



# Horsell School - Junior Informer

## [www.horsell-junior.surrey.sch.uk](http://www.horsell-junior.surrey.sch.uk)

*'Everyone Matters – Everyone Learns'*

### Inset days for the rest of the academic year

18<sup>th</sup> April, 21<sup>st</sup> July

**Please remember that we finish at 2pm Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March**

**EASTER HOLIDAY 3<sup>rd</sup> APRIL - 17<sup>th</sup> APRIL**

**HALF TERM 29<sup>th</sup> MAY - 2<sup>nd</sup> JUNE**

### Dates for Summer Term

- 19<sup>th</sup> April Children Return
- 21<sup>st</sup> April Spruce Class Assembly @ 9.05am (Parents are welcome to attend)
- 25<sup>th</sup> April Year 4 Marwell Zoo
- 28<sup>th</sup> April Elm Class Assembly @ 9.05am (Parents are welcome to attend)
- 1<sup>st</sup> May BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY (SCHOOL CLOSED)
- 8<sup>th</sup> May SATS WEEK FOR YEAR 6
- 17<sup>th</sup> May Communion to be held at St Mary's Church (time to be confirmed)
- 19<sup>th</sup> May PTA Disco
- 19<sup>th</sup> May Palm Class Assembly @ 9.05am (Parents are welcome to attend)
- 24<sup>th</sup> May Year 3 Buckinghamshire Museum
- 26<sup>th</sup> May Oak Class Assembly @ 9.05am (Parents are welcome to attend)
- 26<sup>th</sup> May Finish at 3.10pm for half term
- 5<sup>th</sup> June Children return to school
- 6<sup>th</sup> June Year 6 Stonehenge and return at 5pm
- 9<sup>th</sup> June Willow Class Assembly @ 9.05am (Parents are welcome to attend)
- 10<sup>th</sup> June Horsell Schools Summer Fair
- 26<sup>th</sup> June Year 6 Leavers Service at Guildford Cathedral (packed lunch required)
- 30<sup>th</sup> June Sports Day – Year 3 and 4, 9.30am until 11.30am, Year 5 and 6, 1.30pm until 3.00pm
- 5<sup>th</sup> July Year 6 Induction Day at Woking High School (other schools may vary)
- 6<sup>th</sup> July Exhibition Evening 6.30pm – 8.00pm
- 13<sup>th</sup> July Year 6 Production – evening performance in school hall at 7pm
- 14<sup>th</sup> July Parent helpers 'Thank You' tea 2.00pm – 3.00pm
- 18<sup>th</sup> July Prizegiving Assembly ( parents by invitation only)
- 19<sup>th</sup> July Leavers Fete(am) and Yr 6 Leavers Pizza Party(pm)
- 20<sup>th</sup> July Leavers Service 9.30am in the school hall.
- 20<sup>th</sup> July Finish school for the summer holiday @ 2.00pm

### General Information

- Willow Class Assembly has been delayed. It is now on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> June 2017. The assembly starts promptly at 9.05am. Parents are welcome to attend.
- Communion will be held on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2017, at St Mary's Church. The time is to be confirmed.
- E-Safety – For information on e-safety at Horsell Junior School, please refer to the school website. It is located in Safeguarding, under the 'Parent' tab.
- The last trip of this half term is to Haslemere Museum. Half of Year 5 will be going Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> March and half will go Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> March

### Free School Meals Leaflet

You may be aware, as it has been in the news, of the changes in school budgets and the way money is being allocated to schools. The school would like to make sure that all families that are entitled to claim free school meals, are doing so, even if they do not wish to claim the meals.

The claiming of free school meals entitles the school to extra funding, which would benefit not only your child, but other children within the school.

It is very simple to check whether or not you are entitled to free school meals. All we need is your name, date of birth and National Insurance number, and there is a tick box to indicate which benefit you are receiving. This is all we need to check your eligibility.

This is only shared with our school meals checking service. We do not share this information with anyone else.

If you think you may be entitled please ask the school office for a form and return it to the school office. This could make a huge difference to the school and the children. Thank you

### Westminster news

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> March the school held a short assembly to reassure the children about the events in Westminster, and that this is a very rare occurrence. We talked about the brave things people do to look after us and the way we come together. No details of the event were discussed, apart from an acknowledgment that people had been hurt.

We talked about being a family and told the children that all the adults in the school are here to help and they can talk to them if they wish. We kept it low key because of the range of information children have, some will have been fully exposed to the details at home, others will hear of it from the playground.

We finished with a prayer for all involved in the incident.

### Weekly Welcome

At Horsell Junior, we encourage parents to pop into their child's class to look at their children's books and the wonderful work on display. We invite Year 3 and Year 5 parents in on Thursdays, 3.10pm-3.30pm, and Year 4 and Year 6 on Fridays, 3.10pm-3.30pm. Classrooms are open on these days except for the first week or last week of term.

This is a great opportunity to share your children's learning with them and discuss the work and projects they are covering in class. We look forward to seeing you soon.

**Years 5 & 6 – Joseph and the Amazing Technicoloured Dreamcoat**

On 1<sup>st</sup> February, Years 5 & 6 went to the Rhoda McGraw Theatre in Woking to see the Winston Churchill School production of Joseph and the Amazing Technicoloured Dream coat. Please see below and right for the recounts from two of our pupils.

**Years 5 & 6 – Joseph and the Amazing Technicoloured Dreamcoat**

Written by Madeleine O'Connor

This funny but heart-warming tale from the bible about Joseph the dreamer will have your attention from beginning to end.

Being bullied by his brothers – who were jealous of his lovely coat, Joseph had a lot of attention from his father. His adventures in Egypt, (after being sold by his brothers) from slave to a favoured adviser of the Pharaoh, were sung from beginning to end. This is a must see for the whole family.

In my opinion, it's the most colourful, well-acted, organised musical I have ever seen. With some delightful twists such as Elvis as the Pharaoh, round-the-world music from the brothers such as French, Jamaican and American. With special thanks to the narrator, Joseph, Jacob, Pharaoh, Baker, Butler and the choir and orchestra. My personal favourite was the narrator and I loved the smoke coming out of the bottom of the stage and the laser lightshow going on the whole time. It was magical! The music and singing were beautiful. I highly recommend this musical.

This spellbinding performance had the toughest critics singing along to the original songs such as 'Close every door to me', 'One more angel in heaven' and 'Go, go, go Joseph'. The actors did a beautiful job.

The scenery must have taken ages to build and a lot of money to make. The incredible gymnastics routine at the end was so controlled with no slips or accidents and looked very practised. Overall, there were no mistakes at all and went smoothly. I never wanted it to end!

**Years 5 & 6 – Joseph and the Amazing Technicoloured Dreamcoat**

Written by Jake Terry

Winston Churchill School performed a must-see theatre production at the Rhoda McGraw Theatre in Woking.

The entertaining musical, based on a Bible story, is for all people to enjoy. It starts off with Joseph, Jacob and the eleven brothers. The conducting was extraordinary and made the vocals sound very good. The star of the show was most definitely the Pharaoh dressed as Elvis when he sung about his dream of the seven cows in the field. Also, the narrator stole the show too. She sang her heart out with her beautiful voice. We mustn't forget Joseph; he sung brilliantly and acted very well.

The songs were also brilliant thanks to the choir in the background. It was an unforgettable performance and everyone remembered their lines very well, doing it without any hesitation at all. I would definitely recommend it. Also, it was one of the most enjoyable productions I've ever seen.

The performance got everyone on the edge of their seats and left them talking about it for weeks. The dazzling dances and extraordinary songs are wonderful and everyone's type of style.

The special effects were quite sensational (despite the smoke not smelling that nice). The lighting was timed to perfection. It made the scenes look very atmospheric and entertaining. No one could keep their eyes off the costumes. The one that was admired most was the costume of Elvis. I'm surprised he was so good because he didn't have the guts to do it, (as he's dead!). Also, the skeleton was really funny when he joined in and made the crowd go wild.

This production would be brilliant for people who like musicals and can't help but join in. You don't know, in a month's time, you might still be singing that exact song over and over again.

### Lent

The period of Lent is upon us - from 1st March for six weeks. It ends on Easter Sunday. This time period is traditionally for the believer to prepare themselves for Easter by some form of self-denial, i.e. fasting. As a school, we are looking at ways of trying to be a better person and thinking more of others. Please see the attached leaflet for ideas of family generosity.

The school website shows a 'Family Wallchart' for ideas of acts of generosity'. These are to inspire the children to read and chose some to do with/for family and friends.

In class, the children were asked to reflect on the meaning of Lent and Easter and how they could become a better person. Examples of these included talking to someone you don't normally speak to and give someone a compliment. Responses included:

Lily talked to her brother. The conversation went surprisingly well.

Lily received a compliment about her hair which made her feel happy.

Keira made a kind comment to someone at swimming who is very quiet and whom she had never spoken to before. She has now made a new friend.

### Easter Pause Day – Monday 27<sup>th</sup> March

Easter Pause day was celebrated with our Year 5 and 6 children participating in an event at St Mary's church.

Children have been learning about the events of the first Easter and have connected with them through learning experiences such as the 'Forty Acts of Lent'. This is culminated in the Easter event attended by Years 5 and 6.

### Performing Arts – Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March

There was a diverse range of acts this year in our Performing Arts Evening. Type of acts included comedy, dance and singing. Some stood on the stage and entertained alone and others participated in a group.

The feedback from the children who were in the audience was very positive, with comments on how entertaining and professional the evening was.

Not knowing who was coming next filled the evening with suspense, with every act getting better and better. Thank you to Pearl Cannon and Carla Manning who did a fantastic job as compares.

Please visit the website for more pictures.



## WASP's Netball and Football League Awards Evening

### Written by Mr Coles

On the evening of 23<sup>rd</sup> March, our Year 5 Boys Football team and the Year's 5 and 6 Netball team attended the Woking Area Sports for Primary Schools (WASP's) Awards Evening.

Our Netball Team were the worthy winners of League A with a 100% win record (an amazing 42 goals scored and only 5 conceded!) They have performed superbly this season and have shown exemplary teamwork and skill, in winning the League.

The Year 5 Boys Football Team was the winners of League A. They also were comfortable and worthy winners of their League with a 100% win record (scoring an impressive 16 goals and only conceding one all season!) The boys have been the standout team in the League, showing impressive levels of skill, determination and teamwork.

I would like to thank all the parents who helped with transport to away fixtures. It is greatly appreciated.



## Red Nose Day – Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> March.

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March, the school had a Mufti day with the children being encouraged to wear red. This was to celebrate Red Nose Day, the charity event that aims to tackle poverty and injustice and the school raised an amazing £604.23.

As well as it being a fun event for the children, it also highlighted what occurs in other parts of the world and is a good opportunity for the classes to reflect on the differences of cultures and how we can make a difference via charity events.



## Voice in a Million

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> March saw our choir depart very excitedly for the Wembley arena, for the Voice in a Million event. This event is a fantastic opportunity for school children from all backgrounds throughout the UK to come together and perform in front of their family and the general public. The under-pinning message raises awareness of the plight of children in care and the importance of Adoption and Fostering, activities, especially singing, but also the health benefits and the intrinsic feeling of belonging that a choir can bring to a child in care.



**A note from the Governors**

I do hope you have heard from your children about the new Music Room. We are delighted with the new addition to our classrooms that enable us to provide whole class music lessons in a self-contained space with musical instruments out and ready for use by the children, rather than the previous situation where instruments needed to be moved to individual classrooms. This new facility provides an enhanced opportunity for creativity and enables all children to access music, thus ensuring a more rounded child. The new facility also provides a dedicated space for individual music lessons.

We were extremely fortunate to be able to provide this extra facility due to a generous contribution of £5,500 from the PTA and a further contribution of £ 11,417 from the Governors Fund. We are very grateful to you, our parents, who have baked cakes, manned stalls and attended fundraising events to raise these monies.

We are in the process of arranging the official opening of the Music Room during our Exhibition Evening in the summer term; we do hope you will be able to attend to see first-hand the new facility.

The school is still working on developing our nature area. We were delighted to receive a donation of saplings from The Woodland Trust that we will plant around the pond to help with drainage. Once this area is completed it will be a fantastic addition to our outdoor learning. Watch this space for more news.