

Our Christian Value this half term is Generosity - "Generosity is the most natural outward expression of an inner attitude of compassion and loving kindness" Dalai Lama

Our return to school for the start of the Spring term was marred by the extremely sad news that "Granny" had died. "Granny" had been a full time volunteer at Holy Trinity CE (A) Primary School for many, many years and touched all of our lives, with her kindness and generosity of her time and the effort she put into supporting our children. "Granny" was fiercely loyal to our school, its children and staff, nothing was ever too much trouble for her, whether it was listening to readers, teaching phonics, preparing resources, or unloading the dishwasher and everything she did she did well. "Granny's" expectations were high and she helped children to aspire to do the very best they could with their learning. She won a West Sussex award for the best volunteer in the county. We would also like to thank "Granny's" family, who asked for donations to our PTA instead of flowers at the funeral. The family were very touched by the children's memory book, which was presented to them. We will be buying a tree and a special bench to remember "Granny" and thank her for her contribution to our school. Father Michael kindly led a Thanksgiving service at Holy Trinity Church for family, friends and colleagues of "Granny." A very gracious, hardworking and lovely lady who will be remembered by us all.



We also had to say farewell to Father Michael in February, just before half term. Father Michael has been priest to Holy Trinity Church & to our school for the last seven years. He was always cheerful, patient and kind and very loved by us all in the Cuckfield community. Father Michael has been a loyal friend to our school, leading assemblies, showing the church features to our children, teaching RE lessons and leading so many school services at church, much enjoyed by parents, staff and governors. Father Michael has leapt to our rescue on many occasions, whether it be playing the piano or organ when our music didn't work, or talking to SIAMS inspectors! We were all overwhelmed when children at our school and their families collected nearly £600 towards a collection for him. We would like to thank you all for your generosity in donating such a huge sum. The children's collection purchased a gift voucher for a meal at Father Michael's favourite restaurant in Brighton, theatre tickets for a show in London, tickets to see a classical, candlelight concert at St Phillips Church in Picadilly, and a book voucher, experiences we hope he will really enjoy. We also held a special assembly in school for all the children, staff and governors to say goodbye to Father Michael. The children showed him their paintings, read poems and memories about him, gave him beautiful cards and many lovely hymns and songs so beautifully. Again a common theme arose with children talking about Father Michael playing the piano for us during school services! The assembly was a very moving experience and I know Father Michael was very touched by the love and warmth our children clearly feel for him. Ms Raciti also presented Father Michael with a most magnificent cake, which she had made, in the shape of a church - much admired by children and staff alike. Staff and governors then had tea with Father Michael after the end of the school day and presented a gift to him - a wheelbarrow of wine! We will be aiming to put the recording of this assembly on Google Classroom next week.



Opera Brava

Just before half term, our Year 5 children were very fortunate to have the experience of working with a professional Opera Company "Opera Brava." They gained so many valuable and enriching experiences through the whole week, making props, acting, singing and culminating in two performances, one to the whole school and one for Year 5 parents, which I know was very much enjoyed by both the children and parents. I would like to thank our fantastic PTA, who funded this experience for our children.



Two weeks ago we celebrated “World Book Day” and it was so lovely to see all of the different costumes in school! We had the “ Masked Teacher” reading poems, which the children enjoyed trying to guess who the adults really were! ‘Drop Everything and Read’ sessions were also in place on that day, as were times for older children to read with younger children.



Elder class



Willow class



Year 5 look very serious!



Maple class



Year 6 Delilah & Mia T as the “Two Ugly Sisters!”



Chestnut class



Lime class



Assembly

SIAMS Inspection -Just as the second half of the spring term started, with signs of Spring arriving, the news came that our long awaited SIAMS inspection was to be held! We were due to have our church inspection the day before the official first lockdown, but it was naturally cancelled and we have been waiting since then. Like Ofsted inspections the framework schools are judged against changes and we were the first school to be inspected in West Sussex with the new schedule. The inspector had a very intense day, holding many meetings with children, parents, governors and staff, as well as looking through children’s books, observing RE lessons and an assembly. Our children were without exception magnificent! We were all so proud of them, their behaviour, attitudes to learning and confidence in singing, answering questions and discussing their school with the inspector.

Locality Sports – Well done to Year 5 & 6 children who completed training to become our “Sports Crew.” They will be organising and arranging games on the playground for younger children at break times during the summer term.

Congratulations to the girls football players and our Year 3 and 4 children who represented us at a recent locality Badminton Festival. Well done to Years 3 and 4 netballers and Years 5 and 6, who also played in a recent locality tournament. Their sportsmanship was excellent



Years 5 & 6 girls football



Years 5 and 6 netball team



Years 3 and 4 netballers



Year 3 and 4 badminton players



Reception



Learning about “The Last Supper” in RE



Rudy & Emily making 9 and feeling very proud!



Felicity hard at work in maths

Dress Down for an Easter Egg – On **Friday 1st April**, we are having a “dress down” day in exchange for an Easter Egg. We will then have an Easter Egg Tombola on the last day of term and aim for every child to go home with an Easter Egg – always very popular with the children! Please could I ask that children bring in at least a medium sized egg, as even our oldest children become disappointed if all of their friends have an egg that size & they only have a small Cadbury’s Crème Egg.

Achievement Leaves on the Tree:

07:01:2022

Apple – Kieran & Oscar W, Beech – Arabella, Chestnut –, Damson –Sienna, Elder –Harvey, Hawthorn –Halle, Juniper – Emmy, Lime –, Maple –Ellen, Oak –Chloe & Tilly, Pine-Sophie, Rowan -Louise, Silver Birch –Aneeqa, Willow – Lucas



21:01:2022

Apple - Hector, Chestnut –Luc, Damson –Harry, Elder –Roman, Hawthorn – Alexander, Juniper –Francesca, Lime –Leo, Maple – Jack B & Darcey, Oak –Ayana, Pine-, Rowan –Annie, Silver Birch –Freddie, Willow – Juliet



04:02:22

Apple –Max, Beech – Katie, Chestnut –Bella, Damson –Teddy, Elder –Finley D, Hawthorn–Logan, Juniper –Caitlin, Lime – Toby, Maple –Jake, Oak –Stanley, Pine- Sienna & Xavier, Rowan –Joshua S, Silver Birch –Arthur, Willow –Emily



Achievement Leaves on the Tree:

04:03:22

Beech – Olivia, Chestnut –Harry, Damson –Skarlet, Elder –Jaxon, Hawthorn–George & Violet, Juniper –Amelia, Lime –Izzy, Maple –Eli & Lyla, Oak –Isabelle, Pine- Charlie, Rowan – Poppy, Willow – Alfie



11:03:22

Apple –Oceane, Beech – Isabelle & Finley, Chestnut –Isaac, Damson –William, Elder –Arielle, Hawthorn–Bethan, Juniper –Jenson, Lime –Sophia, Maple –Lily, Oak - James, Silver Birch –Alice, Willow – Ethan



18:03:22

Apple –Thomas, Beech – Patrick, Chestnut –Scarlett, Damson –Finley, Elder –Tom, Hawthorn–Leo, Juniper –Bertie, Lime – Oakleigh, Maple –Bobby, Oak –Orlena, Pine- Jackson, Rowan – Luke, Silver Birch –Scarlett, Willow –Delilah

