

Horsell C of E Junior School

Fortnightly focus

Thursday 29th January 2026



Dear Parents and Carers,

As a school community, we continue to be guided by values of fairness, collaboration, and care for one another. As it says in the Bible: *"Learn to do right; seek justice. Defend the oppressed."* (Isaiah 1:17, NIV).

With this in mind, in Collective Worship we have been learning more about our global neighbours and what we can do to raise awareness of climate change in other parts of the world. Closer to home, our Year 6 children have been thinking about what it might mean to be Headteacher for the day, as our school elections are coming up!

It has been a busy week at Horsell Junior! On our recent INSET day, teaching staff from Horsell Junior School spent the morning visiting different schools within our trust. This valuable time allowed teachers to work alongside colleagues, observe best practice, and learn from the strengths of others across our family of schools. In the afternoon, teaching staff returned to Horsell Junior School to reflect together and collaborate further, focusing on developing and strengthening classroom practice for the benefit of all our children. Many of our support staff spent the day refreshing their first aid training.

Meanwhile, our pupils have also been enjoying a range of enriching experiences. Year 3 had a wonderful time on their school trip to the Milestones Museum, where they engaged enthusiastically with hands-on learning that brought their curriculum to life. In addition, several of our children represented the school in a curling event, demonstrating teamwork, resilience, and great sportsmanship — we are very proud of them.

I am also pleased to share that two parents have put themselves forward to stand as parent governors. This is a vital role in the life of the school, and we are grateful to those willing to serve in this way. Further information about the election process will be sent out on Monday next week.

Thank you, as always, for your ongoing partnership and support. We look forward to sharing more news with you soon.

Best wishes,
Mrs Wand

RSE SLIDES AND ADDITIONAL MEETING:

The slides and handouts from our RSE talk on Wednesday can now be found on our [school website](#).

As some parents were not able to make the meeting, but were keen to view the videos we will be sharing with children, Mrs Webb has scheduled one additional meeting which will take place on Monday 9th February.

To help us estimate numbers for this meeting, please register your interest [here](#). Please note that the videos we will be sharing are the same as last year.

Key dates 30th January - 6th February 2026

Friday 30th January:

- **Year 6 Football County Finals**, departing school at at 08:00, Meadow Bank Stadium, Dorking (by invitation).
- **Dodgeball club cancelled** due to Mr Coles attending the above event.

Monday 2nd February:

- **Whole School Communion**, St Mary's Church, Horsell.

Wednesday 5th February:

Year 6 Buddhism talk, in school.

Thursday 5th February:

- **Year 6 SATS and residential trip meeting**, 18:00, school hall.

Friday 6th February:

- **Year 5 trip to Rhoda McGaw theatre** for Winston Churchill School performance of "The Addams Family".



EARRINGS AND JEWELLERY

We do not allow jewellery to be worn in school, with the exception of watches.

If you are planning to have your child's ears, please do so at the start of the summer holidays so that PE lessons are not missed. Where children are not able to remove their earrings during the school day, earrings must be fully covered before arriving at school.

No child is permitted to wear any form of jewellery during a P.E. lesson, including swimming, for health and safety reasons.

BRINGING TOYS INTO SCHOOL

Children should not bring toys from home into school. This includes balls, trading cards, fidgets, plushies and other toys.

Bringing these items into school can often lead to a range of issues, including distractions during learning time and disagreements between pupils.

Through our OPAL scheme, we provide a range of toys and activities to the pupils and are able to set clear expectations on how these are used safely and collaboratively.

We kindly ask that you support us by ensuring that toys from home are not brought into school. Any such items brought in may be confiscated and returned at the end of the school day. The school cannot be responsible for the loss or damage of such items.

Thank you for your understanding.

✨ OPAL PLAY PROJECT – WE NEED PARENT VOLUNTEERS! ✨

Help Us Transform Play at Our School!

We're building exciting, creative, active playtimes through our **OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning) Project**, and we'd love **your** help to make it even better!

✨ Join Our OPAL Support Team! ✨

We are looking for parents who can:

- **Meet Once a Term**

Join a friendly termly meeting to share ideas and help shape our next steps.

- **Encourage Donations**

Help us spread the word about resources we need – from loose parts to larger items that support imaginative play.

- **Spot New Play Ideas**

Have an eye for creativity? Help us discover fun new initiatives, materials or opportunities to enhance play across the school.



- **Help Source Skilled Support**

Know someone who can build, mend, paint or create? Help us connect with people who can bring children's play ideas to life!

Why Volunteer?

- ✓ Support children's wellbeing and creativity
- ✓ Be part of an exciting whole-school project
- ✓ Make a real difference to daily play experiences
- ✓ Connect with other parents and the school community

Interested? Get Involved!

 **Contact the school office** to join the OPAL Support Team
 Let's work together to make play amazing!

OPAL Donation Requests:

We are currently looking for donations of the following items for OPAL play:

Wool (for knitting)
String
Yoghurt pots (empty and clean).
Gluten free pasta (penne / tubes)
Gluten free rice
Gluten free plain flour
Table salt
Shaving foam – for sensitive skin
Vegetable oil
Washing up liquid
Food colouring colours
Pipe cleaners

Please donate food items to the office to keep dry. These are not for consumption, so can be out of date, but must be gluten free due to serious, airborne allergies. All other items can be placed in the yellow donation bin outside the office door.



INDOOR ATHLETICS SUCCESS!

On 20th January, Horsell Junior attended an Indoor Athletics event, competing against 11 other schools.

The team showed outstanding effort and determination throughout the day. The 18 athletes, from years 5 and 6, worked together with great team spirit, supporting and encouraging one another in every event. Their hard work paid off as they finished in a very respectable 4th place against strong competition.

The school is extremely proud of each and every athlete for their commitment, behaviour and positive attitude.

HEADTEACHER FOR THE DAY ELECTIONS!

This week, all of the children in year 6 have been busy perfecting their speeches and putting together campaign videos.



Congratulations to our 3 finalists - Lucas, Arthur and Eliza - who will give their speeches to the whole school next week in readiness for the whole school voting next Friday.

MEGA MATERIALS ART PROJECT

In Year 4, pupils have been exploring their Mega Materials topic through a shadow sculpture lesson inspired by the work of Sokari Douglas Camp.

Working in groups, the children designed and created their own sculptures, experimenting with materials and shadow. They thoughtfully linked their creations to our school values, showing excellent teamwork, creativity and reflection throughout the lesson.



CHECK OUT OUR CHESS TEAM

On Friday 23rd January, children from the school chess team took part in a chess tournament at St Dunstan's school

There were 8 schools participating and the event was played in great spirits. Our team comprised Reuben H, Leo P, Edward R, Thomas B, Lucas W, Ethan V and Arthur M.

Well done to all children who took part and got though to the final!



Please remember to order lunches for 9th -13th February by Sunday 1st February. Lunches must be booked 1 week in advance or a packed lunch brought to school.

Please remember: we are a nut free school - products containing nuts **cannot** be brought onto school premises.



YEAR 3 STEP BACK IN TIME AT MILESTONES MUSEUM

Year 3 had a fantastic visit to Milestones Museum, where they were immersed in Victorian times through a range of hands-on activities.

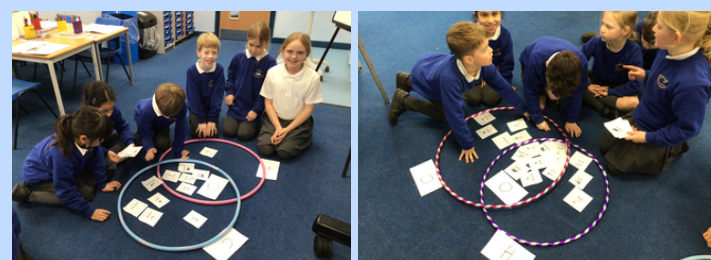
The children also experienced a lesson in a Victorian school, giving them a real insight into what life was like for children in the past. They thoroughly enjoyed exploring the museum and the visit helped to reinforce the learning they have been doing in class.



YEAR 3 TALK ON ISLAM

Las week, year 3 was very lucky to welcome Mrs Rasheed, who gave a fascinating talk about Islam. She delivered a clear and engaging presentation explaining who Allah is and why the Qur'an is so important to people who follow the Muslim faith.

Mrs Rasheed also spoke about the Five Pillars of Islam and kindly brought in souvenirs from her visit to Mecca for the children to see. The session was extremely interesting, and the children listened attentively throughout.



In Science, Year 3 have been enjoying their topic on food and our bodies. This week, the children particularly enjoyed using a Venn diagram to sort animals into the three categories of herbivores, carnivores and omnivores. The lesson helped them develop their scientific thinking while reinforcing their understanding of different animal diets.

FREE Safer Internet Day webinar:

Our IT provider, Eduthing, will be running an online safety webinar alongside ScreenSafe on Tuesday 10th February. A flyer is attached separately with further information and a [booking link](#).

TUESDAY 10 FEBRUARY, 7PM - 8PM

CLICKING WITH CONFIDENCE: HELPING CHILDREN STAY SAFE ONLINE

FREE Parent & Carer Online Safety Webinar

We are excited to again be celebrating the upcoming Safer Internet Day by hosting a virtual parent & carer support session with Anna Sarjantson, ScreenSafe and experts from the eduthing Professional Learning team, and you're invited! **Topics include:**

- Artificial Intelligence - What to know and how to support your children and young people
- Resources to facilitate discussion with children and young people on online safety
- Top Tips and Tricks for Parents & Carers
- Particular Apps or Features to be aware of!
- Interactive Q&A Session

eduthing
IT Services for Education

in conversation with
SCREENSAFE



TOP SECRET

NSSport

CALLING ALL RECRUITS...

MISSION X

HORSELL JUNIOR SCHOOL
MEADWAY DRIVE | GU21 4TA 16-20 FEB 26

SPY CAMP

09:30-10:00	WELCOME
10:00-11:30	ACTIVITY 1
11:30-12:30	SNACK
12:30-13:30	ACTIVITY 2
13:30-14:30	LUNCH
14:30-15:00	ACTIVITY 3
15:00-15:15	ACTIVITY 4
15:00-15:15	CERTIFICATES
15:30	HOME TIME

YOUR MISSION STARTS HERE!
ENTER MISSION X: SPY CAMP, BECOME AN UNDERCOVER AGENT, CRACK SECRET CODES, AND COMPLETE TOP-SECRET MISSIONS. TRAIN, TEAM UP, AND PROVE YOU'VE GOT WHAT IT TAKES!

SPORT **ART** **CHALLENGE** **WOW**

MISSION COST: £30 PER AGENT | ELIGIBLE AGENTS: YEAR 3-8 | MISSION HOURS: 09:30-15:30

www.nssport2.co.uk enquiries@nssport.co.uk @nssport_surrey