



WEEKLY FOCUS

Thursday 13th March 2025

Dear Parents and Guardians,

At Horsell Junior School, your child's safety is our top priority. We know that by working together, we can help our children make safe choices both in and out of school. Here are some key points to keep in mind:

Reporting concerns

- Teach your child to always report any concerns or suspicious activities to a trusted adult, whether it's a teacher, school staff member, or you as their parent. We have repeated this message to the children in school.
- Let them know it's okay to speak up if they feel uncomfortable or unsafe in any situation.

Supervising mobile phone use

- *School Hours:* Children must turn their device off at the gates and hand it in to their class teacher on arrival.
- *Online Safety:* Discuss the importance of not sharing personal information online and being cautious when interacting with strangers. We give regular reminders about being kind and behaviour expectations with their peers if they play games etc online.

Safe journeys to and from school

- *Travel Companions:* Encourage your child to travel with friends or in groups for added safety. Their behaviour to and from school still follows our behaviour policy and they are expected to be responsible and kind members of the local community.
- *Safe Routes:* Practise the safest routes to and from school, highlighting safe crossing points and areas to avoid.
- *Stranger Danger and safe strangers:* Remind your child never to accept rides from strangers and to be cautious of unknown individuals. Please remind the children that if they are unsure or feel unsafe, the office is manned after school, during clubs, and there will be people in the village who may be able to help such as shop assistants or people who are based along the high street offices.

Following Instructions

- Reinforce the importance of listening to teachers and school staff for everyone's safety.
- Encourage your child to ask questions if they're unsure about any instructions.

By staying vigilant and supportive, we can ensure our children are making safe choices every day. Thank you for your continued cooperation and commitment to creating a secure environment for our students.

Kind regards,
Mrs Brinicombe



Please remember to book your lunches for week commencing 24th March by Sunday 16th March.

KEY DATES FOR FRIDAY 14TH—21ST MARCH

Monday 17th	Climbing Wall and Archery Day—years 4 & 5. Please see details below. RSE (Relationships and Sex Education) Curriculum Meeting for parents, school hall, 17:00. To help us estimate numbers, please sign up here . Please note this meeting is not suitable for children to attend.
Tuesday 18th	Climbing Wall and Archery Day—years 3 & 6. Please see details below. Years 3&4 Cross Country Competition, Hoebridge School, 16:15—17:00 (by invitation)
Wednesday 19th	Voice in a Million (signed up choir members only). Tag Rugby Tournament, year 5&6 boys and girls, Pirbright, 13:15—16:00.
Friday 21st	Handbell group perform at Horsell Lodge, 13:30—15:10



CLIMBING WALL AND ARCHERY DAYS

On Monday, 17th March (years 4&5) and Tuesday, 18th March (years 3 & 6) we will be welcoming some archery and climbing instructors

into school to introduce the children to sports that they may be unfamiliar with. Every child will have the opportunity to use a full-scale climbing wall and be taught the fundamentals of archery.

Children should come to school in their PE kit and trainers on these days. Please also ensure that children have a cagoule or lightweight waterproof in case of rain.



The climbing wall will be in the front playground. We ask that, at pickup time, parents and carers supervise their children carefully as the wall must not be used without the supervision of trained instructors.

REPORTING ABSENCES

To help us complete our morning registers efficiently, we kindly ask that absences due to illness/unexpected events are reported either:

- On Arbor (preferred)
- By leaving a voice message on our absence line: 01483 761531, option 1.

Please note we will no longer be using Studybugs for absence reporting.

For pre-planned absences, please give as much notice as possible, using our [leave of absence form](#).

SWIMMING LESSON CONTRIBUTIONS

We hope that your children have enjoyed their swimming lessons so far this year. We are very fortunate to have our own pool, allowing us to offer children a weekly swimming lesson for a total of one term each year. This exceeds the National Curriculum requirements.

In order to offer this, we ask that parents make a contribution, which covers the cost of providing a qualified swimming instructor, an additional member of staff to help supervise/help with changing and a little towards running costs.

Thank you to everyone who has already made a contribution. If you have not done so already, and are able to, please make your contribution on Scopay in the “Trips and Events” section. We are asking for £29.56 per child, which equates to less than £3 per session.

We try hard to raise additional funds to by renting out our pool to other schools, swim clubs and for parties at the weekend. If you would like to book the pool for a party, please visit our [website](#) to find out more!



YEAR 3 VISIT RHS WISLEY



Year 3 had a great time at Wisley on our first official trip last Tuesday!

The children enjoyed seeing the glass house and the Hilltop Learning Centre. They enjoyed workshops where they could study different seeds and had the opportunity to plant some seeds themselves.

We also went on walks around the gardens and saw lots of beautiful plants flowering. Their behaviour was fantastic and they were all a credit to the school.

Thank you so much to the parent volunteers that offered their help and those that came with us on the day, we are always grateful for your support.



We are pleased that so many of our children travel to school using active modes of transport including walking, cycling and scooting to school.

We have had some reports of inconsiderate and risky behaviour, especially among children travelling independently to school. This includes jumping off low walls on scooters, racing on pavements, knocking into or blocking other pedestrians.

If your child travels to school independently, we would ask that parents / carers remind their children to be safe and courteous in their travels.

Please be reminded that children travelling to school by bicycle should wear a helmet. These are also recommended for children travelling on scooters. Thank you!

BEECH CLASS ASSEMBLY

Beech class recently showcased their hard work and learning during their class assembly. Students shared exciting projects and presented their recent class activities, including creative art, a dance they learnt in PE and highlights from their English and math lessons.

The assembly was a wonderful opportunity for students to demonstrate their knowledge, confidence, and teamwork, and parents were thrilled to see their enthusiasm and progress.

It was a fantastic way to celebrate their achievements so far this year!



Vector Drawing by Ethan



Self Portrait by Jess



Thank you for all the donations to OPAL through the bingo, we now have a wonderful supply of dressing up and stage resources, lots of chinks, extra balls and additional equipment which will make OPAL more imaginative and fun.

Watch this space for an up and coming OPAL afternoon, when we will be inviting you come and find out what OPAL is all about and join in the OPAL fun.

We kindly ask that all donations are made on specified donation days to help us better manage our resources and ensure we're able to organise them efficiently the children can make the most of them. If you have something special or too big to store until the next donation day, which you think would make a good addition to our OPAL play, please contact the school office who will be able to confirm if we are able to take receipt of these. Your support is always appreciated!