



Dear Parents,

This term our focus has been developing the reading offer here at Trinity Oaks. The teachers have all been working together to think about how we teach reading and how we can further improve what we are doing to impact outcomes in both reading and writing.

In Key Stage One the focus is on early reading skills and the acquisition of phonics. At the end of Year 1 all children complete a 'Phonics screening check' and their result (met/not met) will be reported in the end of year report. In Year 2 children are then supported to develop their fluency at reading words so that they can understand what they have read – developing a wider vocabulary.

Children are not able to develop comprehension before they have fluency in de-coding words using phonics and reading high frequency words.

In Key Stage Two children then use this fluency to develop their understanding and comprehension further with a focus on: vocabulary, punctuation, inference, explanations of events / themes and summarising key points in order. To do this each class will focus on a particular text and we have really appreciated parental support in the purchase of personal books. Having their own books means children can really engage with what they are reading and mark the text, which then supports fluency and comprehension.

We are teaching comprehension using 'Reading theatre'. These strategies may help you when reading at home.

<https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/reading-house/fluency>



I was pleased to read about the recent research from the 'Queens reading room' which highlights the additional benefits of reading just 5 minutes every day on mental health. We encourage our children to read every day in order to develop fluency, comprehension and confidence and we can now add on the research based message of benefits to mental health.

<https://thequeensreadingroom.co.uk/>

I would like to thank you all for contributing to events over the last few years as we have used FOTO money to buy new phonics books for Key Stage one and Key Stage Two and we are looking at how we can further resource whole-class texts and non-fiction books to support learning theme, using this money.



Wishing you all a very happy Easter.

Mrs Woods

Message from the ambassadors

We are at the end of our term as Ambassadors and Mrs Woods and the teachers are looking at who can represent the school next term. The characteristics of a good ambassador are; being a role model to the younger children, helpful to teachers and children, good manners, smartly dressed, reliable, sensible and someone who can think for themselves.



Being an ambassador has helped me focus on my behaviour at all times so that I am a good role model for all children - Dexter

Being an ambassador has helped me develop my confidence, I can now speak to all parents and groups of children without feeling shy. - Pippa

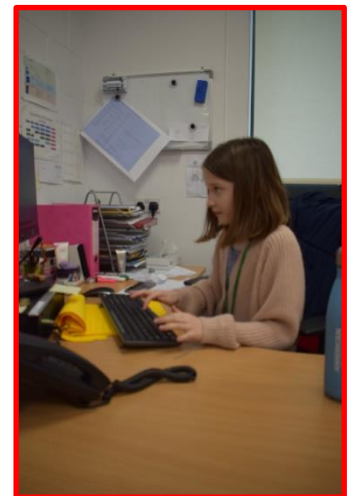
HEAD FOR THE DAY!

This year Hugo in Reception and Ava in Year 5 were Heads for the day on Friday 22nd March.

There was a lot to get done and they both led the school with confidence and fairness.

Here is a list of some of their jobs!

- shopping for the golden table
- setting up the golden table
- emailing parents and staff
 - lunch in their office
- supporting children in lessons
 - gate duty
 - learning walks
- Taking a class on a trip
- supporting teachers



Curriculum in action

Where acorns flourish into might oaks!



Grandparents' visit.

The Reception children invited their Grandparents in to school to talk about changes in living memory. The children really enjoyed sharing their classroom and learning with the adults who came and looked at some photos of the past together. Trying to explain a camera roll was tricky!!!



The children then took the Grandparents to join them in Singing worship with Mrs Ballard – it was such a joyous time and there was a real feeling of love and nurture.



Mothering Sunday day VIP lunch

It was lovely to celebrate Mothering Sunday with so many family members this term.



World Book day

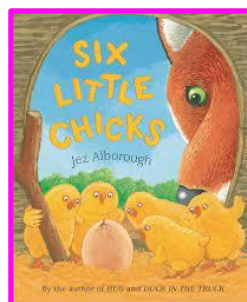
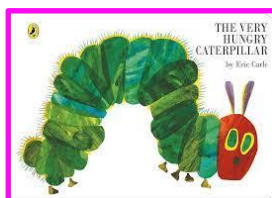
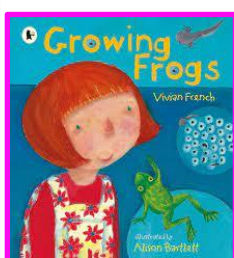
We celebrated World Book day on Thursday 7th March

The children came to school dressed as a book character and spent the day enjoying activities all about books! Book day is a real highlight in our calendar and everyone always makes a huge effort. This year we also gave children the option of coming with clues to their book – for those of us who do not enjoy dressing up!



EYFS – NURSERY ACORNS

This half Term, Acorns have been focusing their learning on 'life-cycles'. They have learnt out about the 'frog', 'caterpillar' and 'chick' life-cycles. The children have shared lots of fiction and non-fiction books; learnt new vocabulary; re-enacted the caterpillar life-cycle during hall-time to some music; learnt the five little speckled frogs song to help with their counting and explored heavy and light using pretend eggs and the weighing scales.



EYFS – RECEPTION APPLE CLASS

Apple Class have really enjoyed every experience this half term from our learning theme of family to World Book Day. The Family Trees they created at home at the start of our learning were amazing and they were all able to share and talk about them in the classroom. They chose to add animal families into their learning and have loved learning the different names of baby animals such as cub, kitten, foal, owlet, lamb, calf and kid. They were amazed by the number of animals whose young are called a calf such as whales, elephants and giraffes and that baby rabbits are called kits or kittens too. One of the final parts of our topic was inviting Grandparents into the classroom and sharing what has changed from their childhood to today such as black and white television, phone boxes and mobile phones and other electronics like computers and tablets.



In our RE sessions they have really enjoyed learning about Easter and the different parts of the Easter story. They have built very creative models from Lego, Duplo and other construction toys to represent the different parts of the Easter



story.

KEY STAGE ONE – YEAR ONE FIG CLASS

This half term the children have loved learning about all things animal! We started off with a fantastic trip to the British Wildlife Centre where the children learnt about many British animals, their habitat and their diet. Back in school, we have been learning how to classify these animals into the five animal groups. We have been learning about what they sound like, what covers their body and whether they are an omnivore, carnivore or herbivore! We have used this information to write our own riddles in English! In RE, we have been learning about the significance of Easter symbols, using this information to make our own Easter Bonnet for the parade! Thank you to all that came, we had a great time.



KEY STAGE ONE – YEAR TWO OLIVE CLASS

Year 2 have been growing sunflowers this term as part of our Learning Theme 'How Does Your Garden Grow?'. We have decorated our own pots using acrylic paints and masking tape to create a stencil design. We filled them with soil and repotted our sunflower seedlings into them (you may have seen our plants growing in the greenhouse on the playground). Our plants have all been taken home now and we hope that they grow big and strong! In English we have written information texts which inform the reader how to take care of a sunflower. This has been informed by our scientific investigation into what conditions seeds need to germinate. Our Art has also been inspired by nature. We have looked at the style of William Morris to create print designs using foam prints and special printing ink. With Mrs Clauson we have explored the work of the sculptor Andy Goldsworthy to create our own sculptures using natural materials on the playground.



KEY STAGE TWO – YEAR 3

WILLOW CLASS

In Willow class, it has been a term filled with growth, learning and memorable experiences. We started the first Spring term with a class trip to Gatwick, where we explored the journey a passenger takes when going on holiday.



In the second part of the Spring term, we immersed ourselves in the enchanting tale of "The Iron Man" and embarked on creating our own sculptures of the main character. We also engaged in diary writing, exploring the themes of the story, and investigated forces in Science, all interconnecting to enhance our understanding.

In the culmination of our term, we explored the beauty of nature through poetry, conducted experiments using food dye to comprehend the transportation of water within flowers, and were delighted to emerge as the fortunate winners of a full day dedicated to science. During this day, we researched even deeper into the intricacies of plant life, expanding our knowledge and curiosity.



It has been a term filled with exploration, creativity and discovery, and we are thrilled to have shared these experiences with the children.



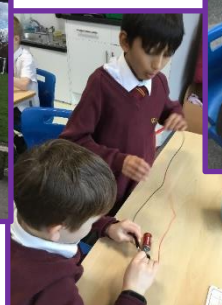
KEY STAGE TWO – YEAR 4

CEDAR CLASS

Cedar class have been busy exploring sound and electricity. Through our theme we've examined how sound travels and how we can change the pitch and volume of sounds. We've then looked at different circuits and created our own circuits. We've really enjoyed being able to explore more practically, making and testing things ourselves.

Through guided reading and English we've been reading 'The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe' which has been great. We've enjoyed examining the different characters and have written our own character profiles of some of the key people in the story.

Finally, some of the class represented the school at the Year 4 football tournament. They all played brilliantly and came away as champions of the 'small school' division.





KEY STAGE TWO – YEAR 5 PALM CLASS

This half term, Year 5's learning theme has been 'Weird Science!' and we have been focusing on changes in materials and their properties. The children have particularly enjoyed getting stuck into a few experiments involving dissolving, solutions and insulation.



They also enjoyed baking some cookies as part of our irreversible changes lesson! The children are flying in Maths as usual, and have really engaged in our fractions, decimals and percentages unit. They should be so proud of their progress this half term. Lastly, we hopped on two minibuses to Redhill Methodist Church to watch a dramatic performance called the 'Easter Experience' which told the story of the last week of events leading up to Jesus' crucifixion. The children sat very well throughout and represented our school beautifully.



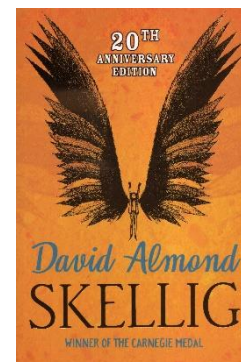
KEY STAGE TWO – YEAR SIX MIGHTY OAKS

As we approach the end of another enriching term, it is a pleasure to reflect on the outstanding accomplishments of our Year 6 students; a study of the Galapagos Islands and Darwin's theory of evolution, writing a balanced argument, poetry writing and SATs practice.

As we look ahead to the next term, let us continue to foster a supportive and nurturing environment where every student can thrive and reach their full potential.

Reading review – Josh

This half-term we have been reading *Skellig* by David Almond. This book is about a boy called Michael and finding a man in his garage who he tries to help. It is a great book for Year 6 with twists a turns throughout the story. Our focus for reading this term has been to work on answering 3 point questions about this text: point, evidence and explain.





DEVELOPING OUR PLAY TIME OFFER

Mrs Griffiths and Mrs Lyon-Lee are asking for your help!

They are wanting to develop the offer at lunchtime play so that children have a variety of engaging and exciting games to keep them entertained and develop their social skills.

In order to do this they are asking for your help!

Over Easter could you have a look through your loft, sheds and garages for:

dressing up clothes

gardening 'stuff'

old wellies

waterproofs

pots and pans

dolls houses with bits

diggers

games and puzzles

large rugs



Places available.
Book a tour today!

Acorns Pre-school



Trinity Oaks
CofE Primary School

A nurturing teacher-led setting that inspires a love of learning.

Monday - Friday | 7.45am - 6.00pm
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www.trinityoaks.surrey.sch.uk



SCAN ME

Acorns Pre-school at Trinity Oaks CofE Primary School
Brookfield Drive, Horley, RH6 9NS

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Please pop these dates into your calendars – these dates will be added to through the term to ensure that you are aware of what is going on and the deadlines that you will need to keep to. In order to reduce the number of studybugs messages you will not receive reminders for all events.

SUMMER TERM

Monday 15th April	Back to school
Friday 19th April	Year 4 - Bikeability
Thursday 25th April	Reception class trip – Gatton Park
Monday 6th May	School closed – Bank Holiday
Tuesday 7th May	Year 4 trip to Bough Beach
Monday 13th - 15th May	Year 6 SATS
Wednesday 15th – Fri 17th May	Year 5 residential – High Ashhurst
Friday 17th May	MUFTI Day – Sweets for school fair
Monday 20th May	Sign up open for Father's day VIP lunch – inclusive to all – from 12pm
Tuesday 21st May	Dorking Halls Primary Music festival – choir
Thursday 23rd May	FOTO - Disco
Friday 24th May	Last day of half term Crazy hair day - £1
	HALF TERM
Monday 3rd June	INSET – school closed for children
Monday 3rd June	Deadline to sign up and pay for VIP lunch £5 – inclusive to all - Father's day celebration – 12pm closed
Tuesday 4th June	Children back to school
Friday 7th June	MUFTI Day – Bottles for school fair
Monday 10th June	Father's Day shop – FOTO - £3 per gift
Wednesday 12th June	Class photos/ whole school photo
Friday 14th June	MUFTI Day –sweets for school fair
Friday 14th June	VIP Lunch – celebration of Fathers' day – inclusive to all Deadline to sign up and pay Monday 3rd June 12 pm

Tuesday 18th June	SPORTS DAY (Morning followed by picnic)
Friday 21st June	MUFTI Day – Bottles for school fair
Friday 21st June	Year 3 late night stay – more details to follow Year 4 – sleep over - more details to follow
Wednesday 26th June – Fri 28th	Year 6 residential – Marchants Hill
Friday 28th June	Cakes for school fair
Saturday 29th June	SUMMER FAIR !!! Please speak to FOTO if you can help
Tuesday 2nd July	Transition day – new teaches and classes announced
Thursday 4th July	District sports KS1 – pm KS1 - am
Tuesday 9th July	Reserve date for Sports day
Monday 15th – Friday 19th July	Year 2 – week of swimming
Friday 19th July	School picnic – 5 – 7pm - FOTO
Tuesday 23rd July	Last day of the academic Year Finish at 1.30pm

[Amazon Wish List](#)

If you are interested in supporting the school with supplies and resources to help teachers deliver lessons then please visit our shared list.

<https://amzn.eu/axxWlw5>



TERM DATES FOR THIS YEAR

Academic year 2023 to 2024

Autumn term 2023

Start of term	Half term	End of term
1 September 2023	23 October to 27 October 2023	15 December 2023

Spring term 2024

Start of term	Half term	End of term
2 January 2024	12 February to 16 February 2024	28 March 2024

Summer term 2024

Start of term	Half term	End of term
15 April 2024	27 May to 31 May 2024	23 July 2024

INSET DAYS for 2023 – 24

Friday 1st September
 Monday 4th September
 Friday 15th December
 Tuesday 2nd January
 Monday 3rd June

TERM DATES FOR NEXT YEAR 2024 - 25

Term	Start date	End Date
Autumn 2024	2 September 2024	20 December 2024
	Half term 28 October – 1 November 2024	
Spring 2025	6 January 2025	4 April 2025
	Half term 17 February - 21 February 2025	
Summer 2025	22 April 2025	22 July 2025
	Half term 26 May – 30 May 2025	

INSET DAYS for 2024 – 25

Monday 2nd Sept
Tuesday 3rd Sept
 Friday 20th December
 Monday 6th January
 Tuesday 22nd April

Leave of Absence

Just to remind parents/carers that if they take their children out of school without authority for 5 or more days within 6 weeks (which do not have to be consecutive), they will be liable to receive a penalty notice.

Currently the amount payable under a penalty notice is £60.00 per parent/carer per child if paid within 21 days. Thereafter the amount increases to £120.00 if paid between 21 and 28 days. If the penalty notice remains unpaid after 28 days, the Local Authority will consider a prosecution in the Magistrates Court.

Please note that penalty notices are issued per parent/carer per child so a family of two parents and two children will receive 4 penalty notices.



Request for transparency

The staff at Trinity Oaks have developed open and trusting relationships with your children and they are excited to tell us about their holiday plans.

If you are leaving term early due to flights please do let us know, rather than calling in sick – as we are often aware of your plans through your children. This then supports our relationships with children and families where trust is vital.

School maintenance fund

Thank you to those who have already contributed to **The School Maintenance Fund**– we currently have **£3,350** left from contributions.

Priority Projects

Over the Easter break we have our IT support team coming in to upgrade our server and laptops. This means that all teachers will be able to plan lessons in a more effective way and have remote access to our folders.

After the Easter holiday the ICT team will also be upgrading all the Wifi ports to ensure that we have better Wifi throughout the school.

After Easter we will also be replacing classroom doors, which lead to the outside, as they are all getting a bit 'sticky'.

Thank you so much for your parental contributions to the School Maintenance Fund – without which we would not be able to make any school improvements.

If you can support us by contributing towards the maintenance fund we would really appreciate it.

RESPECT KIND AND COMPASSIONATE THANKFUL RESILIENT ASPIRATIONAL



Trinity Oaks CofE Primary School, Brookfield Drive, Horley, RH6 9NS 01293 776935