

# The Horsell Village School NEWSLETTER



Welcome to December's edition of the school newsletter. In this month's edition you will find:

- Diary dates
- Details explaining future events
- Curriculum news and updates
- Safeguarding updates
- Year group pages

### Camera!, Lights! Action!

There is a real buzz of excitement around school at the moment as the children start to learn their lines, songs and dances for the Christmas Productions. The children cannot wait to perform them.

The month of December is a magical time to be in school. The children continue to show great focus and motivation in their learning as they dive deeper into this half terms learning topics. We have lots of additional events planned, so please take the time to read through the newsletter for key information on each event.

#### School Donations

I want to take a moment to extend a personal thank you to everyone in the school community who continue to support us, whether it be through joining in the PTA events or donating monthly to the School Fund.

The additional funds you generate for the school enables us to continue to provide our children with the learning and environment that helps them to thrive. There are many things we would not be able to do as a school without your support and for this we are truly grateful.

Should you not already donate in this way and would like to do so please follow this link

#### <u>https://www.horsell-</u> <u>village.surrey.sch.uk/assets/Documents/Attachm</u> <u>ents/Standing-order-mandate-and-Gift-Aid-form-</u> <u>2024.pdf</u>

### **Diary Dates**



07.12.2024	PTA Christmas Fair 12.00-3.00pm at The Horsell Village School
10.12.2024	Christmas Production Snowy Owls, Squirrels and Foxcubs 9.30 am & 5.00 pm
11.12.2024	Christmas Production Barn Owls, Hedgehogs and Rabbits 9.30 am & 5.00 pm
12.12.2024	Christmas Production Tawny Owls, Badgers and Otters 9.30 am & 5.00 pm
12.12.2024	Theatre Visit to school
13.12.2024	Christmas Jumper Day Christmas Dinner Christmas Parties
16.12.2024	Hanukah Day
16.12.2024	Combined Carol Service St Mary's Church 6.30 pm
20.12.2024	End of term 1.15 pm finish
06.01.2025	School re opens for the Spring Term

Thank you for your continued support.

### **Theatre Visit** TOWN MOUSE

On Thursday 12th December, we will be visited by the Pied Piper Theatre Company who will be performing 'Town Mouse and Country Mouse',

'Join two friends as they embark on an amazing journey and discover that sometimes new can be exciting and different can be good!

An enchanting story from Aesop's much loved and heart warming tale told with puppetry, music and magical design.

You can visit 'The Pied Piper' Theatre company website for some fun activities relating to the story.

https://piedpipertheatre.co.uk/fun\_activities.php

A huge thanks to the PTA who have covered the cost of this performance!



Upcoming Events

Curriculum news

# **ΔΙ FNC**

COUNTRY MOUSE

# **Class Assemblies**

During the Spring Term, each class leads a class assembly. This provides an opportunity for the children to share the learning they are proud of in a number of different ways.

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.

Each assembly will last about 15 minutes with a 5 minute period afterwards to spend congratulating your child/children.

Thursday 16th January 2025 - Tawny Owls Thursday 23rd January 2025- Squirrels Thursday 30th January 2025 - Barn Owls Thursday 6th February 2025 - Badgers Thursday 13th February 2025 - Hedgehogs

Thursday 6th March 2025 - Snowy Owls Thursday 13th March 2025- Foxcubs Thursday 20th March - Rabbits Thursday 27th March - Otters

# TH thanky ou!!!

A big thank you to the PTA and to yourselves for helping to raise ongoing additional funds for the school. We have just purchased some additional phonics books. I am sure the children are enjoying having access to the extensive range we now have.



A big thank you to Mr Bampoe for continuing to support the up keep of the school grounds.

As you imagine with the weather we have had recently there isn't a leaf left on a tree. Mr Bampoe has been on a mission keep our playgrounds tidy. Thank you

# **Spring Term Clubs**

At The Horsell Village School we have an extensive range of after school clubs and lunchtime clubs for your child / children to participate in. Head over to the school website to find out more information about each club and how to sign up for the Spring Term.

### Clubs timetable - Spring Term 2024



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Curriculum news

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Monday Thursday Friday Tuesday Wednesday Before School Wake & Stretch Just Play Music Lunch Chess French Year 1 French Year 2 Spanish Gym After School Lego Legends Street Dance Football Singing Stars Sporty Kids Coding Sporty Kids Theatre Art Art Cooking

<u>https://www.horsell-</u> <u>village.surrey.sch.uk/parents/clubs/</u>

# Keeping children safe at school and how you can help

The safety of the children here at The Horsell Village School is paramount.

The journey to and from school can be one of the more hazardous parts of the day.

Here are a few things to remember and share that will help keep us all safe.



Last week at school the children took part in 'Road Safety' week. We learnt about the Green Cross Code and how to keep ourselves safe when crossing the road with our adults. Please continue to uses the designated crossing areas on the lead up to school, or be extra vigilant- we have recently had some near misses on the corner of Wilson Way.



#### Parking around school

Please continue to make use of the kindness of our local public houses- The Red Lion and The Crown- who enable us to park in their carparks during drop off and pick up. Just a gentle reminder not to leave your cars there all day. For school events such as our upcoming Nativity performances you will need to park else where or walk.

During the hours between 7.30 am and 5.00pm the staff carpark is for staff only. Amongst other things this for the safety of the children as in the dark nights it can be very difficult to see children in the carpark. Sadly some parents have been verbally abusive to staff members which is not acceptable.

If you are collecting from After School Club you can use the carpark after 5.00 pm only.

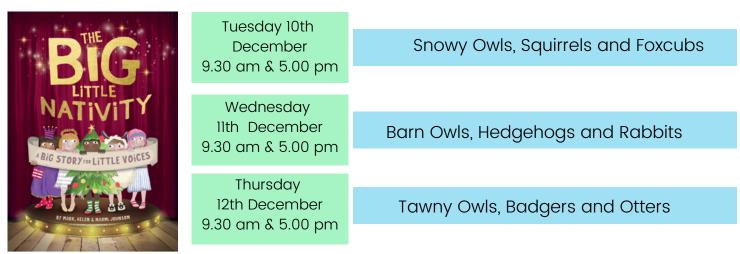


#### <u>Play Equipment</u>

Just a little reminder that the children should not be using the play equipment before or after school. Should they wish to play there is some lovely play equipment over at the Village Playground next to the Village Hall.

Thank you for understanding and support.

# **Christmas Performances**



The children are in the full swing of rehearsals and there is a real buzz of excitement in the air. With this in mind please see the information below to support in the smooth running of what I am sure will be a spectacular event.

- Please arrive back to school by 4.45 pm for the evening performances. Please bring your child to the front door dressed in their costumes. These will be sent home after the morning performances. If your child is not coming back for the evening performance please make sure you have informed your child's class teacher.
- For the evening performance the children will meet at the school and be brought over to the church by members of staff. This gives you time to find a seat in the church.
- At the end of the day and evening performances the children will be brought back over to school by members of staff. Please remain seated until we have all the children out of the church and across the road. A member of staff will indicate when it is suitable for you to leave. This enables us to get everyone back to school safely.
- Performances are expected to last about 30 minutes. If you are not at the evening performance please be back at school to pick up your child / children at 5.45 pm.
- Evening performances please pick your child up from the following areas: Year 2 - Front door

Year 1 & R - Library door.



Finally can I take this opportunity to remind you of the school's safeguarding measures and procedures around children performing. Keeping children safe is the golden thread that runs through everything we do here at The Horsell Village School. We therefore request that you do not take photographs or record / film any part of the school play.

I know, for some, this will come as a disappointment as it is a special time of year, however for many this can be a vulnerable time of year.

A simple picture or film uploaded to social media or shared can have significant repercussions for some. We are also upholding a large proportion of parent's wishes for their children not to be filmed- respectively so.

Please do not be offended should a member of staff speak to you during the performance if they feel this request is not being followed-they are simply doing their job and keeping everyone safe.

At school we will take an individual picture and send it home. But please, sit back and enjoy the children performing- they love to see your smiling faces.

# **Christmas Post Box**



The school post box is available for the children to post any Christmas cards they wish to send to their friends from Monday 9th December 2024.

Last day of posting will be Wednesday 18th December.

Please support your child when writing their cards to ensure the envelopes are clearly marked with the recipient's full name and class.

# **Christmas Celebration Day**

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Upcoming Events

Curriculum news

On Friday 13th December we will be exploring the celebration of Christmas and the traditions and stories behind Christmas Day. This day will also be:

Chatistinas Junpen Bau

Christmas Jumper Day. We invite you to come to school wearing a Christmas Jumper. We will be collecting for Save The Children should you wish to make a donation.



Christmas Dinner. Please make sure you have selected your child's meal option on Scopay.



Christmas Parties. Each class will have their own special party as a celebration of what they have achieved this term. They do not need any additional food.



### afeguarding

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

ARE YOU AN ATTENDANCE HERO HERE 🚔 EVERY DAY 🐨 READY 🔗 ON TIME Attendance Ladder 100% School days missed 98% C VERY GOOD ı an academic year 96% 🙂 good 95% IMPROVEMENT 90% 8 NEEDED 85% ℅ CONCERNED 80% VERY CONCERNED

We all know attendance at school is vital for giving your child every chance to succeed. Research shows there is a direct link between school attendance and attainment and progress.

Keeping Children Safe

DSL Team

As we head into the cold and flu seasons, you can help your child's attendance school by:

- Encouraging your child catch their cough in a tissue
- Put their hands over their mouths when coughing- washing their hands after.
- Practice using a tissue at home.

#### Leave of Absence

Just a reminder that a Leave of Absence request Form should be completed at least **two weeks** before.

All term time holidays will be un-authorised.

Thank you for your continued support in ensuring your child / children attend school as regularly as they can

At National Online Safety we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information they need to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one issue of many which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

# **ONLINE CONTENT** 10 tips to keep your children safe online

The internet has transformed the ability to access content. Many apps that children use are dependent on user-generated content which can encourage freedom of expression, imagination and creativity. However, due to the sheer volume uploaded every day, it can be difficult for platforms to regulate and moderate everything, which means that disturbing or distressing images, videos or audio clips can slip through the net. That's why we've created this guide to provide parents and carers with some useful tips on keeping children safe online.



MONITOR VIEWING HABITS

Whilst most apps have moderation tools, inappropriate content can still slip through the net.



Make accounts private and set content filters and parental controls where possible.



#### ENCOURAGE CRITICAL THINKING

Talk about what people might post online and why some posts could cause distress.





Understand what's being shared or what seems to be 'trending' at the moment.



SPEND TIME ON THE APP

Get used to how apps work, what content is available and what your child likes to watch.



#### LEARN HOW TO REPORT & BLOCK

Always make sure that children know how to use the reporting tools on social media apps.



If a child has been affected by something they've seen online, seek support from your school's safeguarding lead.



Make sure they are old enough to use the app and meet the recommended age-limit.



### LET CHILDREN KNOW YOU'RE THERE

Ensure they know that there is support and advice available to them if they need it.



If a child sees distressing material online; listen to their concerns, empathise and offer reassurance.



www.nationalonlinesafety.com Twitter - @natonlinesafety Facebook - /NationalOnlineSafety Instagram - @NationalOnlineSafety Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 16.09.2020

### What's happening in Reception...

We have started our new topic "Dinosaur Celebrations" with great enthusiasm. So far, we have celebrated Guy Fawkes Night and Diwali. We have the celebrations of Hanukkah and Christmas to come.

We have also seen some active engagement in our dinosaur learning. We have compared dinosaurs to see what is the same and what is different. We have talked about the scientific words for meat eater (carnivore) and plant eater (herbivore). Children have been labelling parts of a dinosaur using their phonic knowledge (leg, head, back, neck) and some are even starting to write phrases, well done!

Recently, we have started getting ready for our Christmas play (see dates and times earlier on in the newsletter). The children have been learning the words to the songs, some actions to go with it. We are very proud of them and are sure you will be too when you come to see it!

In the next few weeks we will be discussing the Celebration of Christmas. Who celebrates Christmas and why? What traditions we have in our families for celebrating and if we do not celebrate Christmas, what we do on that day. Children will be able to then see the world through the eyes of others and to understand that celebrations can help us understand more about what different people believe.

We continue discussing and celebrating our differences in PSHE, thinking about how to be a kind friend by showing kindness to others.

Wishing you and your family a happy holiday!

Bethlehem celebration Christmas





The sounds we are looking at now are:

hristmas

Story

h b f/ff I/II ss j v w x

We will look at the tricky words:

he me be she my by

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

### Reminders

Please may we ask that you stay with your child in the morning before the classroom doors open and encourage them (and younger siblings) not to play with the equipment that is set up for the day's learning.

Have you logged on to Numbots to try a game? At the end of each half term children have the chance to earn a certificate for accuracy when playing.

### What's happening in Year 1...

The children have thoroughly enjoyed our 'Fill up, Fuel up' topic this half term, particularly our visit to Boz's and tasting lots of new fruits when making their fruit salads. As we approach the final weeks of term, we continue to have lots of exciting learning to do, as well as some special events to look forward to!

In English we will be continuing to explore instruction writing. The children will be making and decorating Christmas biscuits in DT and using this to help them to write a set of instructions.

In Maths, we will be ordering and comparing numbers to 20 and will focus on 2-D shapes.

In Science we will be continuing to make observations of fruit and vegetables to see what happens to them over time, and drawing our final conclusions.

In PSHE, we will be continuing to explore emotions, with a focus on the feelings of excitement and disappointment, and we will reflect on times when we have felt like this and why.

Please continue to read as much as possible over the Christmas break. We are so proud of the progress the children have made during their first term in Year 1!

### Phonics

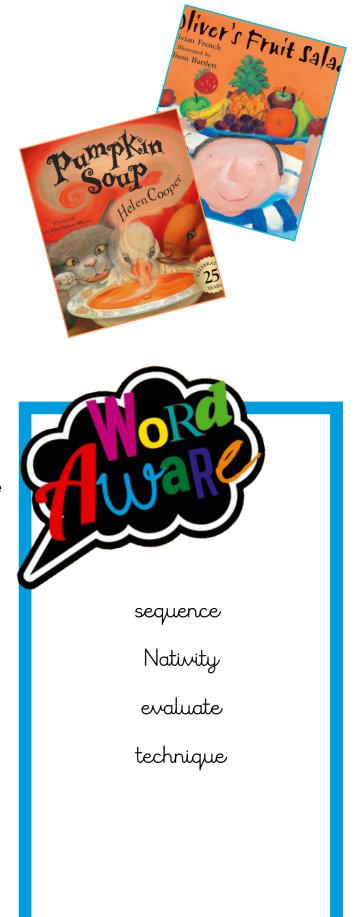
The children will be working through the Phases in their Phonics groups:

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...

The children over the next few weeks will be completing their learning connected to the topic, Bikes and Buses before moving on to learning all about Christmas.

In English, we will be writing our own versions of the Hundred Decker Bus and working hard to include everything we have become more expert on this term. We will be looking at different ways that we can start sentences in a narrative and will be using our knowledge of adjectives to describe settings and characters.

In Maths, we will be solving problems involving addition and subtraction, shape and symmetry. .

As Scientists, we will explore how to stay fit and healthy and in D.T and Art, we will be learning how to sew a Christmas tree decoration and shape and join clay to create a tea light holder.

Our P.S.H.E learning continues to be about celebrating differences, including what makes us special and how we can all be a good friend and show kindness to others.

We'd like to thank you for all your support this term, particularly those who helped on our trip and walks. We hope you all have a wonderful holiday! Please take time to read regularly throughout the holiday.

## Phonics

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

Phase 3/4 Phase 5 alternatives

**Tricky Words** 

great, steak, break, pass, class, grass, past, last fast, find kind, mind, behind, friend

