

Year 3 Newsletter October 2024

Welcome to the first year 3 newsletter of the year. Throughout the course of the year, you will be receiving half termly newsletters from the year 3 team, keeping you updated on all the exciting things we are currently learning about as well as informing you about any important events or dates for the next half term.

We are so proud of the Year 3s and how wonderfully they have settled in to life at Horsell Junior School. It has been a very busy first half term and we have been delighted with all of the hard work, enthusiasm, effort and teamwork that the children have already been showing. We have met with our year 6 buddies who helped us with a treasure hunt around the school grounds, taught us how to use the OPAL play equipment safely and we also read a book to our buddies. We have taken part in essential road safety practicals with Feet First and we had the pleasure of taking part in a Stone Age to Iron Age workshop with Chertsey Museum.

We are looking forward to a successful year, full of exciting learning opportunities and events! We hope you have a lovely half term and we can't wait to welcome the children back.

Miss Withers and the year 3 team.

Homework

Homework is set on Friday and needs to be completed by the next Friday.

• **Spellings:**

Weekly spellings will be set and stuck into the children's Home School Organiser (HSO). Children will be tested on the spellings the following Thursday.

• **Reading:**

Read 5 times a week and record this in your HSO with a comment about the reading.

• **SPaG:**

Log on to SPAG.com and complete the task set. The task will be linked to the learning happening in class.

• **Maths:**

Log on to Times Table Rock Stars and practice for 10 minutes. Children should also complete a 10 minute 'workout' per week in their maths CGP workbook.

All the passwords the children will need for the online sites are stuck in their HSO.

Each task should last around 10 minutes.

We also ask that you sign your child's HSO each week.

If you have any queries about homework, please email your class teacher.

Autumn assessments

In November, our whole school will be taking part in assessments for reading, SPAG (spelling, punctuation and grammar) and maths using NTS formal assessments. Teachers will also be assessing writing using the independent writing activities. As a school we use this information, along with in class teacher judgements, to map out our future planning, intervention groups and highlight any gaps in knowledge which may need to be taught again.

We will let you know how your child has performed through our 'Snapshot reports' which will be sent directly to you as parents on Friday 22nd November. Following on from this, parent's evening consultations will take place the week beginning 25th November. This will be an opportunity for you to discuss your child's academic progress so far with your child's class teacher.

Book bands will also change if appropriate, based on these assessments.

Communication.

If you would like to contact your child's class teacher, please e-mail:

Oak- Miss Withers l.withers@horsell-junior.surrey.sch.uk

Ash- Mr Dunsford j.dunsford@horsell-junior.surrey.sch.uk

Elm- Mrs Parker h.parker@horsell-junior.surrey.sch.uk

Feet first

During the week of 30th September, we had Feet First instructors visit us to teach the importance of road safety and encouraging active travel and the walk to school. We completed classroom quizzes about road safety and then we went out in small groups in to the local area to take part in practical training. We practiced crossing the road safely and remembered to:
Stop, Look, Listen, Think.



Chertsey museum

On Wednesday 9th October, Chertsey Museum visited us to run fantastic Stone Age to Iron Age history workshops with each of the year 3 classes. Some children were able to dress up in 'prehistoric' clothing. All the children enjoyed handling genuine artefacts such as arrow heads and flints that had been napped into sharp edges. They also enjoyed identifying animals from their bones and some interesting Stone Age 'smells'!

Helpers wanted!

We have some exciting lessons coming up that we will need some volunteers to help us with! If you are available to support us with any of the dates below (even for an hour) and have an up to date DBS check, please email your child's class teacher.

Geography fieldtrip: Walk and map reading around Horsell village.

Dates: **Ash** 18th November, **Elm** 19th November, **Oak** 20th November 10.30-11.50am each day.

DT days: To support with our textiles unit (sewing and cushion making).

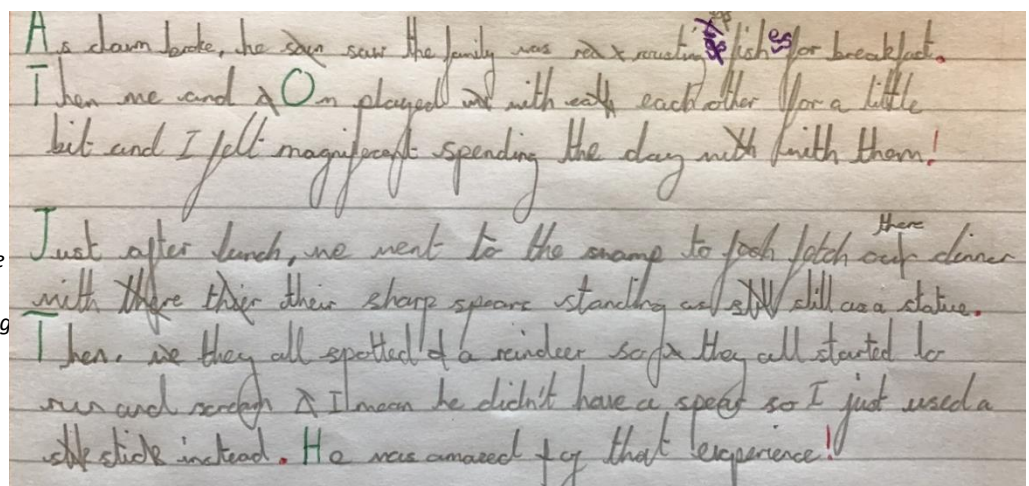
Dates: **Oak:** Monday 25th November, **Elm:** Tuesday 26th November, **Ash:** Wednesday 27th November all day.

WOW Work!

Every year group newsletter this year will include a piece of writing published from a child in our year group. This half term's work has been written by Taylor in Ash, who has worked hard to use interesting adjectives and exciting verbs in his writing about the 'Stone Age Boy'.

"As dawn broke, he saw the family was roasting fishes for breakfast. Then me and Om played with each other for a little bit and I felt magnificent spending the day with them!"

Just after lunch, we went to the swamp to fetch their dinner with their sharp spears standing still as a statue. Then, they all spotted a reindeer so they all started to run and scream".



Year 3 Topics

This half term the children have been busy working on a range of topics.

English: The year 3 team have been particularly impressed with the children's writing so far already this term. The children are working hard to use exciting verbs and descriptive adjectives within their writing. We have written a comedy narrative, based on the book 'The Incredible Book Eating Boy' and we have written an adventure narrative based on the 'Stone Age Boy' book. The children should be very proud of everything that they have achieved already.

Maths: We have been learning about place value, addition and subtraction. The children have enjoyed revisiting their learning through Flashback 4 activities, quick mental maths games, using resources such as numicon, counters and dienes.

RE: Our big question in R.E this half term has been 'How did Jesus change lives and how is it good news?'. We have focused on the life of Peter the disciple, the value of forgiveness and how Jesus' stories affect the lives of Christians still now. We were lucky to have Rebecca from St Mary's church also come in to speak to us about forgiveness and what Christians believe.

History: This term, we have focused on our Stone Age to Iron Age topic, learning all about pre-history and how people lived in Britain during this time.

Science: This has tied neatly in with our Stone Age topic and has involved understanding rocks and soils and how they are formed.

Art: We have also been practising pre-historic cave paintings. We foraged our own painting materials that would have been used during the Stone Age period and we created our own textured 'cave walls' to draw on using charcoal and black/ brown paints.

Music: We have enjoyed our Viking themed music topic this term, learning to develop our singing techniques as a class. We learnt about notation reading and worked hard to sing and play instruments in time with others.

Computing: We have focused on understanding how digital devices work and how computers make connections. We have enjoyed using the Chromebooks and Google classroom to access our work.



Diary Dates

October	<p>PTA family fireworks at Horsell Cricket Club: Thursday 24th October 5.30-7pm</p> <p>Half term: Week commencing 28th October</p>
November	<p>INSET days: 4th and 5th November</p> <p>Back to school: Wednesday 6th November</p> <p>Autumn assessments: week commencing 11th November</p> <p>PTA Bags2School Collection: Friday 8th November at drop off</p> <p>PTA Disco: Friday 15th November Yr 3&4 - 18:30-19:30</p> <p>Snapshot reports go home: Friday 22nd November</p> <p>PTA Christmas Fair Donations and Mufti Day: Friday 22nd November</p> <p>DT days:</p> <p>Oak: Monday 25th November</p> <p>Elm: Tuesday 26th November</p> <p>Ash: Wednesday 27th November</p> <p>Parents Consultations</p> <p>Elm: Tuesday 26th November 3.30-5.00pm</p> <p>Elm, Ash and Oak: Wednesday 27th November 3.30-6.10pm</p> <p>Ash and Oak: Thursday 28th November 3.30-6.10pm</p>
December	<p>PTA Christmas Fair: Saturday 7th December 12.00-3.00pm, The Horsell Village School</p> <p>Nativity dress rehearsal to whole school: Tuesday 17th December afternoon</p> <p>Nativity performance to parents: Wednesday 18th December 6pm</p> <p>Christmas lunch and jumper day: Thursday 19th December</p> <p>End of term: Friday 20th December</p>
January	<p>Back to school: Monday 6th January 2025</p>