanced food. All items should be unopened, in date and in good condition. They are forbidden by law to give away food which has passed its 'use by' date. They have no storage facilities for fresh food. They also take non-food items such as toiletries (shower gel, soap and toothpaste) and cleaning products, as these are just as essential for the people who use food banks. Please help local people in crisis by buying items from the list below and encouraging your children to bring them into school next week as part of the foodbank's collection point.



- Tinned meat /meat/vegetables/potatoes/fruit
- Tinned rice pudding
- Tinned custard
- Long life sponge puddings
- Biscuits
- Tinned spaghetti / ravioli
- Tinned macaroni cheese
- Chocolate
- Toothpaste
- Shower gel
- Soap



Our elected **Worship Leaders** for this term are Betty and Lilly who have taken on this very important job to help lead our Christian vision and values through collective worship as exemplary Y6 role models. Over the next few weeks we will begin the application process for the role of Digital Leaders. This is an incredibly important role with the lucky candidates supporting with IT, helping to lead digital worships and teaching their peers about the importance of staying safe online.

Our rising fives in reception have made a wonderful start to school, arriving with big smiles and happy chatter; skipping across the school playground into **Stonehenge Class** with new friends and starting their learning adventure with us. I've been impressed with Y1 children who have guided and supported our new children into the new routines at school. There is a real buzz around the school with our classrooms busy with great learning, creativity and imagination.

Whole School Ceramic Workshop

On Thursday 23rd and Friday 24th September we are delighted to be starting our whole school pottery project focussing on Remembrance and Hope. All children will need to bring a *named empty egg box* and an *old tea towel* to school by Wednesday. An *old T-shirt* that can be worn over school uniform during the pottery session would be useful too. Children will be designing and making their own poppies for our Remembrance installation, learning how to handle clay, remove air pockets, roll and flatten to shape, cut and mould their individual poppies.

Calendar available online We have planned some of the regular significant school events in advance for the whole year – including the Christmas Plays, Summer Music Concert, Year 3/4 plays, Parent/Teacher meetings and so on. The school calendar has been published on our website and can be found at <http://holy-trinity.co.uk/calendar/>. There will be many other events as the year progresses so keep an eye on the newsletter and other letters from the school.



The Reading Gateway

'The more you read
The more you will know
The more you learn
The more places you will go!'
Dr Seuss

Language and literacy provide us with the building blocks not just for academic success, but for fulfilling careers and rewarding lives. At school, our focus is:

- pupils' speaking and listening skills by encouraging them to read books aloud and have conversations with their teachers and friends about them;
- a balanced and engaging approach to developing reading, which integrates both decoding and comprehension skills;
- promoting fluent written transcription skills by encouraging extensive and effective practice and explicitly teaching spelling;
- targeting teaching and support by accurately assessing pupil needs; and using high-quality structured interventions to help pupils who are struggling with their literacy.

At home, we ask you to read to your children every day, right up to their teens. It is always fun to have a family book on the go. Children who hear a good reader reading to them, find it easier to write well because they instinctively understand what good sentences sound like. You are never too old to be read to. Read together with love and enjoyment. 30 minutes a day of sharing a book together - reading and talking about the story or the characters will really enhance your child's vocabulary and comprehension as well as being a special time together. Language rich environments and opportunities to talk are crucial to children learning to read quickly, so that a whole new world opens up to them.

Children need to learn to decode each word, of course, but more importantly, they need to understand what they have read. If your child brings home a book that is too difficult for them to read, then you can read it to them, asking them to read short passages, or to find words or letters that they are familiar with. Then ask them questions about what you have read. If they bring home a book that is very easy, that is also absolutely fine. Let them read it easily and with enjoyment and then discuss the text and the pictures, making sure that you explore nuance and hidden meanings. Your child is free to bring home any book from the library that takes their fancy. (Please help us by ensuring the books get brought back again.) We want children to love reading, and to enjoy books.

Harvest service and assembly We will be walking down to St Peter's church in Great Cheverell on **Thursday 23rd September** – anyone is welcome to walk down with us and enjoy the little service. We will leave the school at about **9.10am** and hope to arrive at the church about **9.30am**. Our Harvest Assembly will be held on **Friday 24th September at 2.15pm** (usual Sharing Assembly, with a Harvest theme).

Service Pupil Premium This is a request for any service family to make themselves known to the school, so that we can note them as service children ahead of the autumn school census deadline. Pupils attract SPP if they meet one of the following criteria:

- one of their parents is serving in the regular armed forces (including pupils with a parent who is on full commitment as part of the full time reserve service).
- they have been registered as a 'service child' on a school census since 2016.
- one of their parents died whilst serving in the armed forces and the pupil receives a pension under the Armed Forces Compensation Scheme or the War Pensions Scheme

Meeting for all parents of Year 5 and 6 children about residential trip to Forest of Dean This meeting will take place on **Wednesday 29th September at 5.00pm** – Mr Amor and Mr Gyllenspetz will tell you about the trip, the activities, the way the sleeping arrangements are organised and the costs, and you can ask any questions you may have. The trip will take place from Wednesday 25th May – Friday 27th May. It is always a wonderful experience for the children – they take part in adventure activities such as caving, climbing and canoeing, and have fun building structures in the woods and taking part in orienteering activities.

Online Safety We remind parents once again about supporting their children to stay safe on line. It may feel daunting to talk about staying safe online – especially when your children are using the internet differently to you. The NSPCC is an excellent website to seek advice about [how to start talking to your child about online safety](#) and how to make sure they know they can turn to you about anything that worries them. The NSPCC are offering free webinars for groups of parents and carers, making it easy for you to keep your family safe online. Additional resources can be found at <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>

Road safety and traffic congestion

We really appreciate the cooperation of our school community driving and parking considerately in the village, without blocking our neighbours drive ways or the lanes in the village. We work closely with the village community, council, PCSO (Police Community Support Officer), and road safety officers to find solutions to improve the road safety for our school community. We are awaiting a road safety inspection from the Road Safety Education team. Additionally, most recently the staggered start and finish times are helping to reduce some traffic congestion, and we encourage families who live in the village to walk and cycle to school rather than use the car. Thank you for your support.

National Schools Equestrian Association (NSEA) and School Equestrian Games (SEG) The NSEA is the recognised body for equestrianism in schools throughout the UK, providing intra and inter-schools competitions for team and individual riders. Competitions for teams and individuals start at Grass Roots level and build up to National Schools qualifiers and annual Championships. Pupils can represent their school at inter-school equestrian competitions throughout the country. Disciplines include Dressage, Show Jumping, Arena Eventing , One Day Events, Hunter Trials and Tetrathlons. They take place at local, county, regional and national levels, culminating in an annual National Schools Championships in October. This is not riding lessons. Children need to have their own pony, or borrow or loan a pony plus be competent in walk, trot and canter. We are exploring interest to set up a Holy Trinity Primary Academy team, please contact Anna Urda urdaanna@yahoo.co.uk to find out more.

Pupil Premium Funding If you are claiming certain benefits, the school will receive £1320 for your child. This money will be used for various support programmes throughout the school for all children. Your child will also benefit directly as some of the funding will be used to subsidise or pay completely for school trips, music lessons and other additional school costs for your child. All of this work is done in the strictest confidence. Forms are available in the office. Please do check and if you think you are eligible, complete the form so that we can process the claim for the funding. The benefits which attract the funding are:

- Income support,
- Income based Job Seekers Allowance,
- Income related Employment and support Allowance,

- Support under Part IV of the Immigration and Asylum act 1999 (NASS),
- the guarantee element of State Pension Credit,
- Child Tax Credit (you must NOT be entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual income as assessed by HM Revenue and Customs that does not exceed £16,190).

Data Protection and data sharing Please note that school records are transferred to the receiving school when a child moves to a new school. The data shared includes information about Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND), academic progress, attendance, and safeguarding and child protection. The school Privacy Notice and Data Protection Policy is available on <http://holy-trinity.co.uk/policies-2/>

Finally, it was wonderful to welcome families to our sharing assembly this afternoon and celebrate class and individual achievements through song, performance, creative arts and writing, adventure, science and topic work.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend.

Best wishes

Anna Woodman

We welcome and value your opinion. If you have any comments or suggestions, please contact the Head teacher or Chair of Governors.

Upcoming Events (Calendar of events will be available on the website at www.holy-trinity.co.uk in the coming week)		
Thursday 23 rd September	Harvest Festival in the church	9.30am
Thursday 30 th September	Safeguarding and Data protection briefing for all volunteers	2.30pm
Wednesday 20 th October	Last day of term	3pm
Monday 1st November	Children back to school	
Monday 15 th November	Parent/Teacher meetings – appointments to be booked online nearer the time.	3.15pm – 5.50pm
Wednesday 17 th November	Parent/Teacher meetings – appointments to be booked online nearer the time.	3.15pm – 5.50pm
Friday 17 th December	Last day of term	1.15pm

PFA News

AGM

Thank you to those who came to the AGM and joined the committee. We have a new Chair, Katie Ridd and a new Treasurer, Lisa Bradbury. Many thanks to the outgoing Chair and Treasurer Max Knox and Kevin Cleveley for all their work for the PFA. We talked about all the exciting plans for fundraising and exciting events at Holy Trinity in the lead up to Christmas.

Christmas Parties, Christmas Fair and Calendars

The PFA are hoping to organise Christmas parties for the children in school and run a Christmas fair this year. Also we are looking into setting up a School calendar. If you would like to be involved in these exciting projects please email the PFA or reply to your class WhatsApp group and you will be added to the list of volunteers. Also, there will be a meeting to discuss plans at The Bell pub in Great Cheverell at 8.00pm on Wednesday the 22nd September. Please come along.

Facebook: Holy Trinity (Great Cheverell) PFA

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