



## WEEKLY FOCUS

Friday 9th October 2020



Dear Parents and Carers

I have enjoyed seeing the children engage in some new learning this week. Our Year 4 children have started xylophone lessons with Surrey Arts and we had a violin teacher, Mrs Lawrence, come into school on Friday to show the Year 3 children all about the violin. Mrs Lawrence is an excellent violin teacher and is keen to start teaching our children. We will be sending out more information about how the children can have lessons with her over the coming days.

School Council has now met twice – via Microsoft Teams. We are coming up with new ideas for toys on the playground and how we can stay connected as a school family. Watch this space!

As I am sure many of you are aware, COVID cases are rising across the county. Many schools in this area have had to close down school bubbles, which results in 14 days of isolation for children affected and their families. We have been very fortunate up to now in that we have managed to remain fully open and our attendance has been over 95% for the majority of this past week. There is a danger that as we adjust to the 'new normal' we become complacent, so I would like to remind parents of the following:

1. When collecting your child, please maintain a 2m distance from other parents and leave the site promptly.
2. Once you have collected your child, they must remain by your side if you are collecting other siblings. This is to prevent mixing of school bubbles.
3. Please do not stand outside the school gates but move away as quickly as you can.
4. Wear a facemask on the school site.
5. If you have children at Woking High, please remind them to walk on the opposite side of the road to the school. This helps ease congestion at the gates and reduces the risk of infection between the two schools. Unfortunately, Woking High children cannot come onto site to pick up siblings.
6. Endeavour to drop off your child at the correct time. The timetable for drop off is below. Do not drop off your child before 8 30am as this leads to crowding at the gates. If you require before school childcare, please contact our Breakfast Club provider.

Most of our staff work in their year group bubbles but some staff, like myself, do move around the building. We wear masks, frequently wash our hands, and maintain 2m distancing. From next week, we will be wearing pink lanyards as a visual reminder to the children to maintain their distance from those adults who are not part of a bubble. I would be grateful if you could re-enforce this message at home, as it can be difficult for children to remember!

Thank you for your support. In these difficult times, partnership between families and school is even more important as we work hard to keep our school open and safe.

With very best wishes

Mrs Wand  
Headteacher

### Drop off times:

8:30 : Year 6  
8:35 : Year 3  
8:40 : Year 5  
8:45 : Year 6

### Dates for 12th—16th October 2020

Tuesday 13th October	Year 4 Sayers Croft Residential Informational Video will be posted online.
Thursday 15th October	Individual School Photographs—please ensure children are wearing full winter uniform. For details of our uniform policy, please visit our website <a href="#">here</a> .

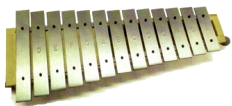


### Composer of the Month:

#### Louis Armstrong

Louis Armstrong was born in 1901 in New Orleans, the "Birthplace of Jazz." Louis had a tricky childhood but at the age of 11, he started to play the cornet (a small brass instrument similar to a trumpet). Louis became a great player and soon started playing in bands all over America. In 1924 he moved to New York and started to play the trumpet. Louis Armstrong became one of the most famous jazz musicians of the 20th century. He was a singer since his childhood, a master of the trumpet, and even a dancer in musicals. One of his most famous performances is 'What a wonderful world'. Click [here](#) to listen.

#### Year 4 Glockenspiel Lessons



This week the Year 4 children had their first Glockenspiel and Xylophone lesson delivered by Surrey Arts.

They talked about different music styles and learnt about the beat and rhythm by clapping patterns and playing their instruments using the 'G' key. The children also got to play their names on the instruments.

We learnt that the metal instruments are Glockenspiels and the wooden version is called a Xylophone.

They all had an enjoyable time and they look forward to their next lesson. In time they will all be playing songs with the instruments.

#### Willow Class Assembly

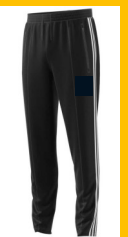
Willow class has recorded an assembly for the whole school to enjoy on Friday. They shared what they had learnt about mountains and how they are formed. They also talked about natural places that inspire them and how to look after our planet. The assembly was shared with the parents of Willow class via the Seesaw app.



#### Wearing PE kits to school

From Monday 12th October, we ask that children come to school wearing their PE kit on the days that they have PE Skills afternoons. Children should have their PE kit in school on all other days as we do have additional PE sessions; these will be sent home with the children the day before PE Skills.

As the weather gets colder, children should bring a **lightweight** waterproof jacket and a spare pair of socks. They may also replace the school tracksuit bottoms (sweatshirt material) with navy trackpants /football style tracksuit bottoms or wear leggings under their school shorts. PE lessons will continue outside in almost all weather.



***Please note children taking PE on Thursday 15th October should arrive in school uniform, ready for school photos, and get changed into their PE kit at school.***

#### Parent governor elections

Three candidates have come forward to stand for the Parent Governor Election. Further details about the candidates and how to vote will be communicated next week.

#### Horsell Junior Tweets



Follow our school Twitter accounts for more frequent updates of what is happening here at Horsell Junior:

<https://twitter.com/HorsellJunior>

<https://twitter.com/HorsellJuniorPE>

#### Thank you for all your harvest donations.

These will be delivered to the York Road Homeless Project next week. It is good for our children to be able to help others, and is one way of showing them how to put our [school values](#) into practice.

#### Macmillan Coffee Morning 2020



Last week, Mrs Dunham and Mrs Page baked delicious cakes and biscuits for the staff to enjoy in their breaks, raising a total of £84.11 for Macmillan Cancer Support.

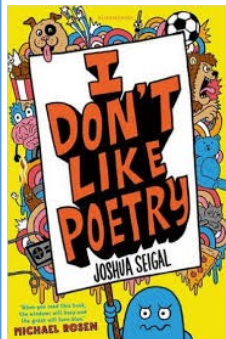
**Please book school lunches for 19th—23rd October via Scopay, by Sunday 11th October 2020.**

**Thank you.**

## Poetry Afternoon with Joshua Seigal

Last Friday, as part of our Reading is Magic Festival, we had a brilliant afternoon joining Ravenscote School for a Zoom call with the poet, Joshua Seigal. He read his energetic poetry and answered live questions from the children. It was a lot of fun and everyone enjoyed it immensely. He spoke to the children about writing poetry, performed some brand new, exclusive poems and performed his poem, 'Addicted to Chicken' which the children loved.

He then wrote us a letter:



*"Hello everyone at Horsell Junior School. I like your school because it has the name 'horse' in it. My name is Joshua Seigal, and I am a poet. One day in the future some of you might even get the chance to meet me.*

*I am really delighted that your teacher decided to make a fool of themselves by performing my poem 'addicted to chicken'. I'd like to say a couple of things about this poem.*

*The first thing is the story behind the poem. One time when I was visiting a school, a boy came up to me and said he didn't like poetry. This happens a lot, and I even decided to call my first book 'I Don't Like Poetry'. Anyway, I told him that I would write him a poem about anything he wanted, and he chose chicken. So there you go - I wrote a poem about chicken, which he loved. I think the lesson from this is that, instead of saying you don't like reading or you don't like writing, it is essential to choose things that you enjoy reading and writing about. I write about things that interest me. If you do the same, your writing is more likely to come alive. It is also important to remember that there are no right or wrong answers. If you like hamsters - write about hamsters. If you like fruit - write about fruit. And if you like deadly, brain guzzling zombies, well then, write about deadly brain guzzling zombies.*

*The second important information about the chicken poem is this... I am actually a vegetarian. So there you go: the poem is fictional.*

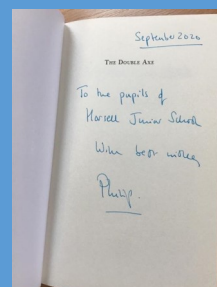
*The third thing about this poem is that I perform it so often when I visit schools, and loads of people watch it on Youtube, and this happens so much that wherever I go, people call me Chicken Man. I really hate this, so if you ever meet me, do NOT call me Chicken Man. Anyway, my name is Joshua Seigal. It would be amazing if some of you wanted to buy my books, because that is what enables me to make a living as a poet. If you don't want to spend the money, however, you can visit my website for lots of free poems - [www.joshuaseigal.co.uk](http://www.joshuaseigal.co.uk)*

You can also watch Joshua Seigal perform one of his poems by visiting the main page of our school website: [www.horsell-junior.surrey.sch.uk](http://www.horsell-junior.surrey.sch.uk)

Keen readers of the Beano may have spotted a familiar face in a recent edition. Fellow Horsell Junior School pupil Elsie was delighted and surprised to see herself turned into a cartoon in the magazine after her mother had entered her Menace name—Eco Elsie—to the Beano.

We would like to say a special thank you the Dart family for winning us a book for our school library - The Double Axe by Phillip Womack.

We can't wait to read it!



Children in Year 6 should apply for Secondary School places by 31st October 2020.

Please visit [surreycc.gov.uk/admissions](http://surreycc.gov.uk/admissions)