



Holy Trinity & Little Marlow CE Schools

Executive Headteacher Newsletter

October 2016



Dear Parents,

What a busy few weeks we've had, I can't believe we're only a week away from the half term break!

Thank you everyone for your welcome and all your support at both schools over these last 6 weeks; the new staff and I have certainly appreciated it and are now really beginning to feel part of the federation family.

World Record Holders—Sprintathon 2016

Staff, families, parents and children from Holy Trinity and Little Marlow were part of a team of 422 athletes who broke the marathon world record three weeks ago! While the current world record stands at 2 hours, 2 minutes and 57 seconds, the Sprintathon team managed to smash that by over 15 minutes. Well done to everyone who took part—it was a great day which managed to raise £20,000 for a fabulous cause!



Harvest Festivals

We had two lovely harvest festivals last week—I hope all of you who came along managed to find a seat and enjoyed the children's performances.

At Little Marlow the harvest celebrations took place in St John the Baptist Church in the village. For many of our children it was the first time they had visited our local church and they should be commended for the way they behaved and conducted themselves both on the journey to and from the church, but also during the service itself. The 3 classes all performed songs and poems as part of the service which we all thoroughly enjoyed—well done all of you.

Our Holy Trinity children celebrated harvest in the school gym and it was a very popular event! Thank you to all the parents who came along—our apologies if you were unable to have a seat; we certainly weren't quite expecting that many! Nevertheless, I hope all of you enjoyed the children's plays, poems and songs during the service; again they all did marvellously performing in front of such a large audience!

Millionaire Shortbread wins!

The pupils at Holy Trinity had a true taste of democracy this week. Last week Marlow town mayor Bob Johnson and Councillor Clerk Katherine Joy set up a polling station in the school gym where each child had the opportunity to vote for their favourite of four cakes. The children have been learning about democracy and having heard the representatives for each party present their case for their cake, they voted for their favourite. It was a really informative and interesting process and the children learned so much about our democratic process. Our thanks go to Bob and Katherine who joined us for the day last week and who dropped in yesterday to deliver the winning cakes—Millionaire Shortbread!

Planetarium at Holy Trinity

The Holy Trinity Year 5 and Year 6 classes and Elder class from Little Marlow thoroughly enjoyed learning about the stars, planets and space two weeks ago. Holy Trinity had a mobile planetarium from Winchester Science Museum visit their gymnasium for the day which certainly intrigued and excited all the children. Although some appeared apprehensive by the dark at first, they were all fascinated by the images projected and the interesting facts. Our thanks go to the staff who organised the day for us and Elder class would certainly like to thank Holy Trinity for the invite!

On the Sports Field

We wish the Holy Trinity Year 6 football team all the best of luck at the District 7 aside finals at Hamilton Academy in High Wycombe tomorrow, having qualified at the preliminary competition last week. The boys demonstrated a good team spirit last week which I'm sure will stand them in good stead for tomorrow. Good luck boys.

We also wish the Year 5 team all the very best too as they play their first match of the season next week away at The Downley School. Good luck Year 5!

Finally we wish the Holy Trinity cross country squad all the best as they compete in their first race of the season next Thursday! I'm sure it will be chilly and muddy, but do your best and keep going right to the finish line!

Parents' Consultations

We are looking forward to meeting many of you at our parents' consultations next week. We have appointments for our Little Marlow parents on Monday from 5.30-8.00pm and Wednesday from 3.30-6.00pm. Appointments at Holy Trinity are on Tuesday from 5.30-8pm and Thursday 4-6.30pm. These meetings are for parents to meet teachers and discuss how children have settled into the new term, but also how parents can support children at home in their learning. Meetings will take place in the hall at Holy Trinity and in Oak classroom at Little Marlow. Children's exercise books will be available for you to look at while waiting to meet teachers.

As a new leadership team across the federation of both schools, we are keen to hear parents' views on school life at Holy Trinity and Little Marlow. We hope, therefore, to make the most of this opportunity when the majority of parents are in school to ask you to complete a short questionnaire on aspects of school. Some of our governors will be around to distribute the questionnaires which we will ask you to leave in a box as you leave. Let me reassure you that your feedback is much appreciated and that all the responses are treated with confidence; and all the questionnaires are anonymous.

We look forward to meeting you next week.

Clowns

You may be aware of the current craze of some people scaring others while dressed in clown outfits. Some of our children have been a little anxious and upset about these stories, having heard about them from their peers or in the news. Please can we ask you all to be vigilant, reassure your children and remind them to not tell or make up stories about seeing clowns locally, particularly to our younger children. Thank you.

Midday Supervisors

We are always on the look out for parents, grandparents or others who may be able to support our lunchtime supervision staff. We currently have vacancies at both schools. If you are interested in helping us out over lunchtime at either Little Marlow or Holy Trinity, please come in and chat with us. Thank you.

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 March

Summer 1st Half Term: Wed 19th Apr—Fri 26th May

Summer 2nd Half Term: Tues 6th June—Fri 21st July

Early Birds Reminder

We are looking forward to starting our new Early Birds Breakfast Club at Little Marlow after half term.

Please can you return your slips if you would like your child to attend this new initiative at the school. Thank you.

Autumn Term 2016 Diary Dates:

Holy Trinity

Tues 18th Oct:	Parents' Consultations, 5.30-8.00
Thurs 20th Oct:	Parents' Consultations, 4.00-6.30
Fri 21st Oct:	School Council Hot Chocolate Day PTA Hot Dog Lunch Break up for half term 3.30
Mon 31st Oct	Return to School
Tues 1st Nov	All Saints Day Church Service
Thurs 1st Dec	Y4 to Ufton Court—2 day residential
Mon 5th Dec	7.30 Christmas Carol Service
Tues 6th Dec	7.30 Christmas Carol Service
Sat 10th Dec	PTA Christmas Bazaar
Wed 14th Dec	PTA Panto Night
Fri 14th Dec	PTA Children's' Disco
Tues 20th Dec	10.00 Y3 Christingle Service 1.30 Break Up for Christmas

Little Marlow

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 3.00
Mon 31st Oct	Return to School
Sat 12th Nov	PTA Christmas Bazaar
Thurs 8th Dec	Reception Class Nativity 1.30
Fri 9th Dec	Reception Class Nativity 9.30
Tues 13th Dec	Year 1 & 2 Church Nativity 10.00
Wed 14th Dec	Year 1 & 2 Church Nativity 6.00
Thurs 15th Dec	Norden Farm trip
Tues 20th Dec	1.15 Break Up for Christmas

"Judge each day not by the harvest you reap, but the seeds you plant"

Robert Louis Stevenson