



Holy Trinity & Little Marlow CE Schools Federation Newsletter September 2016



Dear Parents,

Welcome back to a new school year! I hope you all had a wonderful, relaxing summer break and now feel fully refreshed for the year ahead; I'm sure it's going to be another extremely busy one at Holy Trinity and Little Marlow. You'll be pleased to hear we have had a very positive first week back; the children have settled very well into their new classes and there seems to be an exciting buzz of energy and enthusiasm at both schools.

There have been many changes over the summer at both schools and we'd particularly like to welcome all our new children, parents and staff to our federation community; we all hope you'll be really happy here.

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce the new leadership team for Holy Trinity and Little Marlow.

My name is Steve Butler and I have been appointed as the new Executive Headteacher of the federation of both schools. I am a Marlow resident and have lived in the town most of my life. I have taught across Buckinghamshire for 20 years and I am really looking forward to working in my local community, particularly at schools that have such a great reputation. I know many parents already and I've really appreciated the kind words of support I've received since I was appointed, thank you. I am passionate about inspiring children to be the best they possibly can be in all aspects of their learning. I believe school should be about developing the whole child academically, socially, physically, creatively, spiritually and emotionally to ultimately become well rounded, respectful and responsible 21st century citizens. In my spare time I particularly enjoy running and cycling; I'm a great believer in the benefits of sport and physical activity in a child's development, so I'm looking forward in getting involved in the sports provision at both schools. I'd like to thank the governors, parents, staff, children as well as Mrs Carter and Mrs Dillon for all the support they've given me starting this new role.

We have also appointed two new Heads of Schools who complete the leadership team; Tim Williams at Holy Trinity and Katie Penney at Little Marlow:

Tim Williams – Head of School at Holy Trinity

I am absolutely thrilled to be taking the role of Head of School here at Holy Trinity and I look forward to the coming weeks and months as I settle in. The school has a fantastic staff who I already know care deeply about the children here. They have been immensely welcoming and I cannot wait to work alongside them. I have been teaching in Buckinghamshire for over ten years, during which I have come to love this county. After many years at Great Missenden C of E School, I spent the past four years at Lane End Primary School as the Deputy Headteacher. My vision for Holy Trinity is to see a place where children are engaged, enthused and enjoy every moment of their education – but also to provide amazing memories which will last them a lifetime. I'm looking forward to starting this journey and hope you will all be a part of it.

Katie Penney – Head of School at Little Marlow

I am so excited to be welcomed into the Little Marlow family as Head of School. I have a particular passion for drama and stories as a route into literacy and have a number of exciting ideas on how to make exploration of numeracy skills a base for life long learning. I began my career at Lent Rise and leave the school with considerable experience in leadership and curriculum in the foundation stage and key stage one. With a new team of teachers at Little Marlow we are all very excited about the coming months creating some exciting and innovative learning opportunities in the curriculum together.

We would like to thank you all again for the welcome we've had; we are very excited at having the opportunity to work with you all at these wonderful schools and look forward to some exciting and successful times ahead.

Useful Reminders

Extra-Curricular Clubs - You should all receive a letter today with details of all our clubs this term. Clubs start on Monday 19th September and finish on Friday 9th December, unless otherwise specified. Please can we remind parents and children that if children sign up for a club we expect them to commit to it and attend each week. My thanks go to all the staff and parents who support or organise our extra-curricular activities at the schools.

Meet & Greet - With so many new staff, we would like to invite you and your child to pop in to school to meet us for an informal chat so that you can put names to faces. I'm sure the children too will enjoy showing you around their new classroom. Our Meet & Greet sessions are **Thursday 15th September, 4-6.00 at Holy Trinity** and **Tuesday 27th September 3.30-5.30 at Little Marlow**. I look forward to seeing you then.

Road Safety - Please can I remind everyone to be vigilant and responsible near the roads around our schools. We have larger numbers at both schools this year and it can be very busy at drop off and pick up times. Please can we ask parents to walk, scooter or cycle or car share if possible to try and minimise the congestion around school. Can I remind you all too that we expect children to wear helmets if they cycle on the roads. Finally, please can we ask you all to be considerate to our local residents making sure cars do not block drives and that we respect local residents' properties. Thank you for your cooperation.

Summer Update

Holy Trinity

You will have noticed a few changes here at Holy Trinity. Firstly, following the drive being dug up over the Summer, we have changed the front gate arrangements. We have decided to trial keeping the main drive gate closed during the day including at pick up and drop off times. In this way we hope to keep children safer by not over spilling out onto the road. We have also created a larger waiting area for parents.

If you have been into school you may have also noticed our brighter entrance area and gym. Mr Rodgers has been incredibly busy with his paintbrush and both areas are looking clearer and smarter. Thank you Mr Rodgers.

We have been informed this week that the road still needs to be dug up at the front of the school to connect the gas to our new boilers. This was due to take place last week, but now is scheduled for the week commencing 19th September. We will keep you updated if this is likely to affect drop off and pick up arrangements.

Little Marlow

It's all change here! We have a completely new teaching staff team at the school - Miss Penney as Head of School, Miss Burn in Oak class, Miss Melsom and Mrs Fox in Aspen class and Mrs Selby in Elder class. Like me, Mrs Harjette will also be working at both Holy Trinity and Little Marlow Schools in her role as Special Needs Coordinator. I'm pleased to say all the staff seem to have settled really well this week and are looking forward to getting to know you all better in the weeks and months ahead.

I'm sure you will have all noticed the lovely new playground surface we've had completed over the Summer. The children thoroughly enjoyed their new 'smooth' playground and are looking forward to choosing some games and activities that we will have painted in the coming months.

If you haven't yet been into the school, please come and see the changes in Oak classroom. The children have a fantastic new floor and a wonderful new climbing frame outside, both of which are proving really popular with children and the staff!

We will not be issuing contact books this term. Instead we ask that parents leave a message with the member of staff at the gate in the morning, send an email to the office or write a note for teachers if you would like to bring something to our attention. Likewise we will contact you if there is an issue we would like to discuss.

Finally—we are hoping to start a Breakfast Club at the school later this term. Watch out for further details soon.

Term Dates 2016—2017

Autumn 1st Half Term: Mon 5th Sept—Fri 21st Oct
Autumn 2nd Half Term: Mon 31st Oct—Tues 20th Dec
Spring 1st Half Term: Thurs 5th Jan—Fri 10th Feb
Spring 2nd Half Term: Mon 20th Feb—Fri 31st Mar
Summer 1st Half Term: Tues 19th Apr—Fri 26th May
Summer 2nd Half Term: Tues 6th June—Fri 21st July

Marlow Carnival—Saturday 17th September

We're hoping for another fantastic day in the park next Saturday and we hope many of our children will be able to join us in the procession.

If your child would like to take part, the theme is the Rio Olympics and we are meeting at 11.15 on the cricket pitch near Court Garden before the procession starts at 11.30. See you there!

Autumn Term 2016 Diary Dates:

Holy Trinity

Thurs 15th Sept: Meet & Greet, 4-6.00
Sat 17th Sept: Marlow Carnival
Mon 19th Sept: PTA Calendar Photos *
Wed 28th Sept: PTA AGM *
Fri 30th Sept: Y5 & Y6 Planetarium Visit
Fri 7th Oct: Harvest Festival, 11.00
Individual Photographs
Sat 8th Oct: PTA Back to School event *
Thurs 13th Oct: Y4 Parents Consultations 4:00-6:30
Tues 18th Oct: Parents' Consultations, 5.30-8.00
Thurs 20th Oct: Y3, 5, 6 Parents' Consultations,
4.00-6.30
Fri 21st Oct: PTA Hot Dog Lunch *
Break up for half term
**PTA events—more details in the PTA newsletter*

Little Marlow

Sat 10th Sept: Back to School Picnic, 11-2.30
Fri 16th Sept: PTA Calendar Photos*
Sat 17th Sept: Marlow Carnival
Tues 27th Sept: Individual Photographs
Meet & Greet, 3.30-5.30
Fri 30th Sept: Y2 Planetarium Visit at Holy Trinity
Mon 3rd Oct: PTA AGM*
Thurs 6th Sept: Harvest Festival
Mon 17th Oct: Parents' Consultations, 5.30-8.00
Wed 19th Oct: Parents' Consultations, 3.30-6.00
Fri 21st Oct: PTA Hot Dog Lunch*
Break up for half term

**PTA events—more details in the PTA newsletter*

"Let your light shine" Matthew 5:16