



WEEKLY FOCUS

Friday 17th September 2021



Dear Parents:

**'Judge nothing, you will be happy. Forgive everything, you will be happier.
Love everything, you will be happiest'** Gautama Buddha

The children have enjoyed a busy week at Horsell Junior. I have popped into lessons this week and have been impressed with how well the children are learning their new routines. As you know, we mixed up the classes at the end of last year and the children are learning with their new friends very well, alongside playing across the year group at break and lunchtimes.

The year 3 children enjoyed meeting their buddies for a buddy playtime on Wednesday. I can't believe that it is nearly two years since we were able to do this, and it was lovely to see the Year 6 children taking on their mentoring role with the younger children. Our Year 6 children have also been setting an excellent example to the rest of the school with their behaviour and contributions in Collective Worship. I am sure that they will make excellent captains and prefects this year.

I have also been welcoming children back into my office and was delighted to award three Headteacher awards for excellent writing in Elm Class. I can see we have some budding authors in school!

Best wishes,
Mrs Wand

Dates for 18h—24th September 2021

18th—19th September	St Mary's Church, Horsell, Heritage Weekend
Wednesday 22nd September	Year 4: zoom meeting for parents and carers re. Hooke Court residential trip Click here to Join Zoom Meeting Meeting ID: 994 6867 2136 , Passcode: h4NP1f
Thursday 23rd September	Year 6: zoom meeting for parents and carers re. Swanage Residential Meeting Click here to Join Zoom Meeting Meeting ID: 799 9851 4360, Passcode: zk2HzZ

PTA Fun Run—Postponed

Thank you to everyone who signed up to next weekend's fun run. We are unable to go ahead as we don't have enough volunteers to run it, however we will try to rearrange for later this academic year so watch this space.

The PTA need more volunteers to help our fundraising. If you would like to join the committee or can help at events, please e-mail horsellschoolspta@gmail.com. Thank you!

ADDITIONAL HOLIDAY—22ND OCTOBER 2021

An additional school holiday has been scheduled by the council on Friday 22nd October 2021. This is in lieu of the additional Platinum Jubilee Bank Holiday which takes place on 3rd June 2022, which falls in the summer half term break.

ARRIVING AT SCHOOL

Please note that our gates close promptly at 8:40am. After this time registration is via the office. This earlier time was agreed by our governors following a formal consultation with parents in 2020.

REMOTE LEARNING OFFER

Now that school is operating 'normally' we have reviewed our remote learning offer for pupils who are absent from school because they have COVID. Please take the time to read the following information:

1. Teachers will provide remote learning, via Seesaw, for any child who is absent from school because they have contracted COVID.
2. If a child is unwell with COVID symptoms they are not expected to complete remote learning.
3. Maths, Reading and Writing classwork will be loaded onto SEESAW for the first FULL day of absence due to COVID. If a parent informs the school at the start of the school day the work will be posted on to SEESAW by 5 00pm at the latest.
4. One foundation subject will be posted per full day of absence. This may be school work or learning produced by an online provider, such as the Oak Academy.
5. Children's written work should be completed on lined paper, photographed and uploaded onto SEESAW.
6. Knowledge organisers for each subject are posted on each Year Group area of the website to enable parents to further support their child's learning.
7. **Every day**, teachers will check these children's online submissions to SEESAW and leave a comment for Maths, English and reading work.
8. All teachers have a list of those children who do not have computer access. Parents of these children should be contacted so that a Chromebook can be organised. Alternatively, the teacher will collate work for posting, first class, the following day.
9. A member of the Office Team will contact, via email, the parents of all children absent from school on the first day of absence. The teacher will contact on the second day and twice weekly thereafter. Children not completing home learning will be referred to the Deputy Head or Assistant Head for a follow up call.

This procedure will not be followed for normal childhood illnesses, such as coughs and colds.

Teachers will not provide work for children awaiting test results as these are usually returned within 24 hours. Children absent from school for more than 24 hours whilst waiting for results should inform the school office.

Coats



The weather is now very changeable and we like to send our children out to play in all weathers.

Please ensure that your child brings a named coat to school every day. If possible, they should also have a cagoule (lightweight waterproof coat) in their PE bag so that they can participate in outdoor sports come rain or shine.

Applications for secondary school places are now open to year 6 students.

The closing date is 31st October 2021.

For further information about applying for a place, please click [here](#).



Thank you to all of our parents who donated items to the OPAL play project. We are still in desperate need of more loose parts. Donations of small world toys – cars/small figures/soft toys, would also be welcome.

CLASS ASSEMBLIES THIS TERM

We are looking forward welcoming parents into the school to watch our class assemblies again, as well as our nativity service at St Mary's Church.

8th October	Willow Class
15th October	Spruce Class
12th November	Palm Class
26th November	Cherry Class
10th December	Beech class
15th December	Year 3 Nativity Service

**PLEASE BOOK SCHOOL LUNCHES FOR 27TH SEPTEMBER—1ST OCTOBER
BY SUNDAY 19TH SEPTEMBER. THANK YOU.**

READING WISHLIST

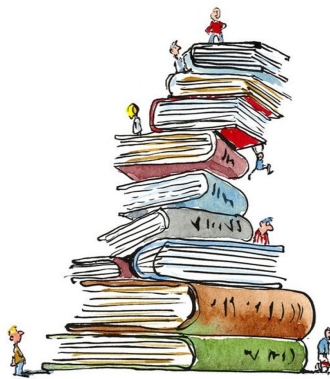
Thank you so much to you everyone who purchased books from our Amazon Wish list! It has been wonderful having so many new books arrive and watching the children enjoy reading them.

This year, we have a new wish list for books that supports an independent book shop. The shop is called 'A New Chapter' and it has a wide range of book categories including a great range of diverse and inclusive children's books. They stock books that cover an array of relevant topics including autism, ADHD, emotions and disabilities. You can also enjoy stories that feature a number of strong female protagonists.

To access this please:

- Visit <https://www.anewchapterbooks.com/>
- Select 'Wishlist' at the top.
- Select 'view store' and on the left hand side, find and select Horsell Junior School.

We hope you will join us in supporting an independent shop while continuing to develop the children's love of reading!

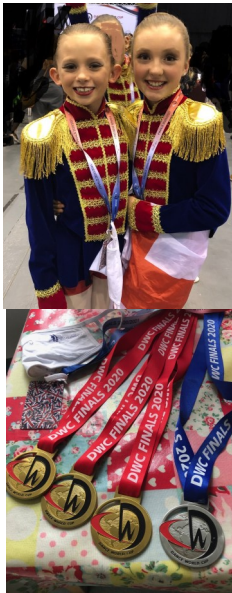


Congratulations!

We are delighted to share the success of Poppy and Phoebe, both in year 6, who were selected to compete for team England at the Dance World Cup after weeks of training throughout June and July.

They won 3 gold medals for their lyrical, ballet & modern groups.

This is a fantastic achievement, well done!



FORGOTTEN BELONGINGS

Now everyone has settled into the new year, please note that we will **only** call home for lunches and medication left at home. We will not call home for PE kits, skills kits, musical instruments and so on.

DELIVERING BELONGINGS AFTER DROP OFF

We encourage our children to take responsibility for organising their belongings and bringing these to school. We appreciate your assistance in reminding them to check they have what they need on arrival. Delivering items dropped in after school starts can be very time consuming, and we thank you for helping us develop independence in our children.

SCHOOL WEBSITE

Our school website is full of useful information including

- Calendar of events and key dates
- Our learning and curriculum
- Skills and clubs information
- News updates
- Policies and forms
- Teacher e-mails
- And much more...

We recommend visiting our website to find information you may require. The search function can be helpful in navigating quickly to the right section.

COOKERY SKILLS

We have enjoyed resuming our cookery skills lessons as part of our skills curriculum. This week, the children have been working on their knife skills. They have learnt the claw grip and bridge grip, and practiced these while making a selection of savoury (year 4-6) and fruit (year 3) salads.

Are you able to help?

We are still short of volunteers for both cookery and forest school, especially on Mondays and Tuesdays. If you are able to help, please contact the school office.

Applying for a DBS

We would also encourage you to [apply for a DBS](#) for future volunteering opportunities as these all expired while we were unable to invite parents in to volunteer during the pandemic.



St Mary's Church Heritage Weekend & Flower Festival 18 - 19th September

Go up the Tower

(8 Years old
and over)
Booking
required



Church Stones Talk

10am
Saturday

Craft & Trails for children

**Refreshments
available**

**Organ
Recital**
2.30pm

Book your Tower visit at:

stmaryshorsell@btinternet.com

Church Open:

Saturday 18th 10am - 5pm

Sunday 19th 12 noon - 5pm

Saint Mary the Virgin
— Horsell —

Music—10 Pieces

This year rather than have a composer of the month, we are going to use the BBC Ten Pieces project. This is a project for schools that focuses on different compositions by a variety of composers. It aims to open up the world of classical music to 7-14 year olds.

We will start with Brahms Hungarian Dance.

Find out more by visiting BBC Ten Pieces and explore their films, instrumental arrangements and live events!

