



## WEEKLY FOCUS

Friday 25th October 2019



Dear Parents and Carers

The children in Year 6 have had a lovely time in Swanage and we hope that they have a relaxing and restful half term break.

Reflecting on the half term it seems incredible that we have managed to do so much in such a short space of time! A particular highlight for me has been the fantastic attendance at our family learning events. Our school vision talks about being part of a 'school family' and it is lovely to see parents, children and teachers all working and sharing learning together.

The run up to Christmas is always busy and next half term is full of exciting activities for the children, including the school nativity and our remembrance concert in St Mary's. I do hope that you are able to join us. Our new school value will be 'Hope' and you will receive a values newsletter at the start of next half term.

I hope you all enjoy the half term break. I would like to remind parents that school is still closed on Monday 4th November. I therefore forward to welcoming you back on Tuesday, 5th November.

Kind regards,  
Mrs Wand

### Dates for 4th –8th November 2019

4th November	School holiday
5th November	Staff and children return to school
6th November	Year 5 Rocket Launch
8th November	Bags 2 School collection. Please drop your bags off by 9am.

#### Earrings – safety reminder

Please could I remind parents that children who have pierced ears and who cannot remove their earrings for school should have their earrings covered by a plaster at all times during the school day.

Thank you for your cooperation.

#### Year 5&6 Girls Football team win District 7-a-side tournament

Last Friday our Year 5&6 Girls Football Team took part in the District 7 a-side tournament. Our team made it through a tough group unbeaten. The semi final was a close game against Knaphill but our girls showed great skill and determination and made it through to the final. The final proved to be an incredibly exciting match against Bisley, with both teams playing very well and despite extra time, the match was to be decided on penalties. Horsell won on the 7th and final penalty when our goalkeeper made an excellent save to clinch the win and take the title of District Champions, a fantastic achievement!

Thank you to all the parents who helped with transport and supported the girls with great enthusiasm!



## 20 Years of Open The Book

2019 marks 20 years since Open the Book first started. To mark the occasion, some of our pupils were invited to dress up and join representatives from St. Mary's Church and other Open the Book teams from across the Guildford Diocese to celebrate with a short service and afternoon tea.

Open the Book is a project which offers primary school children an opportunity to hear Bible stories, from a team of Christians from local churches. At Horsell Junior School, a team from St. Mary's Church bring the bible stories to life once a week during assembly, through drama, story telling and discussion.



## Year 5 Family Learning

On Thursday, Year 5 parents had the opportunity to join their children in their classrooms and find out how maths is being taught in this year group. The children are shown mathematical concepts, and are then able to self-select an activity around that learning at the level they feel comfortable working at.

After a talk from the teacher about the methods used to teach, parents joined the pupils in playing factors and multiples games. These are a fun way to extend their learning at home.

## NEW! Chess club

From 6th November, Mrs Cumberbeach will be starting a chess club. Anyone who wishes to join should go to Acer class at 12:30 - 12:50.

## Palm Class Assembly

Last Friday, Palm class parents joined the school for an assembly about how to use our imagination when writing stories. Palm Class really enjoyed preparing and performing their assembly.

## Christmas Tree Festival

St. Mary's Church are still looking for entries to the Horsell Village Christmas Tree festival on 6th and 7th December. Half term is the perfect time to get creative and plan your entry. Entry form should be submitted by Wednesday 13th December 2019.



## Catering Demonstration and Menu Sampling

We had a fantastic turn out for our catering team's demonstration and menu sampling this week.

A selection of sample meals displayed typical portion sizes of our school lunches, which are served alongside freshly baked bread, a salad bar, as well as a choice of pudding of the day, fresh fruit or yoghurt.

Parents and children were able to sample some of the new menu items, including a vegetarian hot pot, vegetarian "squash-age" roll, pizza, chocolate and orange shortbread and our all new powerbars made with cocoa, coconut and dried fruits.

Our caterers explained how the new lunch system will work and answered questions. The new system aims to offer greater flexibility and choice to our pupils. For further information, please refer to the letter from Mrs Wand sent via Parentmail earlier this week.

