



The Horsell Village School NEWSLETTER

Vol .06



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 have been enjoying this half term's learning topics and there is a real buzz of excitement for learning around the school.

We have had the first round of class assemblies, visits to the Lightbox and Horsell Common, Winter day and Luna New Year Day to name a few. A big thank you to those who have joined us on our visits. We really appreciate your support.

Another big 'Thank you' to the PTA and Horsell Village After School Club and our parent community who continue to support events and help raise money for the school. This term, this has enabled us to continue to expand our collection of individual reading books and guided reading books. Supporting children to read and develop that love for reading is a key focus of ours here at The Horsell Village School.

Look out for those new reading books heading home.

Just to update you - the PTA took a staggering £7000 at the Christmas Fair- what an achievement. Thank you to all who supported in all the different ways- this goes a long way in supporting both the Village and Junior school.

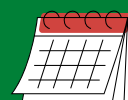
THANK YOU!



Diary Dates



- 02.02.2024 NSPCC Number day- dress up
- 05.02.2024 Children's Mental Health Week
- 06.02.2024 Internet Safety Day
- 08.02.2024 Hedgehogs Class Assembly 9.00 am - school hall
- 09.02.2024 STEM Maths Workshops **Children's event**
- 09.02.2024 Finish for Half Term - 3pm
- 19.02.2024 **INSET Day**
- 20.02.2024 School re-opens
- 28.02.2024 Book Fair in the hall 3 - 3.30pm
- 29.02.2024 Snowy Owls Class Assembly 9.00 am- Hall
Book Fair in Hedgehogs Class 3-3.30pm
- 30.02.2024 Book Fair in the hall 3 - 3.30pm
- 04.03.2024 Book Week
Book week Dress up day
- 06.03.2024 Parent Volunteer Meeting 9.00 am - Children's Centre
Bears at Bedtime event 5pm (tea and coffee in the hall for parents)
- 07.03.2024 Badgers Class Assembly 9.00 am - Hall
- 08.03.2024 Year 2 visit to Kew Gardens



Please see below for details about Spring Term Parent Conferences.

Class Assemblies

Well done to Tawny Owls, Squirrels and Barn Owls for their fantastic class assemblies. The children have enjoyed sharing their learning with their parents and friends.

Below is a reminder of the dates for the following Class Assemblies:

- Thursday 8th February – Hedgehogs
- Thursday 29th February – Snowy Owls
- Thursday 7th March – Badgers
- Thursday 14th March – Otters
- Thursday 21st March – Foxcubs
- Thursday 28th March – Rabbits



Parent Conferences

This year we will be doing our Spring Term parent conferences straight after half term. The system is now live so please follow the Scopay link below to book:

<https://www.scopay.com/login.html>

Parent 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 and one evening conference. Please see the dates below:

- Snowy Owls Wednesday 21st February 2024
- Badgers Thursday 22nd February 2024
- Squirrels Friday 23rd February 2024
- Barn Owls Monday 26th February 2024
- **Evening conferences for all- Tuesday 27th February**
- Hedgehogs Tuesday 27th February 2024
- Tawny Owls Tuesday 27th February 2024
- Rabbits Wednesday 28th February 2024
- Foxcubs Thursday 29th February 2024
- Otters Thursday 29th February 2024

Just a little reminder to keep us all safe at school:

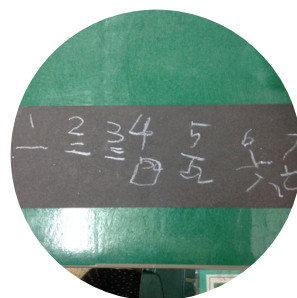
- Please do not let your children play on the trim trail or new equipment before and after school. This is not supervised by a member of staff during these times.
- Please remind your children / younger siblings not to play with the equipment that has been set up in the Reception or playground areas. This has been set up for the school day and the teachers have taken time to make it fun, exciting and purposeful for the children.



Happy Lunar New Year

On Monday we explored the celebration of Lunar New Year.

As a school we spent time finding out about the the Year of the dragon and what it symbolises to the different cultures that celebrate it.





Children's Mental Health Week takes place between Monday 5th February through to Friday 9th February . This years theme is 'My Voice Matters'.

My Voice Matters is about empowering children and young people by providing them with the tools they need to express themselves.

As a school we are passionate about supporting our children to develop an understanding of their emotions and develop their self-regulation toolkits. This forms an essential part of our whole school teaching and learning approach.



As a school we are focusing on the power of song and how singing and music can support our mental health.

We are calling it 'Sound, Silence and Stillness'

We will be:

- learning a song a day and learning how to sign alongside it using Makaton.
- listening to different pieces and types of music and sharing our thoughts and feelings on them.
- learning all about what we can do to help our bodies relax when feeling worried or sad.
- learning all about what we can do to help calm our minds.
- taking part in a bend and stretch mindfulness workshop with Mrs Emslie.
- taking part in a mindful doodle with Miss Richardson.
- developing a bank of breathing techniques to support when our emotions overwhelm us.

There are lots of ways you can also support your child's understanding of a healthy mind at home.

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



Mindworks Surrey is a fantastic service that provides a wealth of information, advice and resources for children, parents and professionals.

In the moment it can be hard for your child to remember the help strategies they have been taught. Mindworks have created some support pages that you might find helpful to look at.

General website

[mindworks-surrey.org/advice-information-and-resources/resources-and-information-parents](https://www.mindworks-surrey.org/advice-information-and-resources/resources-and-information-parents)



Anger

<https://www.mindworks-surrey.org/advice-information-and-resources/managing-emotions/anger>



Anxiety

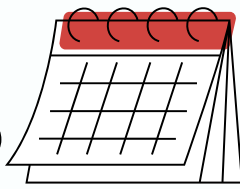
<https://www.mindworks-surrey.org/advice-information-and-resources/anxiety>



Child Mental Health and Well-being- 10 top tips for parents

<https://sslearning.co.uk/parentsandguardians/child-mental-health-10-tips-for-parents>

Term Dates 2024 to 2025



Autumn Term 2024

Monday 2nd September 2024 INSET DAY
Tuesday 3rd September 2024 INSET DAY
Start of term: Wednesday 4th September 2024
Half term: 28th October to 1st November 2024
Monday 4th November 2024 INSET DAY
Tuesday 5th November 2024 INSET Day
End of term: Friday 20th December

Spring Term 2025

Start of term: Monday 6th January 2025
Half term: 17th February to 21st February 2025
End of term: Friday 4th April 2025

Summer Term 2025

Start of term: Tuesday 22nd April 2025
Friday 23rd May 2025 INSET DAY
Half term: 26th May to 30th May 2025
End of term: Tuesday 22nd July 2025



Mrs Sharkey DSL

Mrs Reeve
Deputy DSL



Miss Cadey
Deputy DSL



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

Online safety

Online safety is an important part of safeguarding our children here at The Horsell Village School. We have extensive security measures in place in school which are monitored both internally and externally.

Online safety is taught through all aspects of the curriculum as well as an essential part of our computing lessons.

In school we follow the 'Be safe online rules'. You can find more information about our online safety policy and approach on the computing and safeguarding pages on our school website.

We can only be successful in keeping children safe online by working together to provide the same message at home as we do at school.

As we approach the holidays- it might be a good time to talk again about how to stay safe online.

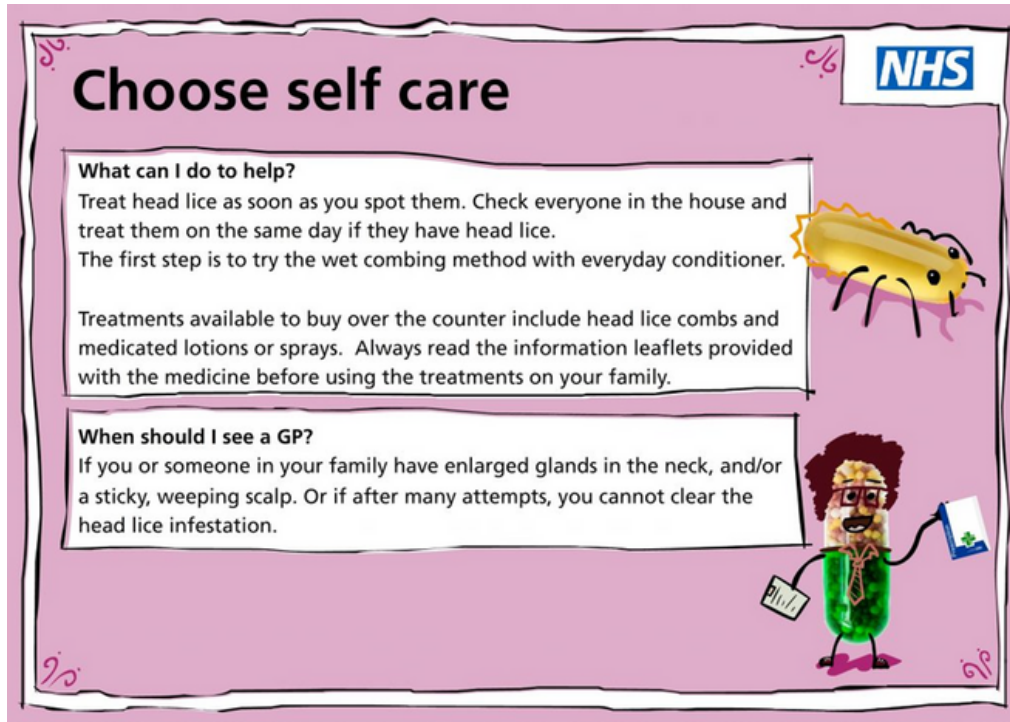
The NSPCC website is great for exploring different topics from talking about online safety with young children through to how to implement parent controls.



NSPCC nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/

Head Lice

As a school, we want to ensure parents/carers are provided with the advice and support to effectively detect and treat cases of head lice affecting their own children. Most schools are likely to have a few pupils with head lice at any one time. It is a good idea to regularly wet or dry comb your child's hair to catch them early. To help avoid the spread, please can we remind all parents that if your child's hair is long enough to be tied up, then it should be tied up for school. Should you need further support, please follow NHS advice: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/head-lice-and-nits/>



Choose self care

What can I do to help?
Treat head lice as soon as you spot them. Check everyone in the house and treat them on the same day if they have head lice.
The first step is to try the wet combing method with everyday conditioner.

Treatments available to buy over the counter include head lice combs and medicated lotions or sprays. Always read the information leaflets provided with the medicine before using the treatments on your family.

When should I see a GP?
If you or someone in your family have enlarged glands in the neck, and/or a sticky, weeping scalp. Or if after many attempts, you cannot clear the head lice infestation.

Community Matters

Please look after each other.



We know parking around school is particularly tight and local roads can get very busy, which is why The Red Lion and The Crown pub very kindly offer us the use of their carparks at drop off and pick up times.

Please be considerate of our local residents when parking your car.

Sadly, once again, we have had reports of a small number of parents parking in local residents driveways, blocking driveways and parking on double yellow lines as well as abusive comments made to residents and other parents in front of children.

We cannot police this and nor is it our job do to so, however we can ask for your support. The safety of our children is paramount and we wouldn't want anything to happen to anyone on the way to and from school.

The school plays a huge role in the local community and, although it seems minor, parking your car safely is part of this. Sadly the actions of only a few are reflecting badly on the school.

Thank you for your support. Please can I ask that we work together to make coming to school a pleasant experience for all.



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 "Down on the Farm." We have a trip planned so keep your eyes on emails from school!

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

In Maths we will continue our learning by comparing quantities and looking at the composition of 9 and 10.

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

In our Understanding the World learning, we will consider special stories from Christianity. We will look at the life cycle of a plant and what it needs to grow and stay healthy.

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

Our PE sessions will focus on dance. We will also use our gross motor skills during our outside learning and our small motor skills paying specific attention to our pencil grip.



Phonics

The sounds we are looking at now are:

oi ow ear er ure air

We will revise all our phase 2 and 3 sounds

We will look at the tricky words:

all was give live

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

You can use ActiveLearn online at home to read a variety of books. Please see your class teacher if you can't find your login.

Parent Conferences:

All classes: Tuesday 27th February 4-7pm

Rabbits: Wednesday 28th February 9-12pm

Foxcubs: Thursday 29th February 9-12pm

Otters: Thursday 29th February 9-12pm

PE:

Please can you support us by ensuring your children are able to get undressed and dressed independently. It will enable us to have more time developing our PE skills.

Thank you.



country

vehicle

vegetable

grow

seed

co-operation

most

near

less

long

new

next to

night

old



What's happening in Year 1...

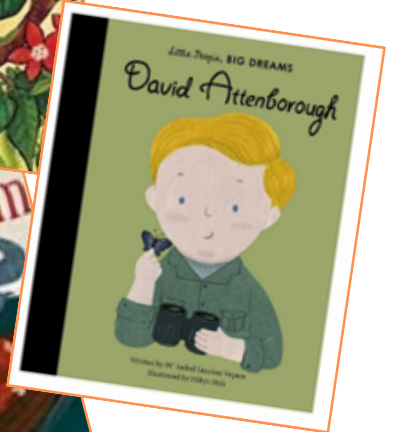
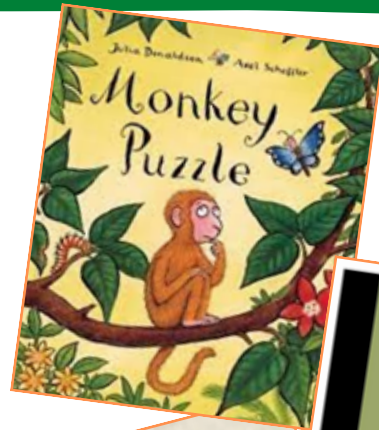
As we approach the end of our topic, Underwater Adventure, we will be reviewing our learning and will draw our topic to a close by writing persuasive letters about why the ocean is so special and the importance of protecting it.

Our topic for after half term is 'Carnival of the Animals.' In Art, we will study the work of Henri Rousseau and will take inspiration from his animal artwork. The children will identify and name a variety of animals found at the zoo and will sort and classify them. We will revisit the continents in geography and will look at where in the world different animals live.

We will learn about the life of Sir David Attenborough and the important work he has carried out educating the world about the wide variety of species that live on this delightful planet! In English, we will continue to develop our letter writing skills and will be writing a letter to Sir David Attenborough about the animals we have learnt about.

In Maths, we will begin to explore measure, looking at length, mass and volume and exploring the vocabulary relating to each area.

In the final week of term, we will be visiting Marwell Zoo which will be a lovely opportunity for the children to see the animals we have been learning about in the flesh.



reunite

sequence

safari

landscape

journey

direction

herbivore

carnivore

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 come to the end of our Magic Library topic with the brilliant book 'Journey' by Aaron Becker.

This amazing story has no words so we were able to write our own stories about a little girl and her magic crayon.

We worked hard on our choice of vocabulary and the use of commas and adjectives to bring our ideas to life. In

Science our egg learning has led us to revisit the classification of animals building upon our knowledge from Year 1. We have been busy creating lifecycles for a variety of different animals.

In Maths we have been exploring the concept of 'grouping' and introducing the multiplication symbol to the children.

We have nearly finished our sock puppets as part of our DT project. We have had great fun designing them, learning how to attach different materials together in lots of different ways. We are looking forward to using them to make up our own stories.

Next half term our topic will be 'The Living Rainforest'. We will be visiting Kew Gardens to learn about how different plants adapt to different climates. We will be exploring the animals and plants that live in the Rainforest.

We will be basing our learning around the stories 'The Green Grass Grew all Around' and 'The Great Green Forest'. These will inspire us to write poetry and also persuasive letters about the rainforest. We will make clay pots inspired by the Rainforest and use maps to identify different locations around the world in Geography. Lots of exciting learning to come.



habitat
tranquil
climate
deforestation
continent
equator
decompose
canopy
adaptation

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.

