



WEEKLY FOCUS

Friday 10th September 2021



Dear Parents

'For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others'
Romans 12 4-5

It has been lovely to welcome all of our children back to school and re-start life at Horsell Junior as one big family. We have been sharing Collective Worship time together and children in years 3 and 4 have been learning about how to get around the building! Our Year 3 children are settling in to the new routines really well and I have been really impressed with their excellent manners and positive attitudes to learning.

At our inset day last week, we reflected on the biblical quote above and considered how, as we emerge into a 'new normal', we can work together as equally important parts of 'one body' to help and support our children and one another. Our parents are a crucial part of our school community and we look forward to working with you all over the coming year. We have published our School Development Plan on the school website so please do take a look at our priorities for the forthcoming 12 months.

Kind regards,
Mrs Wand
Headteacher

Dates for 13th—17th September 2021

14th September	Photos will be taken of the school and may include children with photo permissions.
15th September	OPAL play collection at drop off: please drop off any "loose parts" to the main gates. Year 6: 5 a side football tournament, Salesian College, 10:30am—3pm.
16th September	OPAL play collection at drop off
17th September	OPAL play collection at drop off

School Clubs

Our school clubs start next week. Parents should wait at the school gates and the children will be brought to the front of the school for collection.

Please note that Tag Ruby and Year 5 and 6 football clubs are now fully booked.

Cookery and Forest School Skills Volunteers

In order to run our skills sessions, we are in need of volunteers to assist in forest school and cookery from 1pm-3pm on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. No previous experience or a DBS is required as you will be with the teacher at all times. If you are able to help, please e-mail office@horsell-junior.surrey.sch.uk and let us know when you are able to help.

Parents who may be interested in assisting on school trips, and other events are encouraged to apply for DBS. Details of how to apply can be found on our [website](#).

Applications for secondary school places, for children starting September 2022, are now open. The closing date for children in year 6 to apply for a place is 31st October 2021. For further information about applying for a place, please click [here](#).

Office e-mails

Any emails for the office should be sent to office@horsell-junior.surrey.sch.uk. Please note that horsellceofejun@scopay.com is a no-reply address, and emails sent here are not received.

Who do I contact?

If you have a question about the school, always check the website or the most recent newsletter. Most information can be found there. Information about specific year groups is also in the Year group section of the website.

If you have a specific question about your child, you should email the class teacher – remembering, of course, that they are teaching between 8 30am and 3 10pm! We aim to respond to emails with 2 working days. If you are still concerned, you should contact the Head of Year, followed by the Deputy Head (for academic concerns) or Ms Ash (for pastoral concerns).

Home learning and COVID

Please note, class learning is only sent home to children who are off school due to COVID. Work is not sent home for children who are absent with any other illness. This work is set via Seesaw. The children in Year 3 are currently learning how to use this system in their computing lessons at school, so there may be a slight delay in setting work via Seesaw for the first few weeks of term.

Merits and House Points

We have reviewed how we reward our children at Horsell Junior. House points are given out for excellent behaviour and attitudes, and demonstrating the Horsell ethos. Merits are given to children for the work that they do in the classroom. We will no longer be awarding 'bronze', 'silver' and 'gold' merits. Instead, we will celebrate the merits every week in assembly and we will celebrate the house with the most house points every half term. We are proud of our children and we believe this is a positive way of recognising the excellent work that they do.

Earrings—safety reminder

Please could we remind parents that children who have pierced ears should remove their earrings before school where possible. Children who cannot remove their earrings for school should have their earrings covered by a plaster before arriving at school, to be worn at all times during the school day.

Thank you for your co-operation.

Walking Home Alone Pass

Year 5 have now completed their road safety session at school and can be issued with walking home passes. Should you wish to apply for a walking home alone pass, the form can be found on our [website](#).



OPAL PROJECT

Parents were sent a letter yesterday asking for loose parts. Collection mornings are from Wednesday – Friday next week. As a reminder, we are looking

for 'loose parts', which include items such as:

- Suitcases of any size and type
- Anything on wheels/castors
- Plastic milk crates
- Briefcases, especially hard cased ones
- Road signs and cones
- kitchen pots, pans, baking trays, worktables, wooden spoons, chopping boards
- Tools like spades, trowels and brooms
- tubes of various sizes and various materials
- Buckets
- Nets and ropes
- Keyboards
- Fabric (large sheets/brightly coloured fabric)
- Foam sheets / body boards
- Cable drums
- Guttering
- Noodles (the type you use in the swimming pool!)
- Pegs (to help to set up dens)

Special Dietary Needs

If your child has an allergy or food intolerance, please ensure you complete and return our Special Diet Request form which can be found on our website [here](#).

Please notify us of any dietary requirements and changes even if your child has packed lunches, as we will use this information also for food-related activities in school, including cookery and forest school.

Medicines in School

Should your child require medicine in school, please complete our child medication form [here](#). Medicines should be in its original packaging, clearly labelled with the child's name. Please label both the packaging and the contents.

Forest School

Children taking part in Forest School can bring in food to be roasted over the camp fire if they wish to.

Although marshmallows are very popular, we encourage healthier options including bananas and apples. It can be anything that can be skewered onto a stick. Please be reminded that we are a nut free school.



School Library

We are delighted that the school library is open again and we are thrilled to see the children coming in and choosing books to take home to read. Do please enjoy reading with your child and discussing their book with them. If they haven't got one yet, do please bear with us!

Children in years 3, 4 and 5 will be encouraged to read different genres for their Reading Passports and more details of this are available on the web-site.

All children are encouraged to read from their year group's Recommended Reading List. These lists provide children with a broad range of authors and include different social and cultural backgrounds.

We do not have all of the books available yet. If you were able to support us, we would really appreciate it if you could buy one of these books from our Amazon Wish list. More details are on the school web-site.

Many thanks in advance for your support.

Happy reading!



Our school hall has had a facelift over the summer holidays, with some new décor reflecting our school values. We are looking forward to welcoming parents back in school soon so you can see them in person.



Family Fun Run - Saturday 25th September

Please join us for the family fun run -we have a 1k, 2k or 5k route. Families would run together. Please sign up on www.pta-events.co.uk/horsell its £10 per family and all children get a medal!

Volunteer

Please join the PTA. You can help as little or as much as you want, be part of the committee, or run a particular event or project. Do get in touch: horsellschoolspta@gmail.com.

Follow us on Facebook

Horsell School PTA @horsellPTA

We also have a page called "Uniform Sales for Horsell Village School and Horsell CofE Junior School" which can be helpful between our Good As New sales.

Dates for your diaries:

25th Sept - Family Fun Fun

25th Oct - Family Fireworks

4th Dec - Christmas Fair

Year 4 Hooke Court Residential Trip

The Parent/Carer information meeting for this trip will be held on Wednesday 22nd September at 6pm. This meeting will be on Zoom and joining details will be sent out nearer the time. The meeting will cover details about the trip, including costs.

Parent Governor Vacancy

Are you interested in becoming a parent governor? We currently have a vacancy. If you think that you could contribute to the life of our school in this way, please contact Mrs Wand for an informal discussion.

School lunches should be booked one week ahead.

Please book lunches for 20th -24th September by Sunday 12th September