



WEEKLY FOCUS

Thursday 6th July 2023

Dear Parents and Carers:

'Let us run with endurance the race that is set before us.' Hebrews 12:1

It has been lovely to welcome parents into school for our Sports Days this week. The children all participated well and we are looking forward to our additional athletics competition on Friday afternoon.

Thank you to all of our parents who completed our parent questionnaires. It was lovely to read the positive comments and receive your feedback about the school. The results of the questionnaire will be reported to the governing body next week and forms part of our strategic planning for next year. Our school development plan, which is the document that sets our strategic plans for the next 12 months, will be posted on the website in September.

One area of concern for a small number of parents was our clubs. We have worked hard at providing a varied club offer, and we are lucky that Mr Coles is a member of permanent staff and can offer sports clubs after school. We know that some clubs are over-subscribed and have worked to make sign up easier. We supplement this with lots of clubs that are run by external providers, and, whilst there is a charge for this, parents who might be experiencing financial difficulty can approach the school in confidence for some financial assistance. As a junior school, we cannot offer the same number of clubs as a large primary, but we still have a wide selection, and we continually review this. Following from COVID, teachers now run academic boosters, to help those children who might need a little extra support – or a boost – with aspects of their learning.

Please take the time to read the rest of our newsletter as it contains important information about staff and activities over the last two weeks.

Best wishes,
Mrs Wand

KEY DATES FRIDAY 7TH—FRIDAY 14TH JULY 2023

Friday 7th July	Horsell Junior School Athletics Competition, 13:15—15:00 All children may wear PE kit, or uniform, with a top and accessories in their house colours. Letters have been sent home to parents of children who are competing; parents are welcome to attend.
Wednesday 12th July	Children in year 3—5 meet their new teachers. Year 2 into Year 3 visit Horsell Junior School. Year 6 perform “ Forever Treasure Island” - dress rehearsal to whole school
Thursday 13th July	Year 6 “Treasure Island” performances to year 6 parents— 13:30 and 19:00. Please book your tickets here . Maximum 2 tickets per family.
Friday 14th July	End of year school reports sent home. Connellan Trophy Cricket Tournament , 10:00—15:00, Weybridge Vandals CC.

STAFFING CHANGES FOR NEXT YEAR

We have some new staff joining the team next year, as well as one or two members of staff leaving the team.

LEAVERS

We are very sad to be saying goodbye to **Mrs Lamb**. Mrs Lamb has worked at the school since I started but she has decided it is time for a career change. Mrs Lamb has had a wonderful impact on the children at our school and I know they will all miss her very much. In the short term, we will have to review our forest school provision and parents will be informed of what this will look like in the new school year.

We are also saying goodbye to **Mrs Hoyle** who has been a lunchtime supervisor for many years and has been a very important part of the Horsell family. Mrs Hoyle has also been responsible for some of our needlework, including the banner on the back of the piano and our worship table cloths.

Mrs Butler is also leaving Horsell Junior to take up an office role at a neighbouring school. Mrs Butler has worked very hard with many of our pupils and also runs several phonics groups every week. We wish her well in her new role.

Mrs Deacon, who has been in Beech class will also be leaving us but I am sure we will see her again in her role as a local supply teacher. I am sure that the children in Beech class will miss her very much. Mr Smith, who has worked across Year 6 this year, will also be leaving the school.

We have also had several TAs working in school on temporary contracts this year – **Miss Meredith, Miss Edwards, Mrs Tan and Miss Cheena**. We are grateful to their contribution to our school and wish them well for their future endeavours.

NEW MEMBERS OF STAFF

Mr Stevenson will be starting school in September as our new Assistant Head for Inclusion, SEND and Safeguarding. He will be available to meet with parents in our weekly SEND surgeries – more details to follow in the new academic year.

Mrs Smith will be joining us as our new Inclusion teacher. Our ICT suite will be converted into an additional classroom (Apple) over the summer, and she will be working with smaller groups of children. We have invested in a large number of additional chromebooks so computing learning will now take place in your child's main classroom.

We also have several new teaching assistants joining the team. **Mrs Yeung**, who had to leave our school for family reasons, is returning in September and **Mrs Mahapatabendige** and **Mrs Rowley** will also be joining us full-time.

Some of our teachers are also moving classrooms, and the new year groups will look like this:

Year 3

Oak: Miss Withers (Head of Year)

Ash: Mrs Abbott

Elm: Mrs Nash

Year 5

Rowan: Miss Freed (Head of Year)

Cedar: Mr Ross

Beech: Mr Dunsford

Year 4

Palm: Mrs Cumberbeach (Head of Year)

Acer: Mrs Ghalami* (2 days) /Mrs Gunning (3 days)

Pine: Miss Lines

Year 6

Cherry: Miss Chadburn (Head of Year)

Spruce: Mrs Parker(4 days)/Mrs Jones (1 day)

Willow: Mrs Page (4 days)/Mrs Jones (1 day)

*Mrs Ghalami will also teach across the school to cover other teachers when they have time out of class to fulfil wider management responsibilities.

MOVING UP DAY

Children will meet their new teacher and find out their new class on 12th July. When deciding on the class mixes, teachers look very carefully at the ability ranges in the classroom, as well as friendship groups and other needs.

We have been mixing up the classes for a few years now and we are finding that, as anticipated, at lunchtimes and breaks the children play across year groups and friendship circles have widened. It has also enabled us to adjust classes so that there is a good mix for learning when the children are working. Parents should note that we cannot change the classes once they have been decided and we do not make any alterations to the class list.

END OF YEAR REPORTS

All reports will be sent home as a hard copy on 14th July. The Year 6 reports will contain the results that your child achieved in their recent SATS assessments. Year 4 reports will contain the results that your child achieved in their times table test.

POLL FOR YEAR 5 PARENTS/CARERS!

We are reviewing our plans for next year's year 6 residential trip. Before completing our booking, we would like to gauge opinion on two options.

Please complete our poll [here](#) by Thursday 13th July.

Thank you.



**Artsmark
Silver Award**
Awarded by Arts
Council England

Horsell Junior School is extremely proud to have been awarded the Artsmark Silver Award. Awarded by Arts Council England, designed by schools, the new Artsmark award aims to help schools deliver a high quality arts and cultural education and provide an excellent way to demonstrate this. We look forward to continuing our journey with Artsmark and developing our children's creative potential.

Performances to Parents and Carers

Thursday 13th July 2023



Artwork by Yusuf, Cherry

YEAR 6 LEAVERS' SHIRTS

On Thursday 20th July (Year 6's last day) please send your child to school with either a spare shirt or P.E. top. Children can also bring fabric pens or similar.

After the celebration assembly, the children will have the opportunity to sign each others' shirts before going home. They will not be able to sign the top they are wearing.

If you have any questions, please email Miss Chadburn on k.chadburn@horsell-junior.surrey.sch.uk.

PTA School Discos

Tuesday 18th July

18:15—19:30

Years 3, 4 and 5

Tickets £5, advance bookings only

<https://www.pta-events.co.uk/horsell>

Please book lunches for the last week of term by Sunday 9th July. Thank you.

YEAR 3 VISIT ST MARY'S CHURCH



Last week, Year 3 visited St Mary's Church to learn about connections between Jesus' life and festivals celebrated in the church year.

Rvd Dmitry Lutsenko led us in a song before using lots of props to help the year group make links between objects or symbols and the festival they celebrate. We looked at festivals throughout the church year including Advent, Lent, Easter and Pentecost, and noticed that they are represented by different colours to symbolise periods of waiting or celebration.

PTA Summer Fair

It was great to see so many people attend the summer fair on Saturday. We hope you will agree there was a great atmosphere! Children enjoyed the ever-popular jolly jar stall as well as inflatables, traditional games such as hook-a-duck and hoopla, or could have their faces painted.



With a BBQ, Indian food care of Dee's Kitchen, an array of delicious home baked cakes as well as a variety of soft drinks, Pimms and beer. No one should have gone home hungry.

This event is one of the biggest fundraisers for the PTA. Figures are still being finalised; however, the PTA estimate we made close to £7,000. The money raised is used to enhance the education of our children; in recent years the PTA has funded new playground equipment, refurbishment

of the junior school library, IPADs, author visits, visiting theatre productions and much more.

We are fortunate to have the support of local businesses in Horsell and Woking, who provided sponsorship for the event and an amazing range of raffle prizes. We would like to thank them sincerely for their continued support, without which the events would not raise as much money.

A huge thank you must go to the organising committee for the many, many hours of preparation, to Mr Dunsford for the music, and to the army of adults and children who baked, helped set up, run or clear up the event. There was a real sense of community, and it would not be possible to run the fair without them!



YOUNG CARERS CANAL BOAT TRIP

The Young Carers Group have had a great year with lots of fun activities, including cooking, parachute games and a trip to the local playpark.

The final event of the year was a trip on the Basingstoke Canal aboard Kitty. We did this over two Wednesdays as the boat can only hold 12 people at a time. The children had an early lunch and walked down to the canal-side (by the Lightbox & WWF centre) in time for Kitty to depart at 1pm. Once on board the children were very excited! Two children at a time were allowed up on the top of the boat (near the driver) and they were very good at swapping around. We went under a few bridges, saw a swan family with 6 cygnets, many baby moorhens and a dead fish! While aboard, we also enjoyed cold drinks and a small snack.

We are very grateful to all of the volunteers who have helped each week - Mrs Craig, Mrs Dunsford, Mrs Greenwood, Mrs Horrocks, Mrs Johnson and Mrs Taylor; and especially Mrs Bayliss-Hare who additionally came on both of our boat trips with us.

We are also very grateful to the Friday Morning Coffee Group from St Mary's Church who have very kindly donated the funds to pay for both trips and all of our other activities throughout the year.



HELP US WIN £1,000 FOR OUR LIBRARY!

Help us rebuild our library and encourage reading for pleasure – nominate us today to win £1,000 of National Book Tokens plus a £500 grant to improve our library space.

If yours is one of the five winning entries, you'll win a £100 National Book Token to spend in your favourite bookshop!



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