



Horsell School - Junior Informer

www.horsell-junior.surrey.sch.uk

'Everyone Matters – Everyone Learns'

Mrs Steele's Christmas message

Christmas is upon us and another calendar year draws to an end; the children and staff of Horsell have packed so much in to such a short period of time. There have been residential visits and day trips, all enjoyed by the children who found them exciting and fun with the added bonus of lots of learning opportunities. There have been a number of competitions and matches, many of which we are proud to say we have won. You can read about some of the trips and sporting events in this newsletter. At the time of writing, we still have the nativity led by Year 3 to look forward to which I am sure will be brilliant. We have been busy raising funds for lots of different projects including the York Road Project, schools abroad, Macmillan, the Salvation Army, Poppy Appeal, Children in Need, the local hospice and food bank. These donations make a huge difference to the work of these charities so on behalf of these causes, thank you. We have also raised funds for art equipment through the canvas bag project; the new art equipment will be in use in the classrooms in the New Year.

We look forward to a new term with further exciting events to make learning enjoyable for the children; including the Year 4 residential trip to Sayers Croft, more day trips and visitors for all year groups, more competitions, matches and musical events. It only leaves me, on behalf of all the staff at Horsell Junior, to wish you a very happy Christmas and a wonderful new year.

Inset Days

19th February 2018, 29th June 2018, 23rd July 2018

Dates for Spring Term (First Half):

- | 12th Feb – 16th Feb 2018 | Half-Term |
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| • 4 th January 2018 | Children return to school |
| • 11 th January 2018 | Year 5, Chertsey Museum visiting school |
| • 12 th January 2018 | Pine Class Assembly at 8.55am (Parents are welcome to attend) |
| • 16 th January 2018 | Year 5, Swanage Introduction meeting |
| • 26 th January 2018 | Beech Class Assembly at 8.55am (Parents are welcome to attend) |
| • 31 st Jan – 2 nd February 2018 | Year 4, Sayers Croft |
| • 1 st February 2018 | Year 5, Rocket Making |

Dates for Spring Term (Second Half):

- | 30th March – 16th April 2018 | Easter holidays |
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| • 26 th February 2018 | Years 3 & 4 Parent Consultations, 3.30pm – 6.30pm |
| • 27 th February 2018 | Years 5 & 6 Parent Consultations, 3.30pm – 6.30pm |
| • 2 nd March 2018 | Acer Class Assembly at 8.55am (Parents are welcome to attend) |
| • 7 th March 2018 | Years 5 & 6 Parent Consultations, 6.00pm – 8.00pm |
| • 8 th March 2018 | Years 3 & 4 Parent Consultations, 6.00pm – 8.00pm |
| • 9 th March 2018 | Class Photos |
| • 12 th – 14 th March 2018 | Year 5, Bikeability |
| • 16 th March 2018 | Rowan Class Assembly at 8.55am (Parents are welcome to attend) |
| • 23 rd March 2018 | Red Nose Day |
| • 27 th March 2018 | Year 6 SAT's Parent Meeting |
| • 28 th March 2018 | Easter Pause Day |
| • 29 th March 2018 | Easter Service. School finishes at 2pm |

General Information

Pupils walking home alone

- If you wish your child in Years 5 or 6 to walk home without an adult, you will need to give written permission. A form can be obtained from the school office. When this is completed, your child will be issued with a 'walking home' pass which they have to produce when leaving at the end of the day. Please make an appointment to speak to the Head of Year regarding permission for younger children.

Leave of absence

- Please note that any unauthorised absence of five days (not necessarily consecutive days) or more may incur a statutory penalty notice of £60 from the Local Authority. For exceptional circumstances, please ask at the school office for a Leave of Absence form or visit the school website.

Cookery

- If you have any empty biscuit or sweet tubs left over from Christmas, could you please bring them into school after the Christmas holiday. Mrs Spiller is running very short and would appreciate any contributions.

Weekly Welcome

At Horsell Junior, we encourage parents to pop into their child's class and look at their books and the wonderful work on display. We invite Year 3 and Year 5 parents in on Thursdays, 3.10pm-3.30pm, and Year 4 and Year 6 on Fridays, 3.10pm-3.30pm. Classrooms are open on these days except for the first week and last week of each term. This is a great opportunity to share your child's learning with them and discuss the work and projects they are covering in class. We look forward to seeing you soon.

Going Cashless!

As a school, we are going cashless from 4th January 2018. This means that we will no longer accept cash or cheque for school dinners, trips or any activities. Payments will have to be made on WisePay. If you have either lost your log-in details or have never used WisePay, please contact the school office and we will be happy to provide a new password or show you how to use the system. This will make your life much easier and all payments can be done from the comfort of home.

If you have your log-in details and would like to start using Wise-Pay, please visit our website on www.horsell-junior.surrey.sch.uk. If you follow the 'Parent' tab, then 'Online Payment' this provides you with the link straight to WisePay. We would advise you to familiarise yourself in December before payments are due in January 2018.

Thank you!

A big thank you goes to Wyevale Garden Centre for contributing the marvellous Christmas tree in the school hall. This has been decorated by several children and looks very festive.

We would also like to thank all parents, family and friends who voted for Horsell Junior School in the Marks and Spencer Energy Fund. We received an amazing amount of support for a small school and came close to winning the grant. We feel privileged to acknowledge the level of support in our community.

Alert!

Please note that the Norovirus is present this winter. It is the most common stomach bug in the UK, is highly contagious and is transmitted through the air. Symptoms include nausea, vomiting and diarrhoea.

There is also an outbreak of measles in Surrey. This is highly infectious and affects unimmunised children and adults. The first signs are fever, cough, runny nose and red sore eyes.

If you think your child has either of these, ring your GP for advice as these are both contagious.

Year 4, Sea City

By Mr Penstone

Year 4 had a fantastic experience in Southampton learning about the Titanic. They visited the Sea City museum in the town that the Titanic set sail from on its fateful journey in 1912.

They explored the museum, learning about life on board the Titanic and heard about the people who went on the ship from someone whose relative survived the disaster. By looking at individual lives of the passengers and crew, the children were able to get a real sense of this tragedy.

They also took part in a workshop learning about artefacts from the 1910's, Morse code and lifeboats. Some of the children also had the opportunity to dress up in period clothes.

Overall, the children thoroughly enjoyed this trip as part of the popular Titanic topic.



Parking

Please be considerate to our neighbours and do not park over their drive-ways. This is a residential neighbourhood and as a community we need to work together.

Please also note that the layby outside the school does not belong to the school and can be used for parking by anyone.

Year 5, London Water and Steam Museum

By Claudia T

After we got off the coach, we entered the museum. It had lots of machines inside. We were welcomed in and were told about what the machines do. They pumped clean water and they are pumped by steam.

In the morning, we went into three different rooms, the waterworks gallery, the classroom and the engine room. My class (Cedar) went to the water works gallery first. It was definitely the best room we went into. It had a contraption that explained how to clean water. You could make it work by turning the handle or pulling a lever.

Next all the classes gathered together. We recapped on what we had found out. It was said that 4.300 litres of water goes into the making of a burger. After that, we went into the engine room which was interesting.

Later during the day, Cedar took their turn in the classroom. We were taught how to separate clean water from dirty water. It involved putting stones and sand at the bottom of a cup with a hole in the bottom. The clean water will then dribble out of the bottom. You repeat the process over and over.

Next we had lunch. Fifteen minutes later, we went on a trail to explore further. We also played in the water play station. Soon, the day was over.



Greenfield Inter-School Five-a-side Tournament.

By Daniel Grainger

On the 22nd November, Horsell Junior School went to a tournament held by Greenfield School at Woking Leisure Centre. Horsell Year 6 boys wanted another tournament win. The teams in our group stage were Garden House, St Andrews and Brookwood. Unfortunately, luck wasn't on our side in the group stages and despite creating lots of chances, hitting the post and crossbar frequently, we ended up with two draws and one win. We needed the last match of the group stage to be a draw. Luckily for us, it was a draw and we topped the group.

After the group stages all teams were split into gold, silver and bronze certificate groups. Horsell were in the gold group as we finished top of our group. In the gold group, we faced St Lawrence, Goldsworth and St Dunstons. We played St Lawrence first and won 4-1 (with Morgan scoring a hat-trick). Next we played Goldsworth and won 2-0. The last match against St Dunstan's turned out to be the deciding match as they had also won their other gold group games. We went 1-0 behind before Joseph was substituted on and scored two goals to win the game 2-1. We had won the whole tournament! Greenfield school were very generous and provided us with refreshments and snacks during the tournament and gave us a great trophy which is now in the trophy cabinet at school.

Thank you to all the parents who helped with transport and supported us so well.



Guildford Cathedral

Guildford Cathedral has recently gone through a period of refurbishment. An 'Angel Day' was held to celebrate its re-opening and the Cathedral asked the local Church schools to each create an angel. They are on display until Monday 8th January, after which they will be returned to the schools. It was a stunning scene as there were over 200 angels there.

Horsell Junior School's angel was created in our reception area. Visitors to our school witnessed and admired it in its many stages of completion. Our Head Teacher, Mrs. Steele played a fundamental role, lending her crafting skills to the team of Year 6 helpers.

Congratulations to Paige D, Daisy M and Rhianna B for your marvellous effort and creativity.



Science After School Club

On Monday 11th December, the Science After School Club had the opportunity to visit Woking High School. The purpose was to use the facilities of the science department as they have equipment that is primarily for a secondary school. This is to encourage the interest of the pupils in the type of work they will be doing when they leave junior school.

They were shown around the facilities by Mrs Pollard, one of the science teachers. The experiment they conducted was a chemistry one called 'Fire Writing'. The children traced a picture onto paper then used a Sodium Nitrate solution to go over it. They then used a Bunsen burner and set alight the paper.

We would like to say a big thank you to Mrs Pollard at the High School who conducts the experiments with the children. This is an event the Science Club try to hold every half-term.



School Christmas Meal

On Wednesday 13th December, the school held its Christmas dinner for children and staff. With a tireless effort from the kitchen and help from the staff to decorate the hall, the children thoroughly enjoyed their food and decorations. With carols playing and children pulling crackers and enjoying the food, it was a lunch to remember.



Closing date for Junior Applications 2018

This is a reminder that the closing date for Junior applications for September 2018 is 15th January 2018.

If you have not already done so, please make every effort to complete your form over the Christmas holidays. County encourage online applications, however parents can also request a paper application form or seek impartial help in completing an application via the Surrey Schools and Childcare Service on 0300 200 104. Full information is available on Surrey's website at www.surreycc.gov.uk/primaryadmissions.

Applications received after the closing date without good reason will not be considered until all on time applications have been processed. This may jeopardise the chance of a parent being offered one of their preferred schools for their child.