



WEEKLY FOCUS

Thursday 20th March 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

**"Just as one body, though one, has many parts,
but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ." – 1 Corinthians 12:12**

As we continue through this term, I am reminded of the beautiful message in 1 Corinthians 12:12. Our school is a community made up of many individuals—students, teachers, staff, and families—each with unique gifts and talents. Yet, together, we form one united body, working in harmony to nurture and educate our children.

During this season of Lent, where we are encouraging our children to say 'thank you' to our teachers and support staff, I would like to extend my gratitude to the team at Horsell, who continue to inspire our students every day.

This week, we are particularly proud of:

- Our team of Year 5 and 6 children who competed in a rugby tournament at Pyrford Primary School - and won, becoming District Rugby Champions for the third year in a row!
- Our choir, who performed in *Voice in a Million* last night.
- A small group of our children who will be singing at the Diocesan Headteacher Conference next week.
- Several of our students who had a successful evening in a local swimming gala at the weekend.

In other news, I would like to draw parents' attention to a talk (details enclosed with this newsletter) from a representative from PAPAYA (Parents Against Phone Addiction in Young Adolescents). This promises to be a very informative evening and I would urge you to attend.

Best wishes,
Ms Wand

KEY DATES FOR FRIDAY 21ST—28TH MARCH

Friday 21st	Handbell group perform at Horsell Lodge, 13:30—15:10
Monday 24th	Year 5 and 6 attend Easter Experience, St Mary's Church (in school hours) Cross Country Relay Race, years 5&6, Hoebridge School, 16:15-17:00 (by invitation)
Tuesday 25th	Year 3 DT Day
Friday 28th	Mufti Day for York Road Project. Please see details on the next page.

**Please book your lunches for 30th March—4th April by Sunday, 23rd March.
A new menu for next term will be published next week!**



York Road Project
Defeating Homelessness Together

Mufti Day – Friday 28th March

We wrote previously that our children had chosen, as part of our service value, to raise funds for the **York Road Project**, a charity that provides vital support for those experiencing homelessness. The CEO of the York Road Project visited Horsell a couple of weeks ago to explain the work of the charity to them.

We are excited to announce that on **Friday 28th March**, the school council (made up of a child from each class) has chosen to hold a **Mufti Day** to support the **York Road Project**. On this day, children are invited to come to school wearing something **yellow, orange, red, or khaki (green)**. Please note that **football kits are not permitted**.

We kindly ask each child to bring a **minimum donation of £1**, which will be collected by our School Council members at the school gates in the morning. Thank you for your generosity and support in helping us make a difference.

We are delighted to invite you to an important and thought-provoking talk by Jennifer Powers from PAPAYA (Parents Against Phone Addiction in Young Adolescents). This event will take place at 7:30pm on Tuesday, 29th April, at Horsell C of E Junior School. The event is also open to parents of children at the Village School.

As you know, the increasing use of mobile phones and social media among young people is a growing concern. Jennifer Powers will share valuable insights on the impact of phone addiction, strategies to support children in developing healthy digital habits, and practical steps that parents can take to navigate this challenge.

We encourage all parents to attend this session, as it will provide essential guidance on fostering a balanced relationship between technology and childhood development. To reserve your place, please [click here](#) or scan the QR code on the attached flyer. For more information about Jennifer, and the PAPAYA charity, please visit their website <https://www.papayaparents.com/>

We look forward to welcoming you to this insightful event.

CHILDREN, SMARTPHONES AND APPS

A talk from
Jennifer Powers
from PAPAYA





Whether your child has a smartphone or not, join us to find out some tips to manage smartphones and other devices in your family.

Learn more about the impact of smartphones and social media on children, and what we can do to delay or limit their exposure.



PAPAYA

Get your ticket here

https://tinyurl.com/HJSPAPAYA





Swimming Gala!

On Saturday 15th March, Miss Withers and Mrs Tapley took 8 of our Year 5 & 6 students to Surrey primary schools relay swimming gala. The boys and girls' teams had to swim a Freestyle and Medley race, both a 4 x 25m relay.

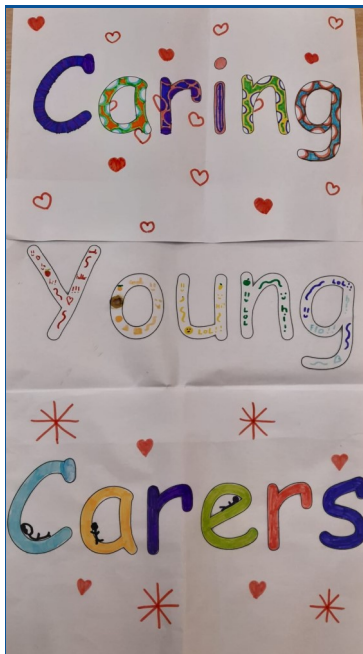
All of the children did exceptionally well, swam some brilliant relay times and worked so well as a team to achieve their very best. It was a fantastic watch from the side and they all represented Horsell amazingly.



CLIMBING AND ARCHERY DAY

This week, we were lucky to have SOLD (Surrey Outdoor Learning and Development) visit us to introduce our children to some rock climbing and archery. For many of the children, this was a new and exciting opportunity / sport for them to try and there were lots of smiles!

Well done to everyone who was **brave** and faced their fears on the climbing wall. Also well done to those that were **collaborative** and **articulate**, cheering your peers on and offering positive encouragement to one another. We hope you enjoyed the opportunity and that you may be inspired to take up a new sport!



YOUNG CARERS' ASSEMBLY

As well as being St Patrick's day on 17th March, it was also the day when we held our Young Carers Assembly to coincide with Young Carers Action Day, which was on Wednesday, 14th March.

All of the Young Carers were involved in preparing the assembly and several of them helped to present it. The Young Carers recited a poem together, which reminded us how they are caring all of the time - looking after their loved ones. As certain words were mentioned, a related coloured picture was held up.

We would like to thank all our Young Carers for all that they do at home to support their families. We would also like to thank St Mary's Church, who provides wonderful volunteers to support the group as well as funds so that we can enjoy crafts, cooking and other fun activities.

If you are a Young Carer and would like to find out more about how we can support you in school, please speak to your teacher or Mr Stevenson.

YEAR 6 REQUEST FOR MAGAZINES

Please could year 6 children bring in magazines with coloured pictures ready for an art lesson next term. This could be gardening magazines, free magazines— anything suitable for children to use for collages, etc.

THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone who has been reporting their children's absences via Arbor. This has been really helpful in completing our registers promptly in the mornings!

OLIVER'S AND ANNA'S TRIP TO THE HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT



The journey to parliament took 40 minutes and they had to go by train. Sadly, the train was very crowded so they had to stand all the way there and back!

From Woking train station, they went to Waterloo station and walked approximately 20 to 25 minutes to Christian Aid - a charity for less fortunate children – next they walked to Portcullis House which was 15 minutes away.

Members of Parliament visited the exhibition. There were over 20 MPs! There were more than 20 other school children from both primary and secondary schools who worked as tour guides for the event. Anna and Oliver met Will Forster, who is Woking's MP, and lots of other MPs who work at Portcullis house.

They then visited Parliament. When they first got in, it wasn't that busy but in some debates it was bustling with people. Anna and Oliver saw the House of Commons and the House of Lords. They learnt that Workers started building the parliament in 1837, the cornerstone was laid in 1840 and the construction of the Parliament was finished in 1840. They really enjoyed their visit, and told me that public can book to visit the houses of parliament also if they would like to find out more.



Oliver and Anna with Mrs Brinicombe, showing our Climate Justice Posters to Christine Allan, director of CAFOD, and Will Forster, MP.



Anna being filmed by Christian Aid

Interview and report by Sita (Willow class)



Additional Needs Service showcase

**Tuesday 29th
April 2025
10am - 3pm**

**Easter Centre
St John's Church
Manor Farm Lane
Egham, TW20 9HR**

Free parking onsite and public transport nearby.

- ✦ Come and find out about local and national services!
- ✦ Age range 0-25 years for Children and Young People with Additional Needs
- ✦ For Families and Practitioners

If you would further details please scan the QR code or email localoffer@surreycc.gov.uk

