



Horsell Inclusion News May 2024

Welcome!

Welcome to the May 2024 edition of the Horsell Inclusion News. This month has seen a lot of rainy days outside, but some fantastic learning going on inside! Our value for this half term is love, and we have talked throughout our Collective Worships about how we can see, hear and show that to one another, both near and far. Nothing demonstrates love like accepting and celebrating someone for who they are, which is the ultimate message behind inclusion in society.

As we head into the summer term, there is a lot to look forward to. Alongside this, however, comes a range of hurdles and challenges, which we will spotlight on over the coming editions.

As always, if you feel that there is something you wish to discuss, contact your child's class teacher in the first instance. Following that, a SEND Surgery appointment can be booked with Mr Stevenson.



What's going on?

In this section, we want to highlight some of the amazing support offered to the Horsell family. We are incredibly fortunate to have wonderful support, particularly from the church, as well as a dedicated leadership team who seek tirelessly to offer as much support as possible within the school.

Young Carers: Our fabulous YC group meet weekly, with sessions led by our very own YC Champion, Mrs Haynes! The children, identified through their caring capacity at home, participate in a host of different activities, with a focus on them being able to relax, switch off and enjoy time with peers.

The children cook, make crafts, paint and play games amongst other things. These sessions depend on volunteer support from the community to help them run, for which we are incredibly grateful.

ELSA: Emotional Literacy Support Assistant's are kind, caring and compassionate people. At Horsell, we have Mrs Dhina, our trained ELSA, who takes sessions with children. Within these sessions, they work together towards achieving goals and overcoming barriers.

Counselling: Our counsellor is in school each week, supporting children with specific barriers to allow them to thrive. This support is invaluable for our young people.

Engage Mentoring: Through our church links we are fortunate to have Shelley from Engage, who mentors children with school-based barriers to find solutions and strategies to overcome them. Shelley has supported a huge number of children this way.

East to West mentoring: This term, we have been lucky enough to secure mentoring services from East to West, a charity who offer mentoring support to young people in school.

Prayer Group: Each week, the Engage team run a prayer group, where children can attend to join in prayer and seek support. We value the children being supported in every way at Horsell, and this opportunity to reflect is hugely important.

Worry Boxes: Each class has a worry box, where children can place a worry for their teacher to read and offer support. We also have a Big worry box in the library, which is more private and offers an opportunity for children to place a worry if they would like support. These are then addressed by the best person for the job; class teacher, teaching assistant, key adult, year lead etc.



Spotlight On... Helping at Home

One of the most frequent questions we get asked by parents and carers is 'How exactly can I help at home?'. In most circumstances, there is a simple solution, but not always. There are times where a little more support can be incredibly beneficial.

Surrey County Council's Adult Learning platform has a wide range of supportive workshops, available on a range of topics such as 'Supporting your child with reading at home in Key Stage 2' and 'Help your child manage anxiety'. These workshops, along with many more, can be found here:

<https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/adult-learning/courses/search?category=FAMLRN&page=1>.

Also available from the Surrey Local Offer pages is a directory of support in a huge range of areas, available here; <https://www.surreylocaloffer.org.uk/parents-and-carers/help-and-support/courses-and-training-for-parents>.

There are also lots of resources available from the Advice section of the MindWorks site; <https://www.mindworks-surrey.org/advice-information-and-resources/resources-and-information-parents>.

Family Voice Surrey (FVS) is a charitable organisation that champions the needs and rights of SEND families in Surrey; families with children or young adults up to the age of 25 who have special educational needs, chronic illnesses, including mental health conditions, or disabilities. Information about their support groups can be found here; [FVS Regular Events - Family Voice Surrey](#)

Family Advice Communication Education (FACE) run a series of parent support sessions. Whilst these often have a cost attached, the service also regularly runs free sessions which you can book onto. The next free session focuses on 'Supporting Healthy Sleep', and further details can be found here https://www.facefamilyadvice.co.uk/service-page/free-supporting-healthy-sleep?referral=service_list_widget. Sleep is often one of the most common causes for concern amongst parents, and this sessions can offer support with explaining how certain behaviours impact on us and interfere with our sleep, and gives some ideas on what we can do about it!

We strongly recommend you access these free services, as they can be a vital tool for you to have the strategies needed to support your child.



Classroom News

Year 6 have been working really hard revising their mathematical knowledge, applying it to a wide range of scenarios, and using their collaborative skills to good effect. They of course also completed their SATs tests, and with those now out of the way, are looking forward to finishing their time at Horsell in style.

Year 5 have been discovering about plants in science, learning some key scientific vocabulary about the parts that make up a plant.

Year 4 have been busy preparing for French Day!

Year 3 have investigated shadows and light in science, testing what materials were effective reflectors.

In Apple class, the children have been reading 'The Man on the Moon', all about Bob and how his day looks, living on the moon.

FAQ's and Myth Busters

My child is nervous about changes going into the next school year, what can I do?

Talk to them! Offer reassurance that although yes, there will be changes, things being the same would be really boring and stop us from progressing! Transition is a natural part of life; from being a baby to a toddler, nursery to school, primary to secondary and beyond.

Within school, we support transitions by thinking carefully about classrooms, and using the transition day to allow children the chance to see their new classroom and hopefully, their new teacher! Additional transition support is also in place for those we feel would benefit from it, which is tailored for individual needs. Children have had the opportunity to identify friends who they feel are supportive learning partners, and when mixing the classes these choices are taken into account.

It is really important to remember that some nerves are a good thing; it is our natural mechanism to keep safe and proceed with caution. Nerves also show us that things are important to us, and that we want to succeed. Encourage positive conversation about what there is to look forward to, what new challenges there will be and how the good things, like friendships, will still be there, even if they look a little different.

Myth Busting! "*Being 5 minutes late doesn't matter!*"

Punctuality, or the art of being on time, is a vital life skill to learn. It is really important to allow your child the opportunity to do, and be, their best, every single day. One way of supporting this to ensure they arrive at school on time, every day.

We've all done it. Woken up a little late, or sat in traffic we weren't expecting. When we arrive late somewhere, it is often in a bit of a rush, or unsettled, meaning that we are not in the right frame of mind straight away. The same happens to the children if they are late too. There are times in life where being late is not an option, and we want the children to grow up with an understanding of the importance of being punctual. Being late for work might impact your job prospects or employability; being late for a train or a plane means it leaves without you!

Rushing through the gate, or coming in through the office, can be unsettling for children. This can have a knock-on effect on the child for quite some time through the morning, impacting their learning. A child arriving late into class also affects others; the teacher may have to stop the teaching, or repeat to allow them to catch up; other children in the class may be distracted by their friend coming in late, causing them to focus less on their own learning too.

Being just 5 minutes late for school each day adds up to more than 16 hours across a school year! At Horsell, we start with Guided Reading lessons. A fluent reader will read at more than 100 words per minute, so potentially that could be 96,000 words not read across a school year, just from 5 minutes late each day.

Please reach out to us if for support with punctuality, and we will do everything we can to help with strategies to support.

