



WEEKLY FOCUS

Thursday 7th September 2023



Dear Parents and Carers

It was lovely to welcome the open the book team back into school on Wednesday. They shared the story of the ten commandments with us and the children reflected on the importance of the rules that we live by at Horsell Junior School. At Horsell, we remember to be 'Ready, Respectful and Safe' at all times, and treat one another with dignity and respect.

Our new Apple classroom is now up and running and Mrs Smith is getting to know the children.

Across the school, our children are also enjoying using the new Chromebooks. We now have over 90 Chromebooks across the school, and a set of 30 IPADs, which is enabling us to teach computing more effectively and use ICT more creatively across the curriculum.

There is now a new RE agreed syllabus across Surrey and we have started to teach it this term. Our Year 4 children have been enjoying learning about Humanism, the children in Year 5 are studying Islam, Year 6 are investigating Hinduism and Year 3 are learning about Jesus and how He changed lives. The new syllabus enables the children to learn all about the major world faiths and, at the end of each academic year, finishes with a 'thematic unit' where they answer questions like, 'Why do people use creative ways to express their beliefs?' Our teachers engaged in lots of RE training before the summer break and are enjoying teaching the new content.

We are looking forward to clubs starting next week.

Kind regards,
Mrs Wand



KEY DATES FOR 15TH—22ND SEPTEMBER 2023

Friday 15th September	Meet the teacher meeting, year 3 parents, 14:30—15:00
Saturday 16th September	PTA "Good As New" Uniform Sale, Horsell Village School Car Park, 10:00—11:30
Monday 18th September	Photographer visiting to take pictures for the school website and brochure. OPAL Play Donations welcomed at drop off Whole School Communion, St. Mary's Church. Pupils and staff only. 9:15am.

PHOTOGRAPHER, MONDAY 18TH SEPTEMBER

A photographer will be in school on Monday 18th September to take pictures for the school website and brochure. Children will only have their photos taken if they have the correct parental photo permissions.

REPORTING ABSENCES—CORRECTION

In our last newsletter, there was an error in the number for the absence line. The number to call to report an absence is the main school number, **01483 761531**. Please select option 1. You can also report absences on [Studybugs](#) (preferred method) or by e-mail.

Using our Studybugs app, you will be provided with guidance on when to keep children off school. You can also access this information on the NHS live well link below:

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>.

WALKING HOME PASSES



Please note that, if your child has a walking home pass, teachers will let them go at the end of the day unless informed otherwise by a parent or guardian.

Children with walking home passes will also be allowed to walk home after clubs.

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

Confirmation of our teacher-led after-school clubs have been sent to parents today. Most clubs start next week, but please refer the club section of our website for details of pick up times and end dates.

If you have not received a confirmation e-mail, your child will be on the waiting list for the club and we will contact you should a space become available.

Please ensure you notify the school or club if your child will be in school, but is not attending their club.

PTA UNIFORM SALE
Horsell Village School
Saturday 16th
September
10AM TO 11.30AM
CASH AND CARD PAYMENTS
UNIFORM DONATIONS TO HVS
Volunteers needed!
please contact your class rep



OPAL Play

YOUR SCHOOL NEEDS YOU!

Second collection date:
Monday 18th September

- Old pots and pans
- Old clothes (don't have to be special dressing up clothes, and can be adult sized) – including hats, handbags and shoes
- Small world toys (small toy cars, people, animals and dinosaurs etc.)
- Old blankets, tarpaulin and sheets (for building dens)
- Old pop up tents
- Suitcases and briefcases

We would also love to hear from anyone in the building trade who might be able to help us with donations of items like guttering and planks. Please contact the school office if you think you could help.

We also need a parent representative to sit on our OPAL play committee, which meets once a half term – please contact the office if you are interested in this role.



As part of our allergy aware policy, please be reminded that **children are now allowed to bring items containing nuts to school.**

Some children have severe allergies, which mean even being in proximity to other people consuming these items may put them at risk of an anaphylaxis.

SECONDARY SCHOOL APPLICATIONS

Applications for secondary school places, for children starting September 2024, are now open. The closing date for children in year 6 to apply for a place is 31st October 2023. For further information about applying for a place, please click [here](#).

School lunches should be booked a week ahead.
Please book lunches for 25th—29th September
by Sunday 17th September 2023



4.00pm to 5.30pm

17th September

15th October

19th November

Fun activities for all ages
Please bring your own picnic tea

Saint Mary the Virgin
Horsell

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