



WEEKLY FOCUS

Friday 26th March 2021



Dear Parents and Carers,

"Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice", Philippians 4:4

The children have had a busy week at school over the past five days. The Year 3 children have been continuing their topic on plants, the children in Year 4 have been rehearsing for the Easter service, Year 5 has been studying the Mayans and our Year 6 children have been busy with Maths, English, PE, Forest school, Science and much more!

I met with School Council on Wednesday and we discussed lots of different issues around playtimes and how we can make our school even better. As always, I was impressed with their ideas, enthusiasm and respect for one another. Now that the weather is better, we were able to meet outside and I have to say I enjoyed speaking to the children in person, rather than through a screen!

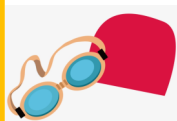
In our Collective Worship this week we have been thinking about the Easter story and what God might be saying to us through the message of Easter. For Christians, Easter is a time of hope, renewal and wonderful possibilities for the future. This message of hope is particularly poignant for all of us this year. The children will be participating in our Easter Pause Day next week and I know that they will be thoughtful when they reflect on this important time in the Christian calendar.

I hope that you all have a wonderful weekend and I look forward to welcoming you back to school for our final week before the holidays.

Best wishes,
Mrs Wand

Dates for 29th March—2nd April 2021

30th March 2021	Easter Pause Day for children in Year 4, 5 and 6
31st March 2021	Easter Pause Day in Year 3
1st April 2021	<p>Year 4 Virtual Easter Service: a link will be sent to Year 4 parents and carers to watch at home.</p> <p>School finishes for the Easter holidays at the following, earlier times:</p> <p>Year 3 and 6: 13:35</p> <p>Year 4 and 5: 13:45</p>
2nd April 2021	Deadline for submitting entries for the Horsell Junior School Reading Challenge



Mr Counsell

Mr Counsell has decided to hang up his goggles and move on to pastures new at the end of this half term. Mr Counsell has been helping Mr Coles teach PE during this period of covid and has been working with all of our school bubbles throughout the year. We will all be very sorry to see him go, and I know that the children have enjoyed his lessons both in and out of the pool!



**DON'T FORGET TO
SPRING FORWARD**

Remember to set your
clocks ahead 1 hour on

28 March 2021

St Mary's Church Easter Story Trail



Follow the trail from the gate on Wilson Way through the Churchyard to see our Easter scenes in St Andrew's Room
28th March - 9th April
Saint Mary the Virgin
Horsell

**St Mary's Church
Easter Family
Zoom Celebrations
7th & 14th April
11 - 11.45am
Join us for**



To join us see link on Church website
<https://www.stmarys-horsell.org.uk/youngpeopleandfamilies.htm>

Saint Mary the Virgin
Horsell



Thank you to everyone who took part in and donated to Red Nose Day, raising a total of £214.60.

Library Books

We are very keen for all of our children to read and we are fortunate to have a library in school. We are very grateful to those who have purchased books through the Amazon scheme and these books are being enjoyed by the children already.

Due to the current restrictions, we are not able to allow all the children into the main school library to choose their own books, but the staff have been allocating books to children and will continue to do so.

Some children will have recently brought library books home and that is great. However, according to the system, some children have books that were taken out quite some time ago. **Please can we ask you to check at home if there are any overdue library books and return them to your class teacher or the office letterbox.** They will have the school's name stamped inside them and a barcode inside the front cover. This also applies to older siblings or friends who have left the school. This will be greatly appreciated so that other children can borrow these books again.

Thank you!



Sports Clubs

The early morning sports clubs for children will continue for the first week back after Easter. Following on from this, we are hoping to start after school sports clubs on the field and we will send out further information when we return to school.

Many parents and children have been asking why we haven't been using the field in PE lessons. Unfortunately, we have been having significant problems with it. The field is still waterlogged and has been out of use for much of the year. We are investigating different drainage options to improve the situation and will keep you updated.

HORSELL SCHOOL'S PTA SUNFLOWER CHALLENGE

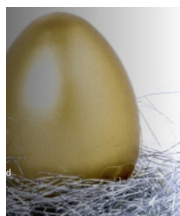
Order your seeds by paying £1 per pack (5 seeds) to the Horsell Schools PTA Paypal account and put **SUNFLOWERS**, your name and class in the comments. **Please select "Friends and Family" payment.**

<http://www.paypal.com/paypalme/horsellpta>

Seeds will be distributed in school next week.



Turn your online shopping into FREE donations for our school. Click [here](#) to find out more.



Easter Maths Quest

St George's College, Weybridge would like to invite Year 5 and Year 6 children at all schools to take part in the latest instalment of the mathematical challenge: the SGC Maths Quest.

Each Half Term, St George's College provides a Maths problem for children from Years 5 and 6 to solve. The Easter 2021 edition, The Easter Bunny and the Golden Egg, is now available [here](#).

Entries should be emailed to Dr Langlands (tlanglands@stgeorgesweybridge.com).

The deadline for entries is Monday 12 April 2021. Pupils should to include their name and school name on their answers.

Winners will be announced on the Maths Quest page after the submission deadline.

Holiday Workshops



Stagecoach Woking has 2 great workshops planned this Easter and Summer. They will run from the 12th April - 16th April and 26th July to the 30th July.

We have a workshop designed for children aged between 4-6 years and another workshop for older students aged between 6-18 years. To register, please go to www.stagecoach.co.uk/woking or email woking@stagecoach.co.uk or call 07957 825641. No Stagecoach experience necessary.

WIN A FREE WORKSHOP PLACE

Stagecoach have a great competition running for a child to win a FREE place in our workshop!

The question: What is the name of the artist who played Cinderella at Woking Theatre, has taught at Stagecoach Woking and now has a leading role in the West End musical, Six?

Job Opportunity

Want to work locally?

Like to be outdoors?

Interested in enthusing groups of young learners?

The Cycle Training Team at Surrey County Council are recruiting for Bikeability Cycling Instructors. For further information please visit <https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/jobs/search/details?id=12911>



HELP PROTECT GROUND NESTING BIRDS

Horsell Common is a Site of Special Scientific Interest and also a Special Protected Area. It is a great place to walk and has been a lifeline to us during Lockdowns. The fact that Horsell Common borders and serves an urban region and has had such an increased footfall has put some of the sensitive areas at risk. The most sensitive areas are where there is heather, either long established, brown and dismal at present but gorgeous in summer or regenerated and still very short in the areas called "Grasslands" and opposite The Sands. It lies between Littlewick Road, Carthouse Lane and Horsell Common Road. This open, bright area with young heather is the perfect habitat for several insects, birds and reptiles which need "specialist" habitats have returned. **The Woodlark** has returned after a long absence. It is a rare ground nesting bird and is now on the short heather of Grasslands. As well as families that walk all across the heather, horses which go through their trotting paces and dogs, the paths have become very wide with all the recent usage. **We can all help by simply staying on the paths.** In this way, people, dogs and horses would not frighten the birds away or damage the nests and eggs and nestlings. The same applies to the **Nightjar and the Dartford warbler**, which tend to be in the areas where the heather is big and bushy, but equally at risk.



Horsell Lodge Easter Egg Competition



[Horsell Lodge Care Home](#) is delighted to be running a Painted Easter Egg competition for children in the local community. It's time to get your creative hats on to design the most imaginative and colourful eggs to decorate the tables and/or branches for our wonderful residents!

Closing date for entries: 28th March 2021 at 17.00

Prize: One hamper for the winner of each of the under 7 and over 7 categories.

Please click [here](#) for full details of how to enter.

Reading Challenge

Please remember to submit your entries by **Friday 2nd April**.

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



Is your child playing Fortnite? It appears to remain popular, so we thought we'd provide an update for you. **It is rated PEGI 12 for frequent mild violence which means it is not suitable for persons under 12 years of age.**

It is important to remember that when rating games, PEGI do not take into consideration the communication features of a game. Fortnite does include a chat facility, which adds further risks.

What is Fortnite?

There are different versions of Fortnite, including a free-to-play Battle Royale game (although money can be spent within the game) where up to 100 players compete against each other.

What do I need to be aware of?

Chatting to strangers and inappropriate language:

Fortnite contains voice and text chat. Due to the nature of the game, your child may be chatting to strangers and may hear inappropriate language. Ensure your child knows how to report players for any inappropriate behaviour. More info here: <https://www.epicgames.com/help/en-US/fortnite-c75/battle-royale-c93/how-do-i-report-bad-player-behavior-in-fortnite-a3276>.

In app purchases:

All users can purchase V-Bucks directly through the game. This currency can be used to purchase items in the Fortnite store so make sure you don't store your payment details within the game/device and restrict purchases. More information about what in-game purchases are can be found here:

<https://pegi.info/page/game-purchases>

Addictive nature:

Games such as Fortnite can be addictive. It is important that children play games in moderation and that they continue to exercise and have other interests as well.



Parental Controls

Fortnite includes several parental controls to help you make it a safer environment for your child including disabling voice chat, filtering language and setting privacy settings. Find out more about parental controls here: <https://www.epicgames.com/fortnite/en-US/parental-controls>. **Also, remember to set up age appropriate parental controls on the device your child is playing on as well.**

We always recommend playing the game with your child so you can see what they are playing and monitor the sort of chat that they are listening to/contributing to. Remind your child that they should talk to you or another trusted adult if they have any concerns.

Further information

<https://www.commonsensemedia.org/blog/parents-ultimate-guide-to-fortnite>