



Spring Term 2021—Newsletter 5

Our School Mission Statement:

Holy Trinity Church of England Primary Academy is a fun and welcoming community where we serve each other by showing love and respect. Firm foundations for life are built upon Christian values which enable us to flourish. We aim to become resilient and aspirational so that we can face life's challenges with confidence.

'Through God all things are possible'

Matthew 19:26



Dear Parents & Carers,

I hope this newsletter finds you well and that you are staying safe by following the most recent government advice and guidance.

You may have noticed that we have a Covid button on the homepage of our website where you can locate the most recent guidance should you need a reference point. It is great to see the vaccination schedule gaining momentum across the country and I have just received an email today informing me that over 110,000 people in Shropshire have now had their first injection. This is great news but a cautious approach must continue be taken to avoid further transmission or illness within our wider community.

I continue to miss the daily interaction with you all and as a parent myself, I am as equally frustrated as you are by all of the children not being in school. It has been such a difficult term, especially since the last minute announcement regarding the decision to close schools to all children apart from those of keyworkers. However, your support of the school and our staff has been fantastic throughout this challenging period. I have had the opportunity to read many of the positive comments from parents on Dojo as well as viewing the fantastic work that has been produced at home and submitted to the teachers. I cannot thank you enough for all that you are doing to support your children. The children that have been attending school have also continued to follow the same curriculum as those at home and I know they have loved the opportunity to hold zoom meetings together with their classmates. They really are missing each other.

This week has been a slightly different one in celebration of mental health week and again, a huge thank you for the parents and carers that have recognised its importance and encouraged these activities at home. The plan was to take some of the pressure off parents and children by not having scheduled lessons and deadlines to meet so I hope you have enjoyed the activities on offer.

From what I have read and heard in the press and media, schools in England are expecting to hear an announcement from the Government on the 22nd of February regarding a wider reopening of education. This is likely to include a phased return but until the official announcement is made then we are simply second guessing. For now, I hope you manage to have a relaxing half term next week at home. I'm afraid we can't go anywhere or do very much but I'm sure it will be good to have some quality time together. If the children do wish to do some school related activities then they can still access their virtual classrooms through the portals button on the website. There are a range of age appropriate stories and interactive programs on the virtual page, you will just need to ensure that you have your logins to hand.

A big thank you again to all my colleagues and LAC members for the hard work they have put in over the last six weeks. Even though school has been closed to the majority of children, the staff have been busier than ever and endeavoured to ensure help and support is available each day. I am very blessed to lead such a dedicated team and I'm sure you will join me in wishing them all a restful half term.

Take care and stay safe

R. Dickson

Mr Dickson



TO OUR PARENTS AND CARERS - A message from Mr Harris - Chair of LAC

As we continue to struggle through another lockdown, I just want to express my thanks to you for the wonderful support that you have shown our Academy and the staff during this time of home schooling. I know that your children have benefited because I have seen details of their progress, so you are clearly doing a good job at home.

I know it's not easy because I am also doing home schooling with my granddaughter. I find it very difficult to keep her focused and to stick to her tasks. She says it's not real school. I'm sure that many of you are having the same experience. I don't always understand the Maths or the English and find that I have to learn new stuff very quickly. But, it's good that I can help her as we work out together what we need to do.

I am sure that all of you will agree that our Principal and his team of very dedicated teachers and TAs are working incredibly hard to ensure that each pupil is getting the best education possible under the circumstances. The variety of learning, the regular contact, the Zoom lessons and the feedback demonstrate how determined they are to provide interesting lessons that teach and challenge and help the children to continue to make progress.

I believe that some parents don't think this is enough, but rest assured that the staff can do no more. Teaching this way is exhausting as they have to do remote lessons, live lessons, mark, give feedback, prepare material for the next day and make sure that you get everything you need in time. Anyone who follows their advice and helps their children to do the work will know very well that there is more than enough to get on with at home. And, don't forget that some of the staff have their own children to look after and home school too.

So, let's end the half term by thanking the staff for all they do. Mr Dickson, the office ladies, the cleaners (who do so much to keep everyone safe), the Caretaker, playground staff, volunteers and, of course, the teaching and support staff deserve our thanks and praise. I know that they would appreciate a "Thank you" from all of us. Let's show them our appreciation.

These difficult times will end sometime. Meanwhile, we have to keep going, living in hope that we will all emerge safely and that normal school will begin again. Our academy motto is "Deo Fretus," which means "In God we trust." So, let's keep faith and keep on trusting.

Take Care of each other and stay safe.

Mr Harris
Chair of the LAC



Health and Wellbeing Week

Did you manage to beat the times set by some of Teachers?

This week, as part of our Health and Fitness Week, staff have been busy setting and completing sporting challenges for Children to try and beat at home.



SINGING CHALLENGE FOR HALF TERM

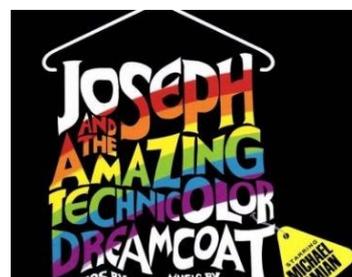
We are setting you a singing challenge to complete over half term and including the first week back in school. We will be studying the Bible story 'Joseph And The Coat of Many Colours' when returning to school. Your challenge is to watch and listen to the powerpoint which is on the school website and learn a song from the musical of Joseph called 'Any Dream Will Do'. Once you have learnt the song, can you record yourself singing and together, as a whole school, we will collate the videos and make our own version of the song.

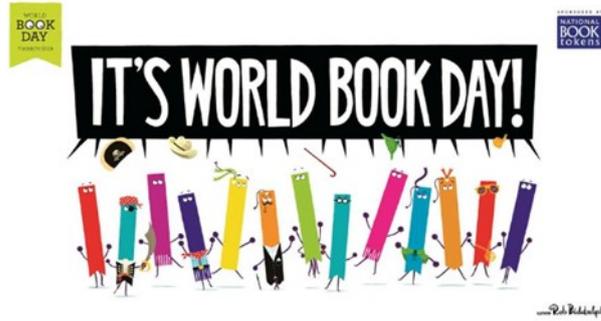
The song is: Any Dream Will Do

You can find a copy to listen to here:
<https://youtu.be/0wAs3sTAFJ4>

You can find the lyrics on our website:

[Whole school music challenge – 'Any Dream Will Do'! | Holy Trinity CE Primary Academy and Nursery \(holotrinitycepa.co.uk\)](http://holotrinitycepa.co.uk)





World Book Day is going to look a little bit different this year, however, we are going to make sure it is just as much fun! We know how much you love books and reading and think it is particularly important for us all to celebrate World Book Day. We are planning lots of exciting and engaging activities based on our favourite books and authors during the week starting 1st March. Our whole school book will be 'The Day the Crayons Quit'.

There will be daily Zoom reading sessions with different adults working at Holy Trinity. Teachers will also be talking about their favourite books and authors and we would like to challenge you to record a short video talking about your favourite book and send it to us.

On Thursday 4th March the children who are in school will take part in an online author roadshow which will be recorded and a link sent out to all of the families working from home so that everyone can enjoy listening to some of their favourite authors.

For our younger children Jonnie Duddle, John Kane and Julia Patton will be attending the Roadshow. For our older readers, Konnie Huq, Chris Wakling and Andy Shepherd will be taking part.



We would like to invite you to join us all in dressing up as your favourite character on World Book Day. There is no need to buy anything special for this, all you need is your imagination! We will be having Zoom sessions during the day so that we can see each other's costumes, I wonder how many different characters we will see?

Finally, you will be sent a digital World Book Day token which can be used to buy an exclusive World Book Day book from your local bookshop between 18th February and 28th March 2021.

Parentpay - LUNCH Debts

Can you please ensure that all of your lunch payments have been made. We have several parents in debt from before Christmas. The school has to pay up front for the service and food ordered in the Kitchen, so any outstanding debts are monies owed to the school. This money could be spent elsewhere for things for the children.

Our Christian Value for this term is: **Forgiveness**

Forgiveness is an important value to us. Forgiving one another, as Jesus taught us by his example, is the message we try to follow at Holy Trinity. Forgiving ourselves and others can be challenging but through our growth mind set and learning behaviours, we learn that mistakes are good and proof that we are trying.



What makes forgiveness a distinctively Christian value? Because God forgives us. Christian forgiveness is based on God's unconditional love for us, and despite the mistakes we make and the selfish attitudes we have, God still forgives us. And God not only forgives us, but makes us new inside when we trust in him, and helps us to live each day by giving us His Holy Spirit as our helper. Further, we can forgive others because God forgives us.

At Holy Trinity we develop our value of forgiveness through: modelling it to one another; looking at Christian stories in worship; discussing how we can forgive when things go wrong; teaching what sincere apologies mean; having a fresh start after a bad day; celebrating when a child forgives and moves on; and being empathetic to one another.

Prayer for Service

Lord Jesus, Help us to be ready to show forgiveness to others,
As you are ready to show forgiveness to us.

Amen

FREE Online Safety App for Parents

Please see the link below for a brand new app from National Online Safety. This is ideal for keeping up to date with the latest guidance for keeping children safe online.

We're excited to launch our FREE mobile app, giving you access to instant information about the latest apps, games, devices & more.



Download for apple: hubs.ly/H0BwQjL0

Download for android: hubs.ly/H0Bx0tp0



10 Top Tips for ... KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE FROM CYBER CRIME

We all want to continue being informed and inspired by the ever-expanding capabilities of the internet. But we also need to be able to safeguard ourselves against the growing amount of online hazards. Knowing what is fact, understanding what dangers exist and taking appropriate steps can go a long way towards protecting yourself and your family. National Online Safety has collaborated with the Yorkshire and Humber Regional Cyber Crime Unit to compile 10 pointers to help you keep your children safe from cyber crime.

1. Spot Phishing Bait

Phishing messages are untargeted mass emails asking for sensitive information (e.g. usernames, passwords, bank details) or encouraging recipients to visit a fake website. It's safest to learn the warning signs of phishing and increase your child's awareness. Too good to be true? Spelling or punctuation errors? Odd sense of urgency? These are all red flags. Don't click on links or follow demands: if you're unsure, contact the official company directly online to enquire further.

3. Encourage Strong Passwords

Weak passwords make it faster and easier for someone to gain access to your online accounts or get control of your device – giving them a route to your personal information. For a strong password, national guidance recommends using three random words (e.g. *battlegaragepylons*). Consider paying for your child to access a password manager. Encourage them to have a separate password for their email account. Ensure the whole family uses two-factor authentication where possible.

5. Back up Your Data

Some cyber attacks can lead to the theft or deletion of important (and possibly sensitive) data or loss of files (like photos and videos) that can't be replaced. Backing up your data to the cloud – or to another device – will help prevent data loss if you ever become the victim of a cyber attack. Where possible, set your child's devices to back up automatically. Also encourage them to back up their data prior to installing any updates.

7. Take Care When Chatting

Criminals may look to manipulate others online and coerce them into using their talents or cyber skills for unethical means. Try to get your child to be open about who they are talking to online. Communication tools such as Discord are popular among gamers – but be cautious of the other people using them, and ensure you know who your child is chatting with.

9. Understand Their Motivations

Those being influenced online to use their skills unethically may display certain key warning signs. Sudden evidence of new-found wealth (unexplained new clothes or devices, for example), secrecy around their online behaviour or boasting of new online friendships are all causes for concern. If in doubt, refer through to your regional cyber crime team.

2. Don't Over-Share

Is your child sharing too much on social media? Do they post things about their private life, upload images of your home, or discuss their friendships and relationships online? Criminals will gather this information and may try to use it for identity theft or other offences such as fraud. To combat this, ensure your child's privacy settings mean they are only sharing information with family and close friends. Use parental controls where appropriate.

4. Stay Updated

People often put off installing updates to apps or software because they don't feel it's necessary, it can be time consuming, or could cause problems with programmes they rely on. But updates help protect users from recently discovered vulnerabilities to malware. You can usually set them to run automatically – encourage your child to select this option. Ensure updates are installed as soon as possible after you're notified they're available.

6. Be Wary of Public WiFi

Free public WiFi is commonplace – but it's often not secure and sends unencrypted data via the network. A hacker on the same network could access personal data (like financial information) without you even realising they'd done so. To avoid this, suggest to your child that they use their 3G or 4G mobile data when they're out and about, rather than free WiFi. Consider purchasing a VPN (Virtual Private Network) where possible.

8. Recognise Warning Signs

Often, budding cyber experts will relish the challenge of testing themselves or earning recognition from peers for their exploits. Even principled 'white-hat' hackers will look to test their skills online. If you think your child is interested in hacking, try to understand what their motivation is. You could encourage their participation in ethical competitions such as bug bounties.

10. Know the Consequences

Many young people may feel that hacking is essentially a light-hearted prank, and not especially serious. So make sure your child is aware of the implications of a conviction under the Computer Misuse Act – not only the possibility of a criminal record, but also lifelong travel restrictions and damage to their future career or educational prospects.

Produced in Partnership with

The Yorkshire & Humber Regional Cyber Crime Unit (YHRCCU) works with the National Crime Agency (NCA) and other partners, in the UK and abroad, to investigate and prevent the most serious cyber crime offences.



Yorkshire & Humber
REGIONAL CYBER CRIME UNIT



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