



WEEKLY FOCUS

Thursday 7th November 2024



Isaiah 40:31 "...but those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength.

They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint".

It has been lovely to welcome the children back to school after the half term break. Our school value for this half term is hope, and we will be thinking all about what this means in the run up to Christmas and the wonder of the Advent season.

We enjoyed welcoming parents and carers into school at the end of last term. The children have already packed a lot of learning into this academic year, and I hope you enjoyed looking at their books and talking to them about their learning. Across the school, we are working hard with the children on learning their times tables and all children will now be practising these every day in the classroom. It is really important that this is reinforced at home as secure times table knowledge is essential for children's confidence in mathematics. All of our children have access to 'times table rockstars', which is a good way for them to consolidate their learning, but simple chanting and singing of times tables also really helps!

Best wishes,

Mrs Wand

KEY DATES FOR 8TH—15TH NOVEMBER

**** ASSESSMENT WEEK ****

Friday 8th	PTA Bags2School Collection, 8:20 – 09:00. Please drop your bags off by the side entrance to the hall. Please see further details overleaf. Year 5 Music Workshop. Performance to parents, 14:30—15:00
Saturday 9th	Open Morning for Prospective Parents, 10:00—11:00. Please book here.
Monday 11th	Remembrance Day. Children who are members of Scouts or Girl Guiding may wear their uniform. Due to the risk of loss / damage, please do not send children in with medals or other precious items. There will be a 2 minute silence at 11am in school for years 3—5. Children in Year 6 will be visiting Woking High to observe Remembrance Day. Deadline for booking tickets for the PTA Disco. Please book tickets here.
Tuesday 12th	Deadline for ordering school photos for free delivery. Please order online here.
Wednesday 13th	Year 6 Height and Weight Check. Please give/decline consent here; school code SR125201. Year 4 Past Productions "The Romans", in school.
Thursday 14th	Social Media Working Party, 14:00. We are setting up a working party of parents and senior leadership to consider ways we can support families around the use of social media by our children. If you would like to join us, please click here.
Friday 15th	PTA Disco, Year 3 & 4, 18:15—19:15. Please book tickets here by 11th November. PTA Disco, Years 5 & 6, 19:30—20:30. Please book tickets here by 11th November.

PARENT CONSULTATIONS

Wednesday 27th & Thursday 28th November

Our parent consultations will take place on the 27th and 28th November, from 15:30—18:10. You will be able to book your appointment on **Arbor** so please do sign up for Arbor parent portal / app beforehand. Details of when and how to book will follow shortly.

PACKED LUNCHES

We would like to remind parents that packed lunches should not contain **sweets** or any items containing **nuts**.



As part of our healthy eating policy, we encourage pupils who eat a packed lunch to enjoy a balanced diet including, for example, a sandwich, cereal bar and a piece of fruit.

SCHOOL CONSULTATIONS

We are required to share details of local admission arrangements and consultations on our website. These can be found [here](#). There are currently consultations for Holy Family, Pyrford and Salesian Schools.



COLLECTION:

**Friday 8th November
8:30—9am**

The change in season provides a great opportunity to clear out the wardrobes and help the PTA fundraise for our children. We can donate the following “good quality” items for RE-USE using the bag provided or your own bag from home:



Clothes



Paired shoes



Handbags



Hats



Bags



Scarves and ties



Bras



Jewellery



Socks



Belts

Thank you in advance for your support, your PTA

SOCIAL MEDIA WORKING PARTY

14th November at 2pm

WORRIED ABOUT YOUR CHILD'S USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA?

We are hoping to set up a working party of parents and senior leadership to consider ways we can support families around the use of social media by our children.



We are planning an informal discussion on 14th November at 2pm as a space to share ideas, concerns and possible school-wide solutions. Tea and cakes will be provided! Please let us know [here](#) if you will be attending.



FIREWORKS EVENING

Thank you to Andy and Peter and all the volunteers who helped plan, run and tidy up after this annual event. The Cricket Club generously provided us with a venue again this year, and we understand their bar takings exceeded previous years. Thank you also to Dee who provided delicious chicken wraps, paneer wraps and hot dogs.

I am sure everyone who attended will agree that the display was fantastic! It is always a lovely way to round off the first half term of the year. With a record-breaking 1,000 tickets sold, this event made £2,380, which will be shared between the two schools.



Turn your online Christmas shopping into FREE donations for our school.

Click [here](#) to find out more.

ATTENDANCE POLICY AND GOVERNMENT CHANGES

The guidance to schools from the Department for Education and Surrey County Council on low attendance and unauthorised leave of absence changed on 19th August 2024.

Low Attendance:

Instances of low attendance are expected to be investigated, and supportive measures agreed to improve attendance. If this does not happen, and a child has 10 unauthorised absences (sessions, morning or afternoon) in a rolling 10-week period, the school will issue a 'Notice to Improve'. This then formalises the monitoring period, which will be 15 school days, whereby the child's attendance must improve to avoid being issued a Fixed Penalty Notice.

Unauthorised Leave of Absence:

If a child takes 10 sessions (5 days) of unauthorised leave of absence, a Fixed Penalty Notice will be issued. Leave of absence can only be applied for in exceptional circumstances. The Education Regulations 2013, which became law on 01 September 2013, state that Headteachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances. Where parents/carers have been notified that the leave of absence request is unauthorised, there is no warning period ahead of the penalty notice.

Penalty Notices:

Penalty Notices are changing, in both amount and cost.

- The amount payable for the first penalty notices will increase to £80 per notice if paid within 21 days. If paid between 21 and 28 days, the amount payable has risen to £160 per notice.
- If a parent/carer incurs a penalty notice for the same child, the rolling three-year period will be activated from the date of the first penalty notice and the second penalty notice will be charged at the flat rate of £160, per notice. There will be no reduction for paying within 21 days.
- Where a parent/carer has incurred 2 penalty notices for the same child within that rolling three-year period, the parent/carer CANNOT receive a further penalty notice and Surrey County Council will consider a prosecution under s 444 Education Act 1996.

Each parent/carer will be liable to receive a penalty notice.

A full copy of our attendance policy can be found [here](#).



Food, game tokens, show and raffle tickets now on sale [here!](#)

