The Horsell Village School
NEWSLETTER



Welcome to the November Edition of The Horsell Village School Newsletter. We hope you enjoyed a wonderful half-term break and had the opportunity to relax and recharge.
It has been a pleasure to welcome the children back to school. They have returned eager to learn, enthusiastic to see their friends, and excited for the many opportunities and experiences that await them this half term.



Just before the break, we celebrated the festival of Harvest. The children visited St Mary's Church, where they explored the meaning and importance of Harvest with the vicar. Following this, Mr Pratt delivered all of your generous donations to Woking Foodbank.

Thank you to everyone who contributed. Your kindness and generosity are greatly appreciated, and we are sure that your donations will make a real difference to local families in need.

This week, each year group is launching an exciting new topic.

- Reception: Children will be exploring the changing seasons and learning about a variety of celebrations that take place at this time of year. Through this topic, they will develop their understanding of the world around them and the traditions people observe.
- Year 1: Through their topic, 'Fill Up, Fuel Up', children will learn how to keep themselves healthy by exploring nutrition, exercise and wellbeing. They will discover the importance of making healthy choices and looking after both their bodies and minds.
- Year 2: In their topic, 'Travel', children will journey through the history of transport, exploring how travel has changed over time. They will learn about significant developments in transport and consider how these innovations have shaped the way we live today.

We have lots of exciting things planned this half term so do please keep an extra little eye on the newsletter and emails for additional information.
Thank you for your continued support.

Diary Dates
November & December

04.11.2026	**Parent Conferences** **3.50 pm to 6.50 pm**
05.11.2026	Parent Conferences 3.50 pm to 5.50 pm
06.11.2026	Diwali Day
06.11.2026	Parent volunteer meeting 9.00 am **School Hall** 2.45 pm **School Hall**
09.11.2026	**Friendship Week**
10.11.2026	Learning Together Parent Workshop Mental Health & Wellbeing 9.00 am **School Hall**
11.11.2026	Remembrance Day
16.11.2026	Road Safety Week
18.11.2026	**PTA Crazy Hair Day**
20.11.2026	Children in Need
23.11.2026	Yr 2 Visit to Brooklands
23.11.2026	Parent volunteer meeting 9.00 am **School Hall** 2.45 pm **School Hall**
03.12.2026	EYFS Nativity 9.30 am & 5.00 pm **School Hall**
05.12.2026	PTA Christmas Fair 12.00 noon to 3.00 pm **At The Horsell Village School**
08.12.2026	Year 1 Nativity 9.30 am & 5.00 pm **St Mary's Church**
09.12.2026	Year 2 Nativity 9.30 am & 5.00 pm **St Mary's Church**
11.12.2026	Christmas Jumper Day Christmas Dinner Christmas Parties
18.12.2026	End of Term 1.15 pm finish
04.01.2027	Inset Day
05.01.2027	School re-opens

Contact: 01483714804 or email reception@horsell-village.surrey.sch.uk

Diwali Day






Upcoming Events & Community news

On Friday 6th November, the whole school took part in a day of learning and celebration focused on the Hindu Festival of Diwali. Children engaged in a variety of activities to explore the meaning and traditions of Diwali, including storytelling, art and music. It was a joyful and enriching experience that helped deepen their understanding of different cultures and beliefs.



Friday 13th November -Strictly Step Challenge

On BBC Children in Need Day, our school will be getting moving and raising smiles by taking part in the Strictly 26 Step Challenge. Inspired by the nation's love of dance, children and staff in KS1 will perform the special 26-step routine throughout the day, helping to raise awareness and support for the incredible work of BBC Children in Need. Reception children will be showing off their dance moves, dancing to the CBeebies track , 'Heads, Shoulders, Knees and Toes'.

This fun and energetic challenge is a fantastic way for our school community to come together, promote wellbeing through movement and show our support for children and young people across the UK.
Every step counts as we dance together for Children in Need! 🌟🕺💛

If you would like to donate on the day please visit https://donate.bbcchildreninneed.co.uk/





We will be honouring Remembrance Day on Wednesday 11th November. We will be recognising the service of others and discussing how this reflects our school motto of kindness. We will be observing a 2 minute silence at 11.00 am.

As in previous years, if your child attends Squirrels, Beavers, Rainbows or Brownies we are more than happy for them to wear their uniform.

Poppies continue to be available for a donation in school.
Other merchandise is also available with a suggested donation of between £1 and £2. These items are available at the end of each day between 3.20 pm and 3.40 pm from the school office.



Friendship Week

From Monday 9th to Friday 13th November, we will be celebrating Friendship Week with the theme "Friendship Makes Us Shine."
Throughout the week, children will take part in a range of activities designed to promote kindness, inclusion, teamwork and emotional wellbeing.
Each day will focus on a different aspect of friendship finishing with our '**odd socks day' on Friday**, where children can wear odd socks to celebrate how we are all unique. .
Throughout the week, classes will enjoy a variety of stories including The Rainbow Fish, Elmer, Will You Be My Friend?, The Enormous Turnip, and Ruby's Worry. Children will take part in friendship games, teamwork challenges, singing, dance breaks and activities such as creating sunshine compliments and giving kind messages to others.
We will encourage everyone to complete daily acts of kindness, such as playing with someone new, helping others, sharing resources, passing on a smile and giving compliments. Friendship Week is a wonderful opportunity to strengthen relationships, celebrate our school values and remind one another that even the smallest acts of kindness can brighten someone's day.
We look forward to a week filled with friendship, kindness and sunshine! ☀️💛

Upcoming Events & Community news



Kindness to yourself
Kindness to others
Kindness to the world

Mindworks Surrey

The children's and Young People's Emotional and Wellbeing and Mental Health Service



Mindworks Surrey is the children and young people's Emotional Wellbeing, Mental Health and Learning Disability services in Surrey.
It is delivered by a group made up of NHS, National and Local voluntary section organisations all working together.

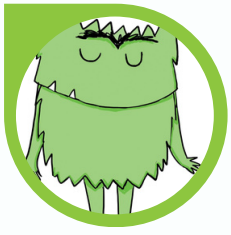


There are several sections from children, parents and schools to access support from.

The parent / family page provides valuable links to a variety of different support. From guidance on managing emotions on the school run to manging escalation.



There is guidance on support you can access yourself as well as information on how schools can support.
You can access Mindworks through https://www.mindworks-surrey.org/



At Horsell, we believe the link between home and school is an important one. If you ever feel concerned about the emotion and well-being of your child / children, please make an appointment to meet with Mrs Reeve, Miss Cadey or Miss Richardson.

Christmas Events



The Christmas season at The Horsell Village School is fast approaching. We wanted to share in advance some of the events we have planned to provide as much notice as possible.

Christmas Performances



Year R



Year 1



Year 2

Thursday 3rd December 9.30 am & 5.00 pm	School Hall: Otters, Rabbits and Foxcubs Performance day
Tuesday 8th December 9.30 am & 5.00 pm	St Mary's Church: Hedgehogs, Squirrels and Badgers Performance day
Wednesday 9th December 9.30 am & 5.00 pm	St Mary's Church: Tawny Owls, Snowy Owls and Barn Owls Performance day

This year the Reception performances will be ticketed events. Over the next few weeks you will receive your tickets by hand. Families will be allocated two tickets. One for the morning performance and one for the evening performance. This is due to the limited space within the school hall and we want everyone to feel comfortable and the children to feel confident in performing to larger audiences. Please can we ask that younger siblings remain at home and babes in arms only. Please ensure you bring your tickets to each performance.



For the Year 1 and Year 2 performances tickets will not be required.
The children will be working hard to learn their lines and songs. Please can we ask that younger siblings remain at home and babes in arms only.

Christmas Jumper Day, Christmas Dinner and year group Christmas Parties are all on Friday 11th December.



The children will enjoy a full day of festivities. They do not need to bring any party food.



We will send out more information closer to the time.



Safeguarding & Attendance



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



DSL Team



Heading home with someone else?

If your child is heading home with a friend or being picked up by someone else please make sure you have let the school office know by 3.00 pm at the very latest. This allows time for staff to be informed before the end of the school day.

Just a little reminder...

Gates open at 8.35 am and doors open at 8.40 am.
Doors close at 8.50 am.
Should you arrive after this time, please go to the office to sign your child in.
At the end of the day, gates open at 3.10 pm and doors open at 3.20pm.
Please ensure you have collected your child / children and left the school premises by 3.30 pm.
The gates will then be locked to enable after school clubs to run safely.

If you are running late for any reason please ring and let the school office know as soon as possible.

THANK YOU

HORSELL SCHOOLS PTA

POP & GLOW

What an incredible first Horsell Village Pop & Glow Festival!

A huge thank you to all our amazing volunteers, parents and everyone who came along to support the event. It was a fantastic success, and we truly couldn't have done it without you!

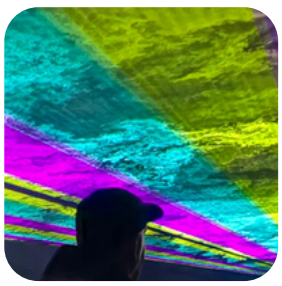
We are absolutely thrilled to announce that together we raised a staggering £7,000!

Your generosity, hard work and community spirit made the evening truly special.

Thank you for making our first Pop & Glow one to remember; We look forward to inviting you to Pop & Glow 2027!

Special thanks to our event leads (Rosie Taylor and Cate Darcy) and the parent team.






PTA AGM

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Just a little reminder. The PTA AGM is takiing place on Tuesday 11th November at The Horsell Village School.
Welcome from 7.15 pm for a 7. 30 pm start.
This will be held in Snowy Owls classroom so please make your way round to the main reception.



This is a great way to get involved with the PTA and help raise valuable funds for the schools.
We look forward to seeing you there!

What's happening in Reception...

We hope you enjoyed a restful half term break. It is lovely to see the children return with such enthusiasm.

The children thoroughly enjoyed our topic last half term "Anyone can be a Hero".

We have seen some fantastic Go for It Gorillas over the last month, well done everyone! We have discussed all the learning animals now. See if your child can remember when they were showing these behaviours. We saw some Creative Chameleons this week with our firework activities. We have also talked about I know Rhinos and Patient Pandas, our Reception animals.



The return to school sees our new topic "Seasons and Celebrations". We began this topic by discussing Bonfire night, why it is celebrated and how to be safe around fireworks. We also celebrated Diwali and found out that it is also called 'The Festival of Light'. We will celebrate Friendship Week next week before moving on to our new book 'The Leaf Thief'. In PSHE we are celebrating differences, thinking about how we are special and unique as well as how we are the same.

We are trying hard to write some CVC words with the sounds we have learnt e.g. cat, nod, sit. Have a go at writing some words at home too!

We have been focusing on counting accurately and using our super subitising skills (don't count, say the amount). Play a game with a dice at home and see if you can subitise the number!



Phonics



Our next sets of sounds are:
g o c k
ck e u r

The tricky words taught are:
a, to
the, no, go
Children need to learn to read this on sight as they are not phonetically decodable

Books are changed on a Tuesday and a Friday once parents have commented in the diary. We appreciate your support in guiding your child's reading development.

Reminders

PE days:
Foxcubs - Monday
Otters - Tuesday
Rabbits - Wednesday

Please ensure all items of clothing are named (especially coats, gloves, hats). Each class has jumpers / cardigans with no names so please ask if you are missing some.



celebration
friendship
season
Nativity

What's happening in Year 1...

The children have thoroughly enjoyed being introduced to our new topic for this half term, Fill Up, Fuel Up.

In English, we will begin by exploring the traditional tale The Gigantic Turnip. The children will learn about the structure of the story, identify the descriptive language used by the author and develop their understanding of adjectives. Through drama and storytelling activities, they will retell the tale before planning and writing their own version, adapting the characters and replacing the turnip with a fruit of their choice.

As part of our learning, we will be investigating a variety of fruits and using ambitious vocabulary to describe their appearance, texture and taste.

In Design and Technology, the children will design, make and evaluate their own fruit-based food product. They will participate in fruit tasting sessions to help them decide which ingredients to include in a healthy fruit salad. Later in the half term, we will take a short local visit to Boz's to purchase the ingredients needed for our final creations.

In Geography, we will continue to develop our map-reading skills while revisiting the continents and oceans of the world. We will also compare our local area with St Lucia, learning about its climate, geography and the fruits that are grown there.

In Religious Education, we will focus on Christianity by exploring the Nativity story and learning about the ways in which Christmas is celebrated by Christians around the world.

Our PSHE learning will centre on Celebrating Difference, encouraging the children to recognise what makes each person unique. We will explore how we can be kind, respectful and inclusive, and how being a good friend helps everyone feel valued and supported.

We look forward to an exciting half term full of discovery, creativity and lots of delicious fruit tasting! 🍎🍍🍓



Word Aware

fruit

vegetable

delicious

gigantic

sweet

sour

rhyme

rhythm

Phonics and Spelling

There is a list of sounds, High Frequency Words and Common Exception Words in the centre of the Reading Record for your child to practise at home.

What's happening in Year 2...

Travel

Happy November everyone!

We have an exciting month of learning all about travel ahead of us including a trip to Brooklands Museum on Monday 23rd November.

In Maths, we will be learning how to add and subtract a one digit number from a two digit number and a two digit number from another two digit number and will be using our knowledge of number bonds to 10 and 20 to help us.

In English, we will be using the story, 'Pedal Power' to inspire us to create posters informing others about the benefits of riding more bikes.
We will then be using the story, 'Taking Flight' as a starting point to help us learn about the Wright Brothers and to sequence key events.

In Science, we will be learning about keeping healthy and healthy diets. In History, we will be learning about how aeroplanes have changed over time and, in Art, we will be learning a variety of drawing techniques.

We will also be honouring Remembrance Day, recognising the service of others and discussing how this reflects our school motto of kindness.





Phonics

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

Phase 3/4
Phase 5 alternatives

Tricky Words

wild, child, children, old, told, gold, golden ever, never, every, everybody, even, event, fast, past.

exercise
health
vitality
transport
invention

aviation
engine
ascend
descend