



WEEKLY FOCUS

Friday 1st October 2021



Dear Parents and Carers,

'And the streets of the city shall be full of boys and girls playing in its streets.' Zechariah 8:5

It has been great to officially launch the OPAL project this week. We have enjoyed watching the children using different loose parts and using more of our school site at lunchtimes. Mrs Page and Mrs Cole are leading the project and we spoke to the children about our aims for playtime at our first play assembly this week.

Developing our children's writing is one of our school priorities this year, and Mrs Brincombe and I have been visiting classes this week to observe how our new writing curriculum is bedding down across the school. We have been delighted to see the effort children are making with extending their vocabulary choices and ensuring that they use the correct punctuation. We are using the Jane Considine approach to teaching writing, which has proven successful in many schools. If you want to find out more, please visit her website: <https://www.janeconsidine.com/>. If you want to find out more about all of our school priorities this year, please visit our website where you can read our school development plan in full.

I hope that you have a lovely weekend and I look forward to welcoming you back to school on Monday.

Kind regards,
Mrs Wand

DATES FOR 4TH—8TH OCTOBER 2021

Thursday 7th October **9:30am: Harvest Festival, St. Mary's Church.** Year 5 parents welcome.

Friday 8th October **8:55am: Willow Class Assembly. Parents welcome.**

Please note the assembly starts at 8:55am prompt. Hot drinks are not permitted inside.

SPECIAL DIETS—action required

Our caters have introduced a new procedure to improve their processes for managing special diets.

Parents of all children who have a special diet (ethical, religious or medical) **must** complete an [online form](#) by 15th October to continue receiving meals from 1st November 2021.

It is important to complete this form even if your child does not usually take school meals, as the information will also be used by the school for cookery, trips and other lessons where food may be involved.



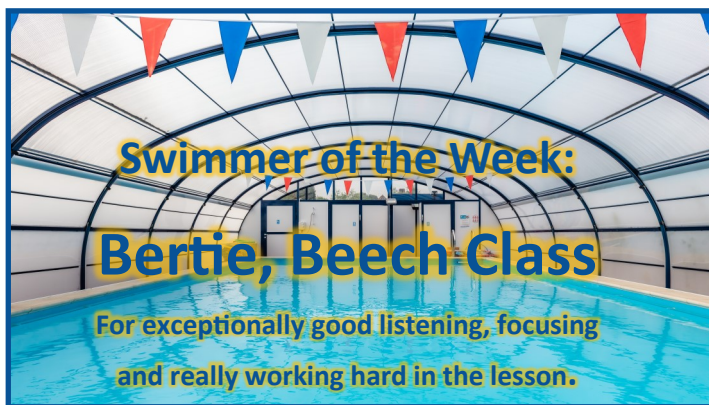
York Road Project
Defeating Homelessness in Woking

Harvest Collection

Thank you to everyone who has generously donated to our Harvest Collection. We continue to collect the following items, for the York Road Project (please hand in to class teacher):

- Variety of crisps & snacks
- Sugar sachets
- Jars of coffee & hot chocolate
- Sweetener sachets
- Bottled or cans of water
- Cordials (orange/black currant)
- Individually wrapped biscuits / sweet treats
- We also welcome tins and other long-life items.

Any items not used by the York Road project will be passed on to the Woking Food Bank.



SCHOOL UNIFORM

Wearing our uniform with pride is an important part of our school ethos and we urge parents to support us by ensuring that their child is wearing the correct uniform. Children should wear school shoes, not trainers, and all children should have a school jumper in school every day. Now that the weather is colder, all children need to wear a coat. Hair should be tied back with blue or black bands only and no jewellery is permitted. Socks should be grey or black, girls may also wear white socks. Children should also wear a tie.

The children will be having an assembly on Monday all about the importance of being smart and wearing their uniform with pride. We will be re-enforcing our expectations throughout the coming weeks. Please let your class teacher know if there is a reason why your child is not wearing the correct uniform, and contact the school, in confidence, if you need support in providing the Horsell Junior School uniform for your son or daughter.

After half term, the children will be expected to wear the winter uniform. Please refer to the school website if you require further information about our school's expectations.

Are you a parent from a faith background?

Would you be interested in talking to our children about your faith?

We are an inclusive school and we want all of our children to have an understanding and respect for all faiths. We are looking for parents from Jewish, Sikh, Hindi, Buddhist, or Muslim backgrounds who would be willing to talk to the children about their faith and answer any questions that they might have. Please contact Miss Harrington, our RE lead, if you are interested (e.harrington@horsell-junior.surrey.sch.uk).



OPAL LUNCHTIMES

This week we launched our OPAL lunchtimes which were greatly received by both the children and the adults on duty. It was fantastic to see so many of our children, from all years, smiling and getting involved in creative and cooperative play. Thank you for all the donations of items that have come in so far – we will be arranging another drop off date for items very soon!



'It's better – you get more space to run around and play' Max (Y5)



'I think it's really good because you get to join with the other years' George (Y6)

'I've really enjoyed going on the trim trail and playing with the tyres' Anya (Y4)



FREE gardening equipment for our school

For every £10 you spend (in store or online) at Morrisons, you'll get a

Grow Token to help your school get everything they need to get growing.

If you shop at Morrisons, please download the MyMorrisons app to start collecting Grow Tokens and choose Horsell Junior School to donate them to.

Do your relatives shop at Morrisons? Why not ask them to donate their Grow Tokens to us as well!

We will be able to exchange Grow Tokens for FREE gardening equipment to get our children growing. For more information visit the [Morrison's website](#).

SECONDARY SCHOOL APPLICATIONS ARE OPEN FOR PUPILS STARTING YEAR 7 IN SEPTEMBER 2022

The closing date to apply for a place is 31st October 2021. For information about applying, please click [here](#).

Horsell Junior Art Ambassadors

We have recently set up an art council at Horsell Junior to help work towards our Artsmark award. Our Art Ambassadors are committed students who are creative and passionate about art and design, and who can make a valuable contribution to the art curriculum.

This term we have thirteen Year 6 Art Ambassadors, and in the Spring and Summer Term we will be welcoming applications from Year 5. Their responsibilities will include maintaining the art area in the classrooms, helping the teachers during art lessons and helping run some lunchtime art sessions for the lower school.

The art ambassadors will be involved in gathering feedback about the art curriculum and ideas for developing the art provision from other pupils and present these during art council meetings. They will also help organise school art competitions and exchange ideas with primary aged students from other local schools. They will also have the opportunity to visit a local art gallery with our art lead, Mrs Brogden, to get further inspiration.



We're working towards Artsmark
Awarded by Arts Council England

LABELLING UNIFORM

Please label **all** uniform, skills kits and other items brought into school. We already have a number of jumpers, coats, water bottles and other items which we are unable to return as they are unnamed.

You can label uniform with a permanent or fabric marker, stamp or labels ([you can even raise money for the school when ordering labels](#)).

Please encourage your children to check our lost property cupboard if they have mislaid their belongings.



Horsell Family Fireworks

Friday 22nd October
5.30- 7pm (display at 6.30pm)
Woking & Horsell Cricket Club,
Brewery Road GU21 4TA

£5 per ticket (pre schoolers & 5th family ticket are free)
Tickets can be booked in advance or pay on arrival
Pre-ordered food only, available (chilli and hot dogs)
Please order by Tuesday 19th Oct
www.pta-events.co.uk/horsell
Sweets, and glowing items available and the cricket club bar will be open

Click [here](#) to book your tickets and pre-order your food.



The PTA are looking for a team to take over running the Junior School discos. There are 2 or 3 a year, they are super fun, they raise money for our schools, and they are fairly quick to organise. If you are interested as an individual or a group do get in touch with us on horsellschoolspta@gmail.com



SIMBA STORYTIME AT THE CASTLE

THE BANDSTAND, GUILDFORD CASTLE GROUNDS

FREE events for all the family

Saturday 9 October 2021

1PM Hedgehogs Don't Live in the City!
Interactive story time with Lucy Reynolds
Perfect for young readers aged 2 - 6 years
Join local author, **Lucy Reynolds**, for a prickly little storytime, entering a tumbling leafy cityscape in search of one rare and distinctive creature.

2PM The Queen's Fool
Ally Sherrick weaves fact and fiction together to create a rip-roaring historical adventure set in the court of Henry VIII. A hit with ages 7+

3PM Otherland
Join author **Louie Stowell** for a truly magical event as she takes you on a journey to Otherland. A dangerous magical underworld – a world of gods, vampires, and fairies. Suitable for ages 9+

www.guildfordbookfestival.co.uk



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