



The Horsell Village School NEWSLETTER



Welcome to February's edition of The Horsell Village School Newsletter.

In this edition you will find:

- Diary Dates
- Information about upcoming events
- Safeguarding news
- Class pages

We have been so busy over the last month and have lots to share and celebrate with you. The children are enjoying this half terms learning topics and there is a strong sense of excitement around the school with the children displaying amazing learning behaviours.

Last week we celebrated Children's Mental Health Week. It was lovely to see so many of you join us for our drawing together art workshops. The children had great fun creating their master pieces with you. The finished pieces of work will soon be on display for all to see. As you already know supporting children to develop an understanding of how to grow and maintain a positive mental health is something that it very much a golden thread in our teaching and learning approach. Part of this work is linked to supporting children to identify and manage emotions. Emotions play a huge role in everyday life and developing an understanding of them and how to manage them is an essential life skill.



One of the key approaches we use to support our children is emotion coaching. Emotion coaching is a universal approach that supports children and young people understand and manage their

feelings. You can find out more about this approach further on in the newsletter or by visiting our Mental Health and Well-being page on the school website.

<https://www.horsell-village.surrey.sch.uk/learning/mental-health-and-well-being/>

Diary Dates



10.02.2026	Internet Safety Day
12.02.2026	Hedgehogs Class Assembly 9.00 am – school hall
13.02.2026	Lunar New Year Day & Dragon Workshops Finish for Half Term – 3.20 pm
16.02.2026 to 20.02.2026	Half Term
23.02.2026	School re-opens
24.02.2026	Parent Conferences begin- see below for further dates & times
27.02.2026	Parent Volunteer meeting 9.00 am Hive 2.45 pm Hall
02.03.2026	Book Week- please see below for further details
03.03.2026	Parent Volunteer meeting 9.00 am Hive 2.45 pm Hall
05.03.2026	Squirrels Class Assembly 9.00 am – school hall
06.03.2026	World Book Day Dress up as a character Day
09.03.2026	British Science Week Yr R Parent Gardening Event
10.03.2026	Yr 2 Parent Gardening Event
11.03.2026	Parent Volunteer meeting 9.00 am Hive 2.45 pm Hall
12.03.2026	Yr 1 Parent Gardening Event Rabbits Class Assembly 9.00 am – school hall
13.03.2026	Science Parent Workshops 9.00 am – Details to come

School News

Mental Health Week 2026

This years theme for Children's Mental Health Week was

'This is my place'

Focusing on the importance of belonging and connection in children's mental health



We know that our sense of belonging as individuals, in our friendships, in school and in communities plays a vital role in our mental health and well being.

To have a sense of belonging is a basic human need. It can have powerful and long lasting impacts in lots of areas of our lives not matter how young or old we may be. Feeling we belong helps us to feel connected, valued and accepted. This can help us feel happy, safe and then ready to engage in learning and social situations.

During Mental Health week we talked about how we can help everyone feel they belong. We learnt lots of different ways we can show kindness, include others and make sure no one feels left out.

We also explored ways that creativity can support our mental health. Each class participated in a 'drawing together' art workshop. Working together to create a giant mural which will be displayed in different areas of the school.

Each class also took part in an African Drumming workshop. They explored the basics of rhythm and percussion using traditional djembes and explored the sense of unity and cultural appreciation as they became part of a drum circle. Great fun was had by all.



At The Horsell Village School we use Emotion Coaching to help guide our children through emotional ups and downs. Emotion coaching is a universal approach that supports children and young people understand and manage their feelings.



Emotion Coaching

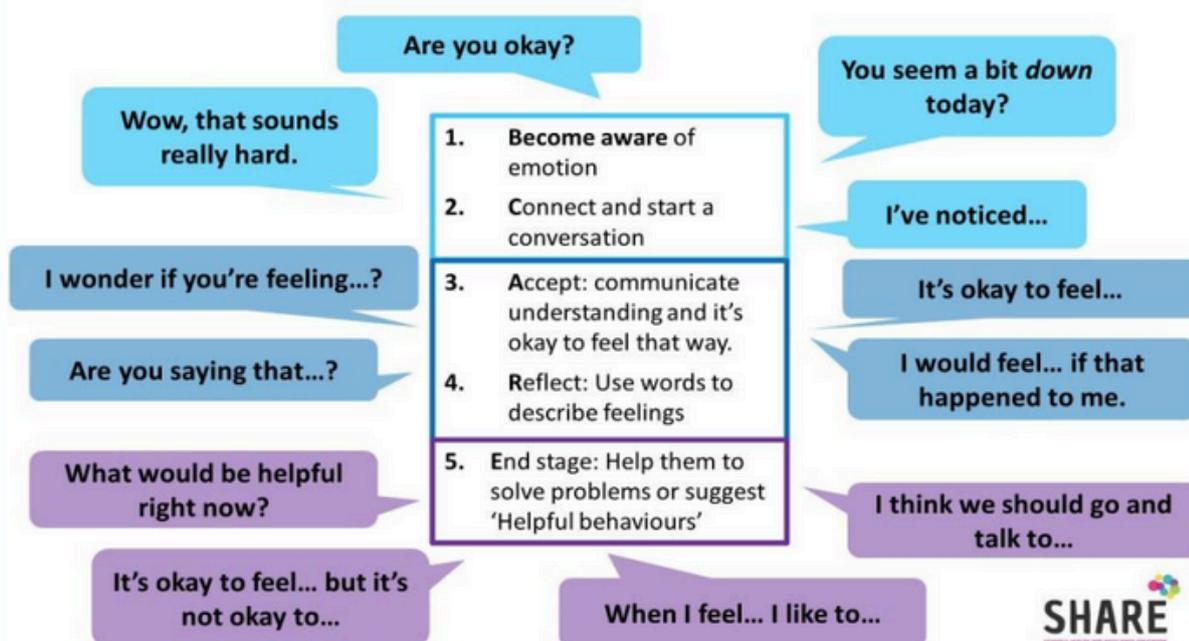
Mental Health
Week
2026

What is Emotion Coaching?

- Emotion coaching is a communication tool that uses moments of emotion to guide and teach a child about more effective responses to emotions
- Accepts all emotions are normal and healthy (but not all behaviours), and considers what the feelings, needs and emotions are behind the behaviour
- It enables us to potentially validate diffuse and de-escalate situations by activity changes in a child's neurological system, supporting the children to find calm.
- It helps children to feel seen, heard, appreciated and cared for.

How do we Emotion Coach?

- 1. Become aware of emotion.** Especially if it is low intensity (such as **disappointment** or frustration).
- 2. Connect.** View their emotions as opportunities for connection and teaching.
- 3. Accept.** Listen and accept their emotions: avoid judgement.
- 4. Reflect.** Help them use words to describe what they feel.
- 5. End stage.** If appropriate, help them to problem solve. You may also communicate that all wishes and feelings are acceptable, but some behaviours are not.



School News

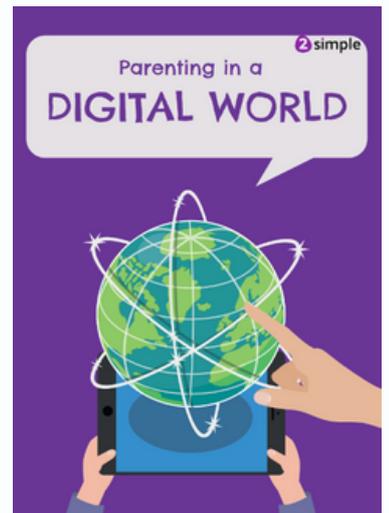
Internet Safety Day 2026

Tuesday 10th February is Internet Safety Day.

Safer Internet day is an event organised in the UK by the UK Safer Internet Centre. It aims to promote the safe, responsible and positive use of digital technology for children and young people.

Purple Mash- the software we use for our computing curriculum have put together a fantastic guide called 'Parenting in a digital world'. It explores themes such as being your child's role model, getting to grips with devices and software, digital footprints and how to support well-being and mental health when it comes to technology.

You can find this handy booklet attached with the link for the newsletter.



Parent/Carer Conferences

Please find below the dates and booking link for our Parent / Carer conferences. This link will go live at 3.00 pm on Monday 9th February 2026

www.scopay.com/login

Parent / Carer conferences provide you with 1:1 time with your child's class teacher to discuss progress in all areas of the curriculum. We run daytime conferences (9.00 am to 12.00 noon) and one evening conference. Please see the dates below:

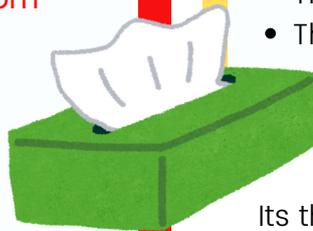
- Tawny Owls - Tuesday 24th February
- Snowy Owls- Wednesday 25th February
- **Evening Conferences- 4.00 pm to 7.00 pm**
Wednesday 25th February
- Barn Owls- Thursday 26th February
- Badgers - Friday 27th February
- Squirrels- Monday 2nd March
- Hedgehogs- Tuesday 3rd March
- Rabbits- Wednesday 4th March
- Foxcubs- Thursday 5th March
- Otters- Friday 6th March

Class Assemblies

So far this term we have been treated to some amazing class assemblies from Tawny Owls class, Barn Owls class, Snowy Owls Class and Badgers Class. The children spoke so confidently about their learning and shared some amazing work.

Each class assembly takes place in the school hall at 9.00am. On the morning of your child's class assembly, please wait by the entrance door to the school hall.

- Thursday 12th February- Hedgehogs
- Thursday 5th March- Squirrels
- Thursday 12th March- Rabbits
- Thursday 19th March- Foxcubs
- Thursday 26th March- Otters



A little request

Its that time of year when coughs and colds can take hold. If you are able to we are asking for donations of boxes of tissues and baby wipes. As you can imagine we go through quite a lot. Any help would be greatly appreciated. Thank you

Upcoming Events & School News

ATTENDANCE MATTERS. ALL DAY, EVERY DAY

Should you need to report your child absent from school please use the link on the school website
<https://www.horsell-village.surrey.sch.uk/parents/attendance/>

Please make sure this form is completed before 9.00 am. The school office start the first day calling protocol shortly after this time.

Just a little reminder exceptional Leave Absence Forms need to be completed at least two weeks in advance.

Open Classrooms

Open Classrooms will continue to run on the Thursday of each week, after school to 4.00 pm.

Please could we remind you to head to the front door after you have collected your child / children and we will let you in as soon as everyone has been dismissed and children attending clubs are with the individual club leaders.

This may take a few minutes, so please bear with us. Could we ask that you do not buzz the door at this point to be let in- we know you are there.

Just a reminder the class teachers will not be in their classrooms, this is a time for you to enjoy your child / children sharing their learning.



Safeguarding

Here at The Horsell Village School we are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people. Safeguarding and keeping children safe is everybody's responsibility. In addition to this we have a named team of Designated Safeguarding Leads and Deputies who are the main point of contact.

If you have any concerns about the safety or welfare of a child please contact a member of the school's Designated Safeguarding team in the first instance through the school office.

In addition to this, if you have concerns outside of school you can contact the Children's Single Point of Access on:

Phone: 03004709100- Monday to Friday, 9.00 am to 5.00 pm

Email: cspa@surreycc.gov.uk

Out of Hours Emergency Team: 01483 517898

You can find additional information regarding our safeguarding culture and processes on our school website as well as

<https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/children>



Mrs Reeve
DSL &
Attendance
Champion



Mrs Sharkey
DDSL



Miss Cadey
DDSL & ELSA



Miss
Richardson
DDSL



Mrs Shaw
DDSL



Mrs Wright
DDSL & SenCo

Book Week 2026



This year, book week will be celebrated from Monday 2nd March to Friday 6th March.

The children will be immersed in literature from the author Joseph Coelho
a former Children's Laureate.



Highlights for the week:

Monday 2nd March - Book Buffet - children can bring in a favourite book from home and share it with their class.

Tuesday 3rd March - Illustrator's Studio - children will explore the illustrations from Joseph Coelho.

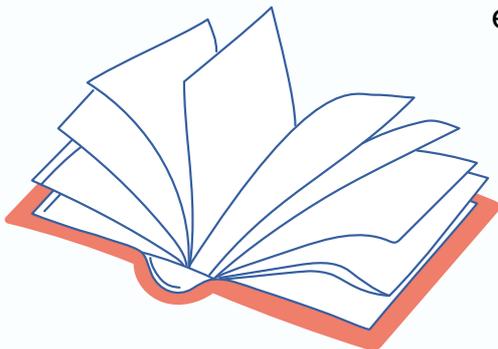
Wednesday 4th March - Bedtime Stories from 5pm-5.30pm - come back to school in your pyjamas with your favourite teddy!

Thursday 5th March - World Book Day! Children will swap classes to listen to a story being read by a different member of staff.

Friday 6th March - Dress Up Day and Reception Library Visit - children can come dressed up as their favourite book character. Please can Reception children wear something that enables them to easily walk to Woking Library.

We have the Travelling Book Fair back based in Hedgehogs classroom and available from 3.20pm - 3.45pm from Tuesday 3rd March - Monday 9th March.

If you would like to be a surprise reader during this week - keep an eye on your emails for how this will work!



All this will be emailed to you again, closer to the time.

Book tokens
will come home
on Tuesday
3rd March.



Have fun!

What's happening in Reception...

The children have been enjoying our topic "Are we there yet?" We finish this topic by looking at The Naughty Bus...I wonder what it gets up to? After Half Term we start our new topic "Growing." We will look at vegetables growing and animals growing.

We are so impressed with the children's writing. This continues to be a focus, looking at how we form letters, how we hold our pencils, using finger spaces between words and listening out for all the sounds in words.

In Maths we will recall hidden parts of five and look at the 'five and a bit' pattern in numbers up to ten as well as making equal and unequal sets.

We will be singing lots of different songs and learning some new poems. Some of these you may see in our class assemblies.

In our Understanding the World learning, we will find out who Garret Morgan is as well as revisit what was important about Amelia Earhart. We will revisit what we have learnt in our "Are we there yet Topic" so we can finish our Learning Cycle by talking about What we know now. We also celebrate Lunar New Year Day.

In PSHE, (after half term) we will begin the new topic "Healthy Me" thinking about how our bodies need movement and rest to be healthy.



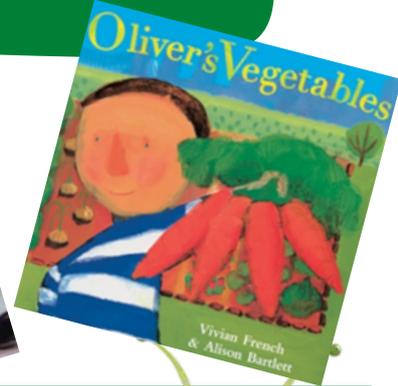
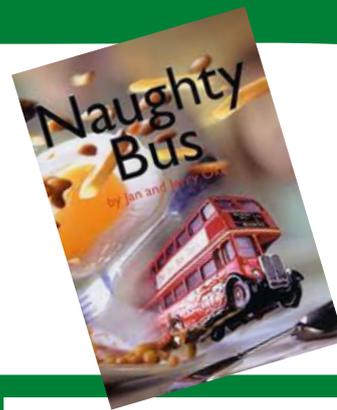
During Book Week we are visiting Woking Library and need some parents to walk with us. If you have a school DBS and have completed the safeguarding school training, please sign up via Scopay once the letter has been sent out shortly!



country
vehicle
vegetable



heavy
some
less
(a) bit
all
most



Phonics

Mrs Knight's group:

ch, sh, th, ng

Tricky words: he, my, by, she, they

Mrs Shaw / Mrs Emslie's group:

ch, sh, th, ng, ai, ee, igh, oa, oo

Tricky words: he, my, by, she, they

Miss Burtenshaw's group:

ar, or, ur, ow, oi

Tricky words: they, we, are, you

Books are changed on a Tuesday and a Friday once parents/carers have commented 3 times in the diary. We appreciate your support in helping to guide your child's reading development.

Reminders

Parent Conferences:

Rabbits: Wednesday 4th March 9-12pm

Foxcubs: Thursday 5th March 9-12pm

Otters: Friday 6th March 9-12pm

All classes: Wednesday 25th February 4-7pm

Reading:

Please can we ask for your child to read to you at home on a daily basis? We notice that once we start teaching digraphs (two letters that make one sound) reading can become trickier for some children. We know that regular practice helps the children retain these sounds so appreciate your support in helping the children reach their full potential in reading. Thank you!

What's happening in Year 1...

With our PSHE theme being Goals and Dreams, the children have been discussing how to set goals, work towards them, and celebrate success, showing increasing independence and reflection.

We are now coming towards the end of our topic, 'Beside the Seaside'. The children have enjoyed exploring what seaside holidays were like 100 years ago, why people visited the seaside, and how holidays have changed over time. They have begun to think critically about what they have learned, discussing questions such as, "Do all children like the earlier seaside holidays, or would some prefer the seaside visits we have today?" This has encouraged them to interpret historical information and consider different viewpoints.

The children have also reflected on their own experiences of visiting the seaside. They have compared modern trips with those from the past, thinking about what has stayed the same and what has changed. This has helped them deepen their understanding of continuity and change over time.

As part of bringing all of this learning together, the children have been using a postcard format to show what they now know. Each postcard allows them to draw and write about what they have learned. This has been a lovely way for them to reflect on their learning and share their knowledge creatively.

After February half term, our Spring 2 topic will be Carnival of the Animals which will have geography focus.



pond

vast

ocean

endangered

amphibian

environment

fish

problem

climate

safe

pollution

current

Phonics



The children will be working through the Phases in their Phonics groups:

Phase 3

Phase 4

Phase 5

Spelling

There is a list of High Frequency Words and Common Exception Words in the centre of the Reading Record for your child to practise at home. Your child needs to be able to spell these words by the end of the year.

What's happening in Year 2...

We have nearly come to the end of our 'Living Rainforest Topic. We have learnt all about the layers of the rainforest, where the Tropical rainforests can be located and discovered all the amazing animals and plants that can be found in them.

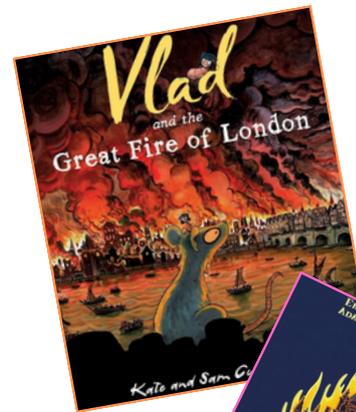
We will reconnect and embed all this wonderful learning on our trip next term to Kew Gardens. A letter will be sent giving more details about the trip over the next coming days.

Our next terms topic is 'The Great Fire of London' We will be learning all about our capital city and the landmarks that can be found there. In History, we will then go back in time and learn all about what London looked like before and after The Great Fire of London. We will learn about the key events and how it brought about change in the city.

In English, we will be using the texts, Vlad and the Great Fire of London to help us to create factual writing.

In Maths, we will be focusing on multiplication and division and learning the strategies that can help us solve related problems.

In Science, we will be investigating materials and thinking about the question, 'Do all materials keep their shape?'



landmark

location

bustling

clamber

dome

chimed

Phonics

The children will be working through the Phases in their Phonics groups:

Phase 3/4

Phase 5 alternatives

Tricky Words

There is a list of High Frequency Words and Common Exception Words in the centre of the Reading Record for your child to practise at home. Your child needs to be able to spell these words by the end of the year.





PTA EVENTS SPRING 2026



January

GOOD AS NEW UNIFORM SALE

Sat 17th at Horsell Junior School
10:00 - 11:30 (event)
8:30 - 10:00, 11:30 - 12:00 (org)

Volunteers required: please contact
your class reps

February

LITTLE RECYCLERS COLLECTION

Thurs 26th at both schools
8:30 - 9:00 (event)

March

BINGO & BIRIYANI

Fri 6th The Horsell Village Hall
19:00 - 22:00

NAME THE ANIMAL OR GUESS THE WEIGHT *

Thurs 19th - Thurs 26th
at Both Schools

END OF TERM TREAT *

Fri 27th Both Schools
Time TBC

* Leads required for both schools
Please contact your class reps

April

LITTLE RECYCLERS COLLECTION

Thurs 16th at both schools
8:30 - 9:00 (event)

EARTH DAY MUFTI & ANIMAL ADOPTION *

Tue 21st
at both schools

* Leads required for both schools
Please contact your class reps

All our events rely on volunteers' participation.
Please contact your class reps or email horsellschoolspta@gmail.com
to volunteer or to get involved

Community News



4.00pm to 5.30pm

15th February

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

INFORMATION EVENT

Considering a career in teaching?

Would you like to train in a school in your local community?
Come and chat with a member of our friendly South Farnham
SCITT team and find out if teacher training is the career for you.

- The Hermitage Junior School, GU21 8UU
- Tuesday 10th February 2026
- Drop in anytime between 12-4pm

No need to book. Ask us about:

- Do I need experience?
- Which programme is right for me?
- What finance options are available?

FOR MORE INFO

scitt@sfet.org.uk www.ssfcitt.org.uk

