

# Horsell CofE Junior School

## Fortnightly focus

Thursday 27th November 2025



Dear Parents and Carers,

As we enter the beautiful time of Advent, we take time to reflect on hope, anticipation, and the joy of waiting. *"The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it."* – John 1:5  
This verse reminds us that Advent invites us to look forward with hope, knowing that even small acts of kindness can illuminate the world.

Hope is our school value this half term and we have been saying different prayers of hope in collective worship and class, to help us reflect on the anticipation of this special season.

With this spirit in mind, we are delighted to share that next week we will begin our Reverse Advent Calendar. Instead of receiving daily treats, children are encouraged (if they wish and are able) to bring in small items that can be donated to Woking families in need. This simple yet meaningful tradition is a wonderful way for us to live out our school value of hope, shining light into the lives of others. These donations will be given to the York Road project.

I am also delighted to announce the long-awaited opening of our new playground climbing frames! The children have already shown great excitement and it is lovely to see them enjoying this new resource. A heartfelt thank you to our fantastic PTA whose hard work and fundraising efforts made this possible. We are truly grateful.

With Christmas approaching, please do continue to support the PTA where you can—including at the Christmas Fair, which promises festive fun and is a vital part of raising funds for future school projects. Every contribution really does make a difference.

Preparations for the Nativity are now well underway, with Year 3 practising enthusiastically and showing great commitment. We would like to express our warm thanks to all the volunteers who have given their time to support the children—your help is invaluable, not only for the Nativity but also for many other exciting things that you support across the school.

We look forward to sharing a season of hope, joy, and community with you all.

With very best wishes,  
Mrs Wand

### Key dates 28<sup>th</sup> November - 6<sup>th</sup> December:

#### Friday 28<sup>th</sup> November

- **Acer class assembly**, 8:55 prompt. Hot drinks and photography are not permitted.

#### Monday 1<sup>st</sup> December

- **Pine class festive baking (DT)**, PM
- **Reverse Advent Calendar collection for York Road Project starts** (details overleaf)

#### Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December

- **Acer class festive baking (DT)**, PM

#### Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December

- **Palm class festive baking (DT)**, PM

#### Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December

- **Palm class assembly**, 8:55 prompt. Hot drinks and photography are not permitted.
- **Handbell performance to Horsell Lodge** (by invitation)

#### Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> December

- PTA Christmas Fair, the Horsell Village School, 12:00 - 15:00.
- The Horsell Village Christmas Fair, 12:00 - 16:00, Horsell High Street, Village Hall, Scout and Guide HQ and Evangelical Church.

# Reverse ADVENT CALENDAR

Love and service are two of our school values, and as part of this we encourage our children to think of others. We will be running our annual "Reverse Advent Calendar", where we ask children to bring in a donation. This year, donations will be in aid of York Road Project.

Children can bring in one of the suggested donation on any day between 1<sup>st</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> December. Donations should be brought to the school reception area please.



**Pot Noodles**



**Porridge pots**



**Breakfast Bars**



**Multi pack crisps**



**Small juice cartons**



**Sugar**



**Biscuits**



**Coffee & hot chocolate**



**Chocolate bars**



**Canned hot dogs**



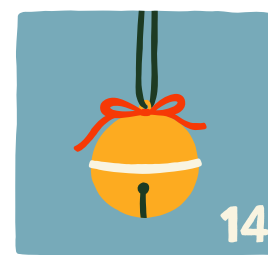
**Men's socks**



**Men's boxers (S,M,L)**



**Trainers in good condition, size 7 - 12**



**Toothpaste**



**Shampoo**



**Conditioner**



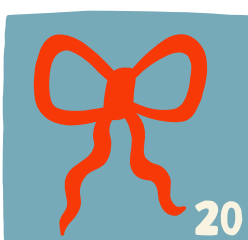
**Toothbrushes**



**Razors**



**Sleeping bags  
(new & waterproof)**



**Canned ready meals, pies, meatballs, soups and spaghetti**



**Combs,  
hair brushes  
or detanglers**

## Please do not include:

- Anything out of date or nearing expiry date
- Anything perishable/fresh
- Homemade items such as pickles or jams.
- Mixed pulses, e.g. lentils, chickpeas or lentils.
- Canned fruit, pastas, tea bags, shaving gel





## HORSELL JUNIOR CHRISTMAS POST

Children who would like to send friends cards can do so via the school Christmas Post. A letterbox will be available in reception from Monday 1<sup>st</sup> December.

Please ensure the envelopes are clearly labelled with the NAME and CLASS of the recipient to make sure they are delivered to the right person! They will be delivered regularly to each class by our office monitors.

Have you kept last year's Christmas cards? Why not celebrate the season sustainably by getting crafty and upcycling these into new cards!

The last posting date will be **Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December.**

**Remember to return your Cut your Carbon forms by Friday 28<sup>th</sup> November!**

**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.

Logos at the bottom: CYC, Eco-Schools, KEEP BRITAIN TIDY, Foundations, PROTECT OUR EARTH TRUST.

## CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Our Christmas lunch will be on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December. If your child wishes to have a Christmas lunch, please book by tomorrow, Friday 28<sup>th</sup> November!

*Christmas Menu*

**Roast British Turkey**  
or  
**Quorn Fillet,**  
served with chipolata sausage and stuffing, roast potatoes, fresh baton carrots, garden peas and gravy  
and  
**Chef's Festive Shortbread**

RED TRACOR CERTIFIED STANDARDS

Twelve 15



## OPAL WORKING GROUP

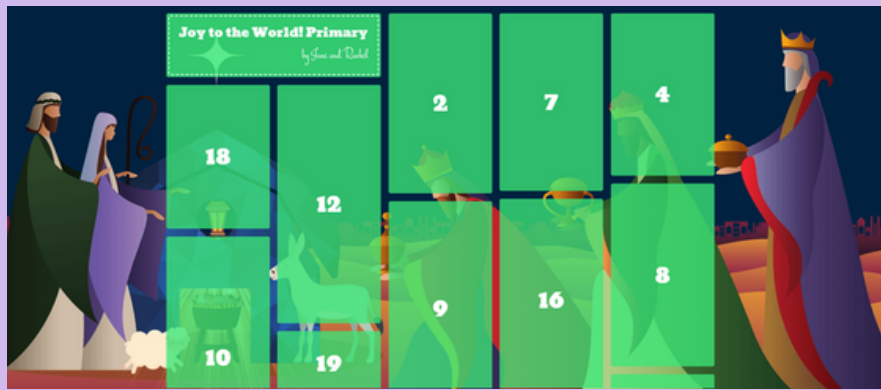
Thank you for all the OPAL donations that have been given to the school. It makes a huge difference to our children's lunch time, developing communication, interaction, team work and exploratory skills, to name a few.

We are looking to start up an OPAL working group, could this be something for you?

We will meet 1-2 times a term to look at all things OPAL, consider what else can be done to improve play times, support and champion donations and help with fundraising for larger items.

If this is something that you would like to be involved in or would like to know more, please contact Mrs Webb on [g.webb@horsell-junior.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:g.webb@horsell-junior.surrey.sch.uk).





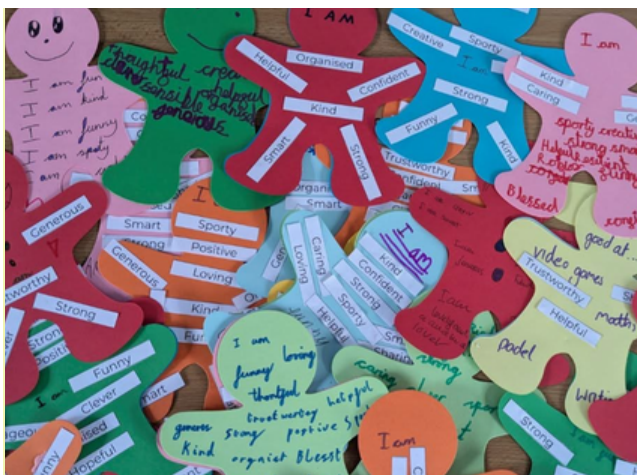
## ONLINE ADVENT CALENDAR

The joy at the birth of Jesus is shared by Christians across the world.

The Diocese of Guildford have created an online advent calendar exploring how Christians across the world tell this universal story in words and images. Teachers will be sharing this with children in class from Monday 1<sup>st</sup> December.

The calendar uses resources created by Compassion, a Christian child-sponsorship charity, who have created beautifully sensitive and joyfully cultural retellings of the Nativity. We often revisit the same questions exploring how different global contexts might influence how the story is shown: the story is the same, the joy is the same, but the settings are very different.

Families can enjoy the advent calendars at home on weekends [here](#). We hope that you enjoy seeing how others celebrate; perhaps you will get some new ideas for your celebrations this year. Feliz Navidad!



### YEAR 3 PRAYER SPACE

Year 3 loved the Prayer Space session run by volunteers from Engage last week. The children rotated around four stations, reflecting on our hopes and dreams, strengths and weaknesses, how to manage worries and how to forgive and let go of things that have hurt us.

In the "This is Me" station, they thought about how they had all been created to be amazing people and decorated a paper person showing all their great attributes.



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

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



### WORK IN PROGRESS AT CHESS CLUB

At our popular, lunch time, chess club one Wednesday, Rajdip and Finley played a magnificent game that lasted for most of the lesson. Here they are, focusing on every move!

## VACANCIES



We are currently recruiting for two positions:

A teaching assistant to work with a named child (closing date Monday 8<sup>th</sup> December).

and

Teacher for upper key stage 2, maternity cover from Easter.

Please do share with anyone you know who might be interested in joining our team. To find out more, please click on the above links.



Please remember to order lunches for 8th - 12th December by this Sunday, 30th November. 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.



## HARMONIOUS HANDBELL ASSEMBLY INSPIRE CLUB SIGN UP!



On Friday 14 November, Mr Dunsford warmly welcomed the handbell club into assembly to perform to the rest of the school. Mr Dunsford explained that the handbell children are reading music score – but with some of the notes coloured in, so that they know which two notes to play – usually one in each hand. The children performed a variety of tunes, including “Can Can” by Offenbach and “Ode to Joy” by Beethoven. Some of the year 3 children who performed had only been playing for a few weeks. One teacher reported that they sounded lovely and that she could have listened to them all afternoon!

As a result of raising awareness in assembly, the numbers of children at the handbell lunch-time club increased; some children who had been before came back and others came to have a go and listen to more tunes. The group are now getting ready for Christmas with some favourite Carols and , of course, “Jingle Bells”!

With huge thanks to the dedicated team of volunteers who come in every Friday to share their love of music and their vast musical knowledge with the children. They are: Anne-Marie, Isabella, Carolyn and Mike. We are very grateful to them all.

## MUSIC WORKSHOP AND ASSEMBLY

Last week, year 3 enjoyed learning about the Caribbean through our two-day music workshop.

The children composed their own songs and rhythms, and they loved performing in front of the many parents who attended the show.

Jo Lawrence, who teaches violin at Horsell Junior, and her colleague Sam, performed a fantastic assembly to all the children.

If your child is interested in learning violin or another instrument, please visit our [school website](#) for contact details of our music teachers.



## ROYAL MARINES



The Band of His Majesty's Royal Marines (Collingwood) are performing at Camberley Theatre on February 6th 2026 at 7:30pm.

Surrey Music Hub are delighted to share with you a discount code for the event which reduces tickets by 50%. The code is SurreyMH26 and is limited to 50 tickets in total. The code cannot be used online so if you or your pupils would like to use it, please call or visit the box office.

Ella in Pine is running in the Winchester 5K Santa Run on Sunday 7 December to raise money for the charity, Naomi House and Jacks Place.

Naomi House and Jacksplace provide supportive respite care and specialist medical care for life limited and life threatened children and young adults. To sponsor Ella, please click [here](#).

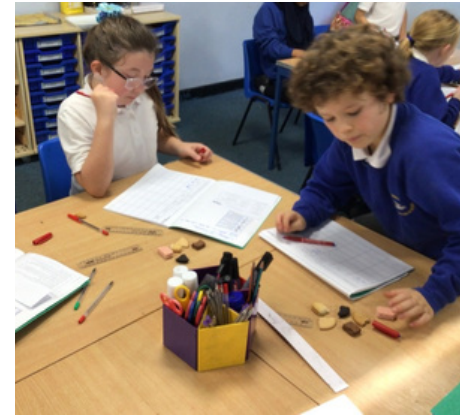




The first batch of biscuits has come out of the oven in Year 4! The children were very excited to take part in another fun DT cookery session; baking and trying out a variety of biscuits.

Next, they will be designing packaging (thank you for sending in cereal boxes) working out the budget and cost of ingredients, and preparing to make their final adapted cookie recipe in the first week of December! Thank you to all the parent helpers that came in to help! Parent helpers—please sign up if you're able to support to bake the next batch.

A big thank you to everyone who donated sprinkles, icing pens, and festive cookie cutters!



Saint Mary the Virgin  
Horsell

Food

Fun

Crafts

Messy  
Church

Christmas

Games

Bible Story

Christmas  
Carols

Sunday 14th December

4.00pm-6.00pm

St Mary's Church, Horsell

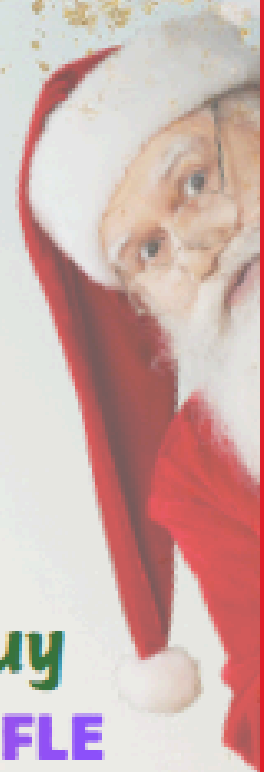




# CHRISTMAS FAIR

## 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*

FOOD, SHOWS, TOKENS

ONLINE RAFFLE



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



Our **30**<sup>th</sup>  
Christmas  
Defeating  
Homelessness



Every Penny  
Doubled



Help us raise £20,000



For One Week Only  
2nd – 9th December

To celebrate our  
30th Christmas



For every **£10**  
you donate

we receive **£20**  
+ Gift Aid

scan to support our campaign as part of  
the Big Give Christmas Challenge

Let's Defeat Homelessness

York Road Project is a registered charity #1102835 at 1 York Road, GU22 7XH

York Road Project, who we are supporting with this year's Reverse Advent Calendar, are running a one week challenge to raise £20,000, with extra funding received with every donation.

# Sporty Kidz

SPECIAL OFFER

# Friday BLACK

## FREE TASTER SESSION!

CHOOSE FROM OUR  
AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS OR  
SOCCER SATURDAYS  
CLASSES!

\*CLASSES MUST BE PRE BOOKED WITH HEAD OFFICE,  
SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY.  
TASTER MUST BE IN NOV OR DECEMBER 2025!  
CHILD MUST NOT HAVE ATTENDED THE CLUB PREVIOUSLY

INFO@SPORTYKIDZ.CO.UK

Sporty Kidz are pleased to offer a special Black Friday promotion for families at our school. For a limited time, new customers can enjoy a FREE taster session at any of the Sporty Kidz after-school sports clubs or Soccer Saturdays sessions this term.

This is a great opportunity for children to try out high-quality coaching in a fun, safe and inclusive environment.

Available Sessions Include:

- After-school sports clubs at our school
- Soccer Saturdays at Goldsworth Park Recreation Ground, Woking (10–11am for ages 3–10)

If you would like to book your child's free taster session or would like more information, please contact Sporty Kidz directly:

✉ info@SportyKidz.co.uk  
☎ 07751 228196

We hope your child enjoys this special opportunity.