



## WEEKLY FOCUS

Thursday 11th January 2024

Dear Parents and Carers:

*'You crown the year with your bounty, and your carts overflow with abundance'* Psalm 65:11

Happy New Year! It has been lovely to welcome the children back to Horsell Junior and they have all settled back into the routines of school. Clubs, swimming and most booster clubs have started this week and we are now able to offer forest school on Thursday afternoons, which I know the children are really enjoying. Mrs Rowley is supporting our Forest School teacher during the sessions and she reported that last week was rather wet. The joy of forest school is that it really is learning through all the seasons and this was certainly true last week!

Mrs Webb, our new Inclusion teacher, has started work in Apple classroom this week. Apple classroom is designed for those children who might need a smaller class, with higher adult:child ratio for some of the school day. She is quickly getting to know the school and the children. Mrs Webb will also be running small group interventions during the afternoons for specific children so that we can ensure all of our children reach their potential during their time at Horsell Junior.



Alongside this provision, we have Mr Stevenson, our SENCO and Assistant Head; Pete, our school counsellor; and Shelley, who provides mentoring support for some of our older children. I am also delighted to share with parents that one of our Teaching Assistants, Mrs Dhina, has completed her training to become an ELSA (Emotional Literacy Support Assistant), and will be starting work with specific children next week. The governors and I are very excited about our growing pastoral provision, and the positive impact that it will have on our school family.



As always, if you have any questions or concerns about your child, you should contact your child's class teacher in the first instance. If you have any concerns about a special educational need which you feel requires a more in-depth discussion, you can contact Mrs Khan ([s.khan@horsell-junior.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:s.khan@horsell-junior.surrey.sch.uk)) to make an appointment at Mr Stevenson's SEND surgeries on Tuesday mornings.

Best wishes,  
Mrs Wand

### KEY DATES FOR 12TH — 19TH JANUARY 2024

Friday 12th January	<b>Rowan class assembly</b> , 8:55am prompt. Please note that hot drinks and photography are not permitted.
Monday 15th January	<b>Closing date for primary, infant or junior school applications.</b> <b>PTA Coffee Afternoon:</b> meet the new committee, 14:00—14:45. All welcome! The Children's Centre, The Horsell Village School.
Thursday 18th January	<b>Forest school:</b> Beech class, group 3 (forest school information is in your child's HSO).
Friday 19th January	<b>Opal Donation Day</b> , at drop off. Please see overleaf for full details.

## FOREST SCHOOL

Despite heavy rainfall last Thursday, a group of children from Beech class had a fantastic time at forest school. The children used their collaborative skills and creativity to create a zip wire for a teddy. They used a saw to chop wood slices and turned these into birds using those slices along with bark and a pen. They also managed to toast marshmallows and make a "forest school apple crumble" over a camp fire.



**Although we hope the weather will improve, we do ask that all children bring wellies or sturdy shoes, waterproofs trousers and coats to each session.**

Thank you to Mrs Bourne who has volunteered her time to run the forest school sessions with Mrs Rowley.

## KEEP YOUR DATA UP-TO-DATE

We would kindly ask that you ensure your personal details are kept up to date with the school and notify the Office if there have been any changes to contact details, such as your email address, postal address, and phone number, including emergency contact. This is to ensure we have all the necessary up-to-date details on our system.

## PARKING AT DROP-OFF AND PICK-UP

Please remember to park considerately and safely during drop off and pick up.

Some of the residents on nearby roads have reported experiencing difficulty getting in and out of their driveways, as well as cars stopping on double yellow lines, reducing visibility for residents and students crossing the road.

Your help in keeping our roads safe and maintaining good relations with our neighbours is appreciated.



## OPAL play



Would you like to make a difference to our children's playtimes? We are looking for a parent volunteer to sit on our play committee, which meets for about an hour once every half term.

This is chance to help improve our children's play and represent the ideas of parents in our wider school community. Please contact Mrs Webb ([g.webb@horsell-junior.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:g.webb@horsell-junior.surrey.sch.uk)) if you would like to get involved.

## OPAL donations

We are looking for the following items:

- Second hand gardening tools
- Wooden planks
- Plastic guttering
- Bamboo canes
- Old tennis balls
- Old clothes
- Anything that could be used for craft activities (felt tip pens, colouring pencils, etc.)
- Old computer keyboards/phones/etc
- Old suitcases
- Small world toys (cars, dinosaurs, animals, people, etc).

OPAL donation days are: 19<sup>th</sup> January and 22<sup>nd</sup> January at school drop off time.

Please let the school know if you work in the building trade and are able to help with some of the larger items on this list!

## NEW MOBILE PHONE POLICY

You should have received an email today regarding our updated [mobile phone policy](#). If your child is already bringing a phone to school, we ask that you read the policy with them, and complete our Use of Mobile Phone agreements online [here](#).

## CLOSING DATE FOR PRIMARY, INFANT AND JUNIOR SCHOOL PLACES—15TH JANUARY 2024!

Information about how to apply for a school place can be found on the [Surrey County Council website](#). It is easiest to apply online, and then parents will receive their outcome online too. Parents who cannot apply online need to request a paper application form from the Surrey Schools & Childcare Service (0300 200 1004, Mon-Fri 9am-5pm) and must email it to [schooladmissions@surreycc.gov.uk](mailto:schooladmissions@surreycc.gov.uk) or post it back to arrive by 15 January. We recommend that parents send any postal application by recorded delivery to be sure it arrives.

Mrs Wand will be performing in the Woking Symphony Orchestra Magical Music family concert. This is a relaxed performance, and a great way to introduce children to classical music. Please do come along!

## EASTWOOD SCHOOL NURSE DROP IN CLINIC FOR PARENTS

**Do you have a child/children (5-16 years) who attend a Woking School? Did you know that you have a dedicated School Nursing team?**

A member of the Woking School Nursing Team is available **on the 1st Wednesday of every month between 9.30am and 11.30am (including holidays)** at the **Child Health Drop-In at Eastwood Leisure Centre**, Albert Drive, Sheerwater, Woking GU21 5RF.


2024 dates are 3 Jan, 7 Feb, 6 Mar, 3 Apr, 1 May, 5 Jun, 3 Jul, 7 Aug, 4 Sep, 2 Oct, 6 Nov, 4 Dec.

A member of the team will be available to answer questions from parents/carers of school aged children and to give advice, information and signpost on topics including:

- early toileting
- Sleep
- Behaviour
- healthy diet
- dental care
- school readiness
- NCMP heights & weights
- mental health
- eating disorders
- minor illnesses
- internet safety
- and much more.

They can also help with referrals to other services.

**Just drop-in, no appointment necessary, there is a soft play area if you have a younger child and space to sit and have a coffee. Free parking at the venue.**

 Our school regularly visit Haslemere Museum. Haslemere Educational Museum run a variety of events throughout the year, including many activities for children and families. Please click [here](#) for their events in January to March, which may be of interest to you.

**School lunches should be booked a week ahead.**

Please book lunches for 22nd—28th January by Sunday 14th November.

Woking Symphony Orchestra

# Magical Music family concert



Music by  
Dukas, Mozart, Haydn and more

Clare Loosley - soprano  
William Wilde - trumpet  
Roy Stratford - conductor



**Saturday 20 January 2024, 3:30pm**  
Cobham Free School, Portsmouth Road, KT11 1TF



Tickets: £7 • Under 2s free  
[wokingso.org.uk](http://wokingso.org.uk) & [wso2011@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:wso2011@hotmail.co.uk)



Presented by WokingSO Productions Ltd • Woking Symphony Orchestra charity no. 295247



## 'Thank you' Volunteers Afternoon Tea

The PTA committee invites you to a  
volunteers' afternoon

A great opportunity to:

Thank the volunteers for their help  
Meet the team  
Discuss progress & future plans  
Learn upcoming opportunities  
Share your bright ideas  
Most importantly, make friends!

Monday 15/01/24  
14:00- 14:45pm

The children Centre  
The Horsell Village School

