



## WEEKLY FOCUS

Friday 26th February 2021



Dear Parents and Carers

*"Oh give thanks to the LORD; call upon his name; make known his deeds among the peoples!"*  
1 Chronicles 16:8

I am sure that you, like me, were delighted to hear that schools will be fully reopening on 8th March. We have really missed having all of the children in school and I simply cannot wait to welcome everyone back soon! I have been incredibly thankful for the amazing dedication shown by all members of our school community – parents, staff, governors, children – at keeping the learning going over these past months. I am sure that many parents will, however, be breathing a huge sigh of relief to think that their child's learning will, once again, be happening back in the classroom.

There has been much talk in the media about 'catch up' and the impact that this period of lockdown will have had on our children's academic progress. Much of this dialogue makes learning sound like a sprint to some pre-determined finishing line. We need to remember that our pupils are still very young. We need to ensure that we pace the learning correctly when they return to school, and give them the chance to re-integrate with their peers, socialise, re-learn classroom routines and feel secure at school once again. Put simply, our children will not learn until they are happy at school and that must be our priority when they return on 8th March. Your child's teacher will therefore be carefully gauging the pace and content of learning when the children first return to the classroom to ensure that all of our pupils are settled.

Further information about school reopening will be sent out next week, so please keep your eye on your emails over the coming days. In the meantime, well done to all of those families continuing with the home learning. Keep it up and we look forward to seeing you soon!

Best wishes,  
Mrs Wand

### Key dates for next week:

**Monday 1st March:** Deadline to book school lunches for week commencing 8th March.

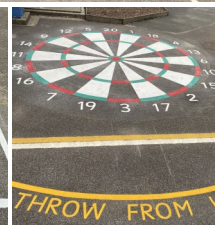
**Thursday 4th March:** World Book Day—dress up and go on a [Book Hunt](#)!

**Friday 5th March:** Snapshot Reports will be sent via email ahead of parent consultations. Consultations will take place week commencing 8th March. Details on how to book the parent consultations will be communicated next week.

### Playground Upgrades

During the half term we were very busy installing exciting additions to our playgrounds, funded by the PTA. Following on from the children's votes in the Autumn term we have had playground markings painting onto the playground. These include twister, hopscotch, a dart board and a dance with me area. We have also had a climbing wall fitted on the lower key stage playground, giving the children the opportunity to try out different sports. Finally, on our upper key stage playground we have a new football table.

We are really excited for all the children to return and use our new resources.



### Stationery in School

We would like to remind you of the school stationery requirements. Unfortunately, due to the restrictions children cannot share their equipment. Not having the correct stationery can reduce the pace and efficiency of the lesson, for example when support needs to be given to glue in activities into the children's books. Therefore, please ensure children have the correct stationery with them in school each day.

Please can we remind you that each child needs to have with them the following, which should remain in school at all times until it has run out and needs to be replaced:

- Glue stick
- HB pencils x2
- Sharpener
- Rubber
- Ruler
- Blue pen x2
- Purple pen for editing and polishing work
- 2 whiteboard markers
- Colour pencils ( ideally in a separate pencil case so this doesn't clutter up



If under the current restrictions you are finding it difficult to supply your child/ren with the stationery please notify us and we can support you with this where we can.

### School lunches!

You can now book your school lunches for the rest of this term via Scopay. Lunches for the first week of term must be booked 8 days in advance as usual. Thank you.

### Laptop Donation—thank you!

We would like to thank one of our parents and their employer, Vifor Pharma, who have generously donated two laptops to Horsell Junior School. Vifor Pharma donated the disused laptops, and the parent kindly donated the funds required to install new hard drives.

These laptops will be fully utilised in school by children who need them.

## JUNIOR BAKE OFF

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SUNDAY 28TH MARCH 2021

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[applyforjuniorbakeoff@loveproductions.co.uk](mailto:applyforjuniorbakeoff@loveproductions.co.uk)



### Horsell Junior Virtual Art Gallery

We have set up a virtual art gallery on our website, where we hope to share lots of our pupils' fabulous artwork. The gallery can be found [here](#).

Below are some of the wonderful creations Mrs Brogden received from Ash class following her lesson inspired by David Hockney's "Garrowby Hill".

The next art lesson will be on Japanese Cherry Blossom, and will be shared on Seesaw on Friday 26th February.

Please do e-mail a picture of the children's artwork along with their name to [s.brogden@horsell-junior.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:s.brogden@horsell-junior.surrey.sch.uk). We kindly ask that pictures are of the artwork only.





## World Book Day Thursday 4th March

Normally, we would be celebrating books and the love of reading together at school however, this year some of you will be doing this at home. Children at school and at home will be spending the day off timetable, completing the same activities. We would still like you to dress up and take part in the day. There is no theme this year, so **please dress up as your favourite book character**, but please don't wear football kits.

There is going to be a range of activities that you can choose from to complete on Seesaw on the day. There are also some live events that you can take part in with real authors and illustrators. We would also like to have one of our weekly class Zooms with the children on this day to celebrate Book Day. Your class teacher will let you know timings. We know it is a Screen Free afternoon on Thursdays but we'd hope you can make an exception just for the day and join us in our **Book Day Zoom**.

There are many free live events to access at home on World Book Day and throughout the week (1st March – 5th March) however you do need to register for these events. You will need to provide an email address and they will send you a link, there is no cost to join these events. Please see these links below:

<https://shop.scholastic.co.uk/scholastic-live-world-book-day>

<https://www.worldbookday.com/events/>

Please look at these links beforehand to access the timetable and register in time.

The activities we are providing include both screen and screen free activities and will be posted on Seesaw for the children to access, this includes the **Horsell Book Hunt**. The map for the hunt can be found [here](#), and the displays will be ready by Thursday. There will be no set lessons and the day will be off timetable. The children can complete as many activities as they like and please let us know on Seesaw what you got up to. These tasks will be set on Seesaw on Thursday while all other class tasks will remain on Seesaw for that week as per usual.

This year, we have digital book tokens for you to use, which can be downloaded [here](#). . Once we are back at school, there will be paper copies of tokens which will go home with the children.

We can't wait to see all the fun you are going to have and we hope you enjoy celebrating the day!

## How many books can you read in March?

In honour of World Book Day, Horsell Junior School is having another reading challenge!

**Starting Monday 1st March 2021**, we would love to see how many books you can read this month. This can be:

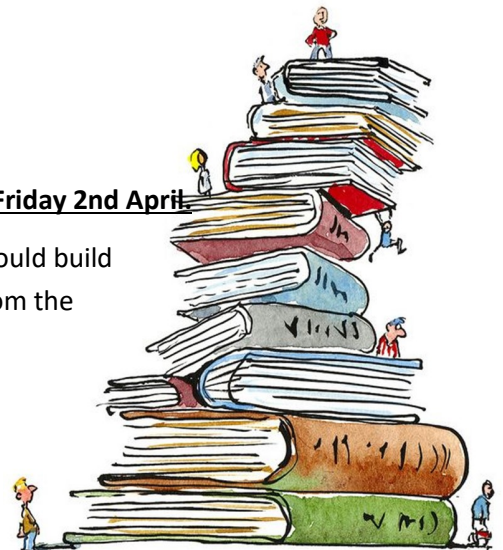
- Library books
- Books from home
- Books from Get Epic
- Online books (e-books, kindles, videos)
- Newspapers
- Articles and other Non-Fiction texts

**The competition will end Wednesday 31st March** with all **entries in by Friday 2nd April**.

To enter you need to send us a photo with you and all your books. You could build a book tower, screen shot front covers and paste them onto a picture from the computer or send us your reading log on Get Epic.

This can be uploaded to Seesaw or emailed to Miss Chadburn:  
k.chadburn@horsell-junior.surrey.sch.uk

*Good luck and happy reading!*



# LEARN TOGETHER WITH YOUR CHILD

Want some  
support with  
parenting but  
don't know where  
to look?



**Surrey Adult Learning  
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better family life.**

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- Develop your creative side with a **Storytelling with craft** workshop
- Learn how to support your child's reading with a **Phonics** workshop
- Build your **communication skills** and understand your child's behaviour
- Improve your **English** to help your child with their homework
- Take a **maths** course based on what your child is learning.

**Family  
Learning** 

email: [family.learning@surreycc.gov.uk](mailto:family.learning@surreycc.gov.uk)

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## LEARNING TOGETHER IS FUN