

# Horsell CofE Junior School

## Fortnightly focus

Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2025



Dear Parents and Carers,

*"Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it."*  
— Proverbs 22:6 (NIV)

Our Year 4 children have been busy creating and decorating their own biscuits as part of their DT project this week. It was a sweet success, and we were all very impressed by their creativity and teamwork! Meanwhile, Year 3 pupils have been designing and sewing their own cushions, and we are grateful to the parent helpers who have supported them through these fantastic projects.

The playground building continues to progress, and we are excited about the improvements being made. The children are already looking forward to the new climbing frames, slides and tunnels, which they will be able to play on and explore in the coming months.

It was lovely to see so many of you at Parents' Evening this week. It is always a pleasure to have the opportunity to share your child's progress and achievements with you.

On Tuesday, our Year 6 students took part in an Act of Remembrance at Woking High to honour those who have served and sacrificed for our country. We are incredibly proud of how they conducted themselves, representing the school with dignity and respect.

Thank you once again for all your ongoing support. We have a lot to look forward to in the coming weeks, so please keep your eye on the school calendar.

With best wishes,  
Mrs Wand

### Key dates 14<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup> November:

#### Friday 14<sup>th</sup> November

- **Cherry class assembly**, 9:00 - 9:30. Hot drinks and photography are not permitted.
- **Boys' Football Tournament** (by invitation), 12:40 - 15:30, Woking Leisure Centre.
- **No dodgeball club.**

#### Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> November

- **Year 3 Music Workshop** (students only)
- **Times Table Rockstars "England Rocks"** competition starts, 7:30am!

#### Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> November

- **Year 3 Music Workshop with performance to parents** 14:30 - 15:00, school hall.

#### Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> November

- **PTA Disco.** Year 3&4 18:15 - 19:15, Year 5&6 19:30 - 20:30. Book your tickets [here!](#)
- **Times Table Rockstars "England Rocks"** competition ends, 7:30pm!

#### Friday 21<sup>st</sup> November

- **PTA Mufti Day and Christmas Fair donations.** Please enter via the usual gate; the PTA will collect donations on the playground. Please see details of donation requests overleaf.
- **Spruce class assembly**, 9:00 - 9:30. Hot drinks and photography are not permitted.



Please remember to order lunches for 24<sup>th</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup> November by this Sunday. Lunches must be booked 1 week in advance or a packed lunch brought to school.

Please remember we are a nut free school - no products containing nuts are allowed in school.



## TERM DATES 2026 - 27

Our term dates for the next academic year have been finalised, and can be found on the school website calendar. These are as follows:

<b>2026/27</b>	
INSET Day	1 and 2 September 2026
First Day Autumn Term	3 September
INSET Day	16 October
Half Term	19 - 30 October
Last Day of Autumn Term	18 December
First day of Spring Term 2027	4 January 2027
Spring Half Term	15-19 February
Last day of Spring Term	24 March
INSET Day	25 March
First Day of Summer Term	12 April
Summer Half Term	31 May - 4 June
INSET Day	28 June
Last Day of Summer Term	23 July

**THANK YOU!**

Thank you to everyone who donated to our Harvest Collection. Woking Food bank were delighted to receive 163kg of donations, in addition to £135 generously donated by Year 5 parents at the Harvest Festival.



### Consultation on the future of Hoe valley School Sixth Form

Hoe Valley School are consulting on the future of their Sixth Form. You can find a copy of their consultation on our [website](#), along with other local school consultations and admissions policies. The consultation runs until Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2025.

## GURU NANAK ASSEMBLY

Last week, Mrs Bamra and Mrs Bedhi delivered assembly about Guru Nanak, the founder of Sikhism. Sikhs commemorate his birth in November; this is one of the most significant festivals in the Sikh faith, celebrated to honour his life and teachings on equality, service, and humanity.

Mrs Bamra and Mrs Bedhi kindly shared sweets with all the children to celebrate.



## CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Our Christmas lunch will be on Thursday 18th December. Please help us estimate our numbers by booking your lunch as soon as possible on Scopay.



## A SLICE OF ROMAN HISTORY

Year 4 enjoyed a deliciously hands-on history lesson when Squisito Italian Takeaway Kitchen visited to support the children's Roman Week.

Owner Michele and head Pizzaiolo Aldo, both proudly from Naples, the home of pizza, brought their homemade dough balls and fresh ingredients to turn the classroom into a mini pizzeria for the morning!

Before the pizza-making began, it was explained how the Romans enjoyed flatbreads long before tomatoes ever reached Europe. The children learned that the pizza we know today evolved in Naples in the 18th century, when tomato sauce and mozzarella cheese were first added, and the Margherita was born.

The chefs then demonstrated how to flatten and stretch dough, add toppings, before baking both a Roman-style flatbread and a classic Margherita pizza. Then it was the children's turn! Working in small groups, they shaped their own pizzas and added their favourite toppings before enjoying a well-earned slice.

"It was wonderful to see the children so engaged learning, laughing and tasting history at the same time," added Michele, owner of Squisito. "We loved sharing a bit of Naples with the pupils, staff and a few parents."

"The children were completely engaged and had such a brilliant time learning not only about the art of pizza making, but also about the cultural and historical roots of Roman cuisine," said Mrs Parker, Head of Year 3 and 4. "It was the perfect complement to their classroom learning. They have not stopped talking about it since!"

It was a fun-filled morning of history, food and teamwork. Thank you to the teachers, parent helpers, and of course Michele and Aldo, for bringing a slice of Roman culture to life!

For more photos of our pizza making, please click [here](#).



## YEAR 4 ROMAN DAY

Year 4 stepped back in time for an unforgettable Roman Day, led by the brilliant team from Past Productions!

The children looked incredible in their Roman costumes, fully embracing the spirit of the era. Throughout the day, they took part in dramatic role-play, examined fascinating Roman artefacts, and even marched around the playground like disciplined Roman soldiers.

The immersive experience brought history to life, sparking curiosity and excitement as pupils imagined what it was like to live in ancient Rome. It was a day filled with learning, laughter, and lots of toga-clad adventures!



Click [here](#) for more photos of our Roman Day!

## YEAR 3 STONE AGE WORKSHOP



Year 3 children journeyed back in time through the Stone Age topic, exploring ancient techniques and natural materials. They created imaginative artworks inspired by cave painting and bringing prehistoric stories to life.

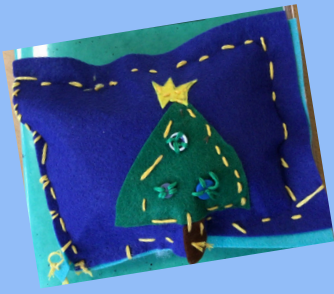
You can view more photos [here](#).

Year 3 also had a fantastic time during their Stone Age workshop led by Chertsey Museum! The session brought history to life as pupils explored a fascinating collection of genuine and replica artefacts, including tools, weapons, and everyday items used by early humans. Through hands-on activities and engaging discussions, the children deepened their understanding of the Stone Age and developed a real appreciation for the resourcefulness of prehistoric people. Find out more [here](#).



Year 3 enjoyed making cushions last week in DT.

Thank you to all the parent helpers who came and help thread many needles during the sessions. The cushions are looking great with both cross stitch and running stitch



## #THROWBACK THURSDAY

We loved all the wonderful, crazy hairdos on display at our first Crazy Hair Day. From vibrant colours and extensions, to cupcakes and octopus hair to Mohicans, it really was an eye catching affair. Did you spot Ratatouille helping control Mrs Withers' movements?

This event raised £990 across the two schools, which goes towards educational enhancements such as our new playground. Thank you for your support!



# ENGLAND ROCKS

18TH TO 20TH NOVEMBER  
7:30AM TO 7:30PM DAILY

✖ PLAY IN ANY GAME TYPE!

1HR TIME LIMIT PER PERSON! ÷

WINNING CLASS WILL HAVE THE HIGHEST NUMBER OF CORRECT ANSWERS PER STUDENT!



TIMES TABLES ROCK STARS



## CUT YOUR CARBON

Throughout November, we're challenging everyone to complete 6 small carbon-cutting activities at home with friends and family.

These actions will reduce your everyday carbon emissions and benefit our planet.

To find out how you can get involved, speak to a member of the school Eco-Committee.





4.00pm to 5.30pm

23rd November

Explore a Bible theme through craft, food, games or nature. There will be a short celebration with a story, songs and prayers.

For all ages!  
Picnic tea provided!

Messy Church is part of The Bible Reading Fellowship (BRF), a Registered Charity. brf.org.uk

Saint Mary the Virgin  
Horsell

# JUNIOR SCHOOL DISCO

THURDAY, 20TH NOV  
YEAR 3&4 18:15-19:15  
YEARS 5&6 19:30-20:30

HOUSE DJ  
DJ DUNSFORD

£5 per ticket, book via the link (advanced tickets only).  
Drinks and snacks included



## CHRISTMAS FAIR EVERYONE WELCOME!

SAT 6TH DEC 12PM-3PM  
THE HORSELL VILLAGE SCHOOL, GU21 4QQ

Scan the QR code to pre-buy  
SHOWS, FOOD, TOKENS & RAFFLE

NEW GAMES Magic Show Choir Turkey Rolls  
Elf Games Home bakes TOMBOLA Mince pies  
Online Raffle Gingerbread cookies GIF Booth  
FACE PAINTING GIANT TEDDY Jolly Jars  
Stories with Mrs Claus Prosecco Mulled wine  
SOUR DOUGH PIZZA Hot chocolate & MORE

Pre-purchase by Friday 5th December

To pre-purchase food, shows, tokens & to enter the raffle draw visit:

[Link to PTA Events Xmas Fair Pre-Sales](#)

Or scan the QR codes:

Children's Choir times

The Horsell Village School: 12:30  
The Horsell Junior School: 13:00

FOOD, SHOWS, TOKENS



ONLINE RAFFLE



Non uniform day for all children at both schools - no football kit please

## HORSELL SCHOOLS' PTA CHRISTMAS FAIR MUFTI DAY DONATIONS

FRIDAY 21ST NOVEMBER BETWEEN 8.15AM & 9AM @ THE SCHOOL GATES

\* NO Nuts or Items containing Nuts \*

**YEAR 3-SWEETS & CHOCOLATES-** Sweet & chocolate multi packs i.e. individually wrapped packs of sweets, chocolate bars, lollies that would be perfect as a prize. NO ITEM CONTAINING NUTS.

**YEAR 4-PARTY BAG ITEMS-**(no party bag needed). i.e. small toys, balls, pots of putty, small activities, stickers, perfect as prizes, as gender neutral as possible please **OR SWEETS & CHOCOLATES-** multi packs i.e. individually wrapped packs of sweets, chocolate bars, lollies that would be perfect as a prize. NO ITEM CONTAINING NUTS.

**YEAR 5-FESTIVE TOMBOLA-**Christmas themed gifts. i.e. candles, crackers, christmas food, decorations, adult's/children's gifts, bottles etc.

**YEAR 6-PARTY BAG ITEMS-** (no party bag needed). i.e. small toys, balls, pots of putty, small activities, stickers, small gifts. As gender neutral as possible please.

Please contact your class rep for any queries

Everyone welcome!

Regardless of the year group, please bring along and donate any spare toys for the toy tombola or festive gifts for the festive tombola. We are also in need of wrapping paper. All donations are much appreciated!



**PAPAYA**

# The Power of Play

Rediscovering Childhood in the Digital Age

Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> November 2025

8:00 PM to 9:30 PM

ONLINE VIA TEAMS



DR SUSIE DAVIES  
FOUNDER AND CEO PAPAYA

EMILY JENNINGS  
PLAY CHAMPION

[tickets £3 available here](#)

Please join **PAPAYA** for our NEW webinar

## The Power of Play

Exploring the importance of play in childhood development and wellbeing, and the impact that screens are having on children. Designed for KS1 and KS2 parents. Non-judgemental, interactive, and informative.

- The Importance of Play
- Positive Solutions for Your Family
- The Impact of Screens on Childhood
- Q&A and Sharing of Top Tips



Dr Susie Davies is a GP with a special interest in adolescent mental health. She is the founder and CEO of PAPAYA and is passionate about improving mental health outcomes for today's adolescents. Dr Davies founded PAPAYA seven years ago after recognising the link between technology use and poor mental health in students. She is the author of *The Healthy Selfie: How to Like Yourself in the Digital Age*.



Emily Jennings is a Play Champion, Childhood Advocate, and Playful Places Design Consultant with a background in Psychology. She is a mother of four with over 20 years of lived experience in parenting. Emily is passionate about the power of play in supporting children's development and wellbeing. She has campaigned for better playgrounds, advised on the design of playful public spaces, and shared her insights in a TEDx talk.



SURREY  
COUNTY COUNCIL

# Is your child starting school in September 2026?

If your child was born between 1 September 2021 and 31 August 2022 you will need to apply for a school place. You can apply between **3 November 2025** and **15 January 2026**.

If you live in Surrey, you can find out all you need to know about school admissions and apply online at [surreycc.gov.uk/admissions](https://surreycc.gov.uk/admissions) or you can call us on **0300 200 1004**.



Applying on time will give your child the best chance of getting one of your preferred schools.

Apply online  
between  
3 November 2025  
and 15 January 2026

