



Autumn First Half Term News: 22nd October 2021

Curriculum Information

If you were unable to attend the Class Curriculum Meetings, please note presentations are available via your child's Google Classroom (with the exception of Woodlands). Woodlands parents/carers will receive details of a new Curriculum Evening date shortly.

We wished to share news of the topics and activities which the children have enjoyed during this busy half term along with details for the next half term.

Woodlands (Reception/Nursery): Woodlands have been learning to be a good friend in their topic work. They have built a friendship stop and played, using it in the outdoor area. In Maths, they have been thinking carefully about pattern and sorting.

Next half term, Woodlands topic is 'Will you read me a story?' where they will be reading lots of traditional tales. In Maths, Woodlands will be thinking about subitising (recognising a number without needing to count). You can play games with a dice at home to help!

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Year 1: This half term, Oak's topic has been 'What was in your toy box?' We loved looking at old fashioned toys from the library and investigating what materials they were made from. In Maths, we have been focusing on numbers and explaining what we know. In writing, we have been focusing on ensuring we are using finger spaces and full stops.

Our next topic's big question is 'How has London changed since 1666?' We will be building and burning Pudding Lane as well as building modern taxis using junk modelling, wooden dowels, hacksaws and paint! In English, we will be reading books such as 'The Queen's Hat', linking our topic and our work in English.

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Year 2: Ash Class have been learning about what makes someone important in History. We have learned about lots of important people such as Christopher Columbus, Neil Armstrong, Rosa Parks, Greta Thunberg and Paul Cezanne. We have been busy creating our own still life pictures, persuasive posters and making moons out of paper mache!

After half term, Ash Class are learning all about 'Muck, Mess and Mixtures'. We will be starting our new topic by making slime and bubbles. We will be reading 'George's Marvellous Medicine' and creating our own set of instructions for a gruesome medicine. We will also be visiting Wenzel's headquarters to find out how they make their delicious cakes and make some of our own.

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Year 3: We have been learning all about the Romans and their impact on Britain. The children have been very enthusiastic about our visit to Verulamium and can say what the artefacts tell us about life during Roman rule. We have also learnt about light and used our knowledge to create a shadow puppet theatre which I hope the children shared with you.

Our focus next half term is on the question 'Why and how do things move?' We will be looking at friction, levers, air resistance, magnetism and how metals change. We will be reading 'Iron Man' by Ted Hughes together and writing instructions on how to catch an Iron Man. Our Maths learning will focus on the four operations and learning using different physical, mental and written methods to calculate.

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Year 4: So far this term we have been learning about Anglo-Saxons and Vikings and the impact they have had on Britain, making our own clay pots and shields. In English we read about The Manchester Ridgeback and used this to create our own dragon and write a non-chronological report. We have loved reading about Hiccup in 'How to Train your Dragon' and writing diaries and descriptions based on the story. Furthermore, we have sung our hearts out to 'Mama Mia' and learned about how Hindu's worship.

Next half term we consider the big question of 'What happens to the food we eat?' We will focus on the functions and structure of teeth, the digestive system and food chains. We will develop our line drawing skills and try to emulate Leonardo da Vinci and his famous sketches of the insides of our bodies (yuck!). We will read and create our own explanations, fact-files, fantasy narrative and poetry- lots more fun to be had!

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Year 5: Sycamore have been learning about whether they could live in Tudor Britain. They have made Tudor roses, Tudor houses and investigated the politics of Britain in the 15th century, paying particular attention to Henry the VII and Henry the VIII. They have made presentations, fact files and biographies about Tudor England. In English the children have been looking at the narrative poem 'The Highwayman'. They have investigated the lives of the main characters and have written diary entries, persuasive letters and stories.

Sycamore will be learning all about space and will become stargazers next half term. We will be researching how asteroids have affected the moon and will be investigating the size of different planets.

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Year 6: In Redwood class, we have immersed ourselves in World War II. We have learnt about the lead up to the war; which countries were involved; the advancement of Germany through Europe; the importance of England's defence during the Battle of Britain and the devastation of the Blitz. We have written about how it feels to be an evacuee or a Jewish child in hiding from the Germans.

Our new topic will be Blood Heart. We will learn through Science all about the circulatory system and the importance of the heart. Children will take inspiration from Leonardo da Vinci and sketch a heart before making their own heart sculptures. Our class book, 'Pig Heart Boy' by Malorie Blackman, will lead to debates and balanced arguments on the topic of 'Pig heart transplantations'. Children will educate younger children on the importance of staying healthy.

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Attendance

As part of our ongoing commitment to encourage good attendance at school we are planning to provide regular updates. This will include updates on Government, Local Authority and school initiatives and ensure that parents are apprised of the continuing importance of this subject. We will also inform parents of classes that are maintaining good attendance levels or showing improvement.

All parents will be aware that the link between attendance and attainment is irrefutable and that leave in term time is only authorised in **very** exceptional circumstances. Our Governing Body supports the Local Authority stance on this and every school has an attendance target. At Holy Trinity our target for this academic year is 96%.

Congratulations to Ash Class / Year 2 who attained 97.75% this half term. The winning class for the term will enjoy a celebration at the end of term. Other classes with 96% and above are Oak, Willow and Cedar which is fantastic!

Remember ~ Every School Day Matters

Safeguarding and Health and Safety

If you are concerned about the safety of any children, please share any concerns with our designated safeguarding leads (Mrs Roscoe and Mrs Rodenas) or in their absence our deputy safeguarding leads (Mrs Morgan and Mr Brown).

Parenting Smart (Place2Be): The children's mental health charity, Place2Be, has launched a new website aimed at helping parents with typical situations they can find themselves in with their children.

Advice can be found on over forty topics including:

- Understanding sibling rivalry
- My child is lying, what does it mean, what should I do?
- My child has trouble going to sleep
- My child says 'I hate you!'
- Cultural identity: who am I?

The Parenting Smart website can be found here: <https://parentingsmart.place2be.org.uk/>

Clocks back! Dark nights ahead: We'll soon be setting the clocks back an hour and summer-time will end. The resources below will help remind children, including teenagers, about road safety and keeping safe in the dark.

Keeping Children Safe in the Dark <https://firstaidforlife.org.uk/keeping-children-safe-in-dark/>

Dark Nights <https://www.childcare.co.uk/information/dark-nights-children-safety>

Be Bright Be Seen <https://brightkidz.co.uk/initiatives/be-bright-be-seen/>

Worship

This half term we have thought about our School Vision and Values in our worship.

Our School Vision

Living and learning together as part of the family of God; we seek to inspire every person to be deeply rooted in their faith and to experience being connected in a loving community - to grow, flourish and bear much fruit.

(inspired by John, Chapter 15)

The children have enjoyed learning about wisdom; thankfulness; compassion; forgiveness; friendship; koinonia and perseverance and being able to worship in Holy Trinity Church once again.

All are warmly invited to join our Parent Prayer Group meetings which will be held in school once every half term going forward. The first one for this academic year will be held on Wednesday, 3rd November 9am.

If parents would like to join the prayer WhatsApp group, please message Mrs Kate Meathrel on: 07890 488781.

Forthcoming dates:

Monday 1st November

Tuesday 2nd November

Wednesday 3rd November

Thursday 4th November

Inset Day – School Closed to Pupils

School reopens to pupils

Year 6 Swimming begins

Parent Prayer Group meeting in Godly Play Room (9 am)

School Nurses in - Nasal Flu Vaccinations (for those who have consented)

Tuesday 9 th November	E-Safety Workshop for Parents (6 – 7 pm)
Wednesday 10 th November	School Photographs (individual/siblings)
Thursday 11 th November	Remembrance Day KS2 Eucharist
Sunday 14 th November	Remembrance Service at Northwood Memorial
w/c 15 th November	Anti-Bullying Week
Monday 15 th November	Odd Socks Day
Monday 22 nd November	Parent Consultations – Woodlands – Year 5 (15:40 – 18:00)
Tuesday 23 rd November	Parent Consultations – All Year Groups (15:40 – 20:00)
Wednesday 24 th November	Parent Consultations – Year 6 (15:40 – 18:00)
Wednesday 1 st December	Christmas Jumper/Activity Day
w/c 6 th December	EY/KS1 Nativity (exact dates/times to be confirmed)
Tuesday 7 th December	Ash Class Visit to Wenzel’s Bakery
Friday 17 th December	Christmas Church Service Term ends at 13:15 (After School Club finishes at 16:00)
Wednesday 5 th January 2022	Spring (Epiphany) Term begins for pupils

At Holy Trinity we have managed to keep Covid-19 cases low due to following our stringent risk assessment and, in consultation with our Chair of Governors, have made the difficult decision not to hold the Christmas Bazaar as in previous years but we will be holding Christmas events in school with the children. The school must continue to mitigate the risks to our families and staff; the safety and well-being of everyone is of paramount importance. We are therefore hopeful of holding an Easter extravaganza in the Spring term.

Further dates/information will continue to be added throughout the academic year.



Star Learner of the Week



Congratulations to:

Jayson	~	Woodlands
George	~	Oak Class
Charlotte	~	Ash Class
Carla	~	Willow Class
Keira	~	Cedar Class
Sophie	~	Sycamore Class
Prudence	~	Redwood Class