



WEEKLY FOCUS

Thursday 8th September 2022



"A longing fulfilled is a tree of life" Proverbs 13:12

Dear Parents/Guardians:

It has been lovely to welcome the children back to school this week. They are all settling down well into their new classes.

Teachers will be holding 'Meet the teacher' sessions next week and I hope that you are able to attend. These sessions are an opportunity for you to find out about the year ahead, and ask the teachers any questions you may have. Slides from the sessions will be posted on the year group areas of the website afterwards.

Clubs start next week and all parents should have received an email outlining what is available. Teachers will also be running small after-school booster groups to provide some additional tutoring for selected children. Parents will receive a separate letter if their child has been selected. These groups are reviewed regularly throughout the academic year, and I strongly urge all parents to send their child if they have been offered a place.

Thank you to those parents who dropped off donations for our OPAL project on Tuesday. We will have regular drop off mornings throughout the year so please save any items that you might be tempted to throw away. We are particularly in need of old guttering and tarpaulin. The children love building large dens on the field and these items are a fantastic resource. Do let us know if you are able to help with this.

One of the key foci for the school this year is reading. We have changed how we are teaching reading in the classroom and there will be a strong focus on children reading quality chapter books. The school has invested a large amount of money in books across the whole curriculum and teachers are looking forward to sharing some of their favourite reads in our 'curl up with a book' assemblies throughout the year. Please support the school by encouraging your child to read as much as you can.

Kind regards,
Mrs Wand

KEY DATES FOR 12TH—16TH SEPTEMBER 2022

Monday 12th September	Meet the teacher meeting, year 5 parents, 14:30—15:00
Tuesday 13th September	Meet the teacher meeting, year 4 parents, 14:30—15:00
Thursday 15th September	Meet the teacher meeting, year 6 parents, 14:30—15:00
Friday 16th September	Meet the teacher meeting, year 3 parents, 14:30—15:00

WATERPROOF COATS

As the weather becomes more changeable, please ensure children have a waterproof coat in school. On days they have PE, please include a light weight waterproof coat / kagoule as lessons will still take place outside in light showers.

SECONDARY SCHOOL APPLICATIONS

Applications for secondary school places, for children starting September 2023, 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](#).

WHO DO I CONTACT?

Absences:

Absence line: 01483 731531, option 1
By e-mail: office@horsell-junior.surrey.sch.uk
Please report absences by 8:30am.

General queries

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

Should you need to contact the office, please e-mail office@horsell-junior.surrey.sch.uk. (Please note that horsellcofejun@scopay.com is a no-reply address and e-mails sent here are not received).

For urgent matters, please call 01483 761531.

Specific child-related queries

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 Miss Chamberlin (for pastoral concerns).

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](#). Medicine should be in its original packaging, with both the packaging and contents clearly labelled with the child's name.

ENHANCED CURRICULUM

Details of our enhanced curriculum were sent yesterday, including details about forest school, swimming, DT and art. Please note on the day your child has these sessions, they should arrive in uniform and bring any required kit with them. PE kit only needs to be worn on the days they have PE.

FOREST SCHOOL VOLUNTEERS

Thank you to those who have already volunteered to help with forest school. In order to run our enhanced curriculum, we are in need of volunteers to assist in forest school 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.

DBS

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](#).



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.**

EARRINGS—SAFETY REMINDER

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.

HANDBELL CLUB

This club is run most Friday lunch-times by volunteers from St Mary's Church. New members are welcome from all year groups. Your child does not need to be able to read music. We hope to perform at the Christmas Tree Festival in December. Your child is welcome to come and have a trial on the first week, 16th September, to see how they like it.

School lunches should be booked a week ahead.

Please book lunches for 19th—23rd September by Sunday 11th September