



# The Horsell Village School NEWSLETTER



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

- Diary dates up to February half term
- Details explaining future events
- Safeguarding and attendance updates
- Curriculum news- focus on oracy
- Year Group Pages

Welcome to 2025.

We hope you all had a lovely break over the school holidays. Here at school the children have returned excited to find out their new learning topics.



Reception will be exploring different types of transport and locations through their topic 'Are we there yet?'



Year 1 will be exploring different habitats and the wonders of the seas through their topic 'Underwater Adventure'



Year 2 will be exploring the wonders of the imagination through their topic 'The Magic Library'

You can find out more about what the half term has in store for you and your children by visiting the year group page on the school website.

Here you will find a curriculum map detailing what the key skills and knowledge are for each subject.

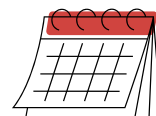
Finally we would like to introduce you to a new member of staff here at The Horsell Village School. Mr Nick Pratt has joined the team as our new caretaker- I am sure you join us in offering him a warm welcome.



## Diary Dates January 2025

16.01.2025	Tawny Owls Class Assembly 9.00 am - Hall
20.01.2025	Winter Day
23.01.2025	Squirrels Class Assembly 9.00 am - Hall
25.01.2025	PTA Uniform Sale 10.00 am to 11.30 am
30.01.2025	Barn Owls Class Assembly 9.00 am - Hall
03.02.2025	Children's Mental Health Week
06.02.2025	Badgers Class Assembly 9.00 am - Hall
07.02.2025	NSPCC Number day Dress as a digit
10.02.2025	Luna New Year Day
11.02.2025	Internet Safety Day
13.02.2025	Hedgehogs Class Assembly 9.00 am - Hall
14.02.2025	Finish for Feb Half Term 3.20pm
24.02.2025	School re-opens

## Term Dates 2025 to 2026



Term Dates for 2025 to 2026 are just being finalised by the Swan Trust.

We hope to be able to share these with you as soon as possible.

# 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



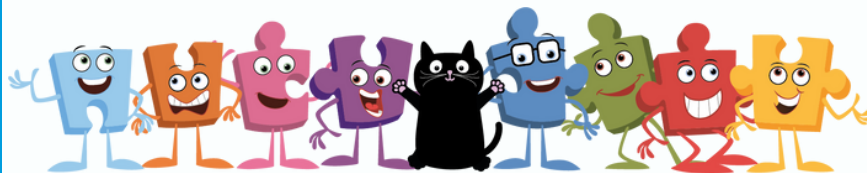
The value for this half term is :



In Reflections this half term we will be exploring the meaning of honesty and the feelings and emotions associated with being truthful and what could happen when we are not truthful.

We will be using a variety of different stories and tales as starting points for discussion.

At home, discuss with your child the importance of this value and perhaps share your own experiences of living this value out.



This half term our PSHE Jigsaw lessons and Good To Be Me afternoons will focus on:

## DREAMS AND GOALS

We will be exploring and learning about:

- Our aspirations and how to achieve them.
- How to set small goals and how to manage our expectations of them.
- How to challenge ourselves and the emotions that can come when we find things tricky.
- How to work together effectively and understand that everyone has different viewpoints, ideas and opinions and how we can share these to develop our own ideas.
- Our own resilience and developing an emotional toolkit to support.
- Simple budgeting.

Just a little reminder...

### Scooters and Bikes

Scooting or riding bikes through the school playground is not permitted.



Drop off and pick up times are very busy and crowded and we need to keep everyone safe.

Please use the designated racks to store bikes and scooters.

### PE Kits

We are experiencing an increase in the numbers of children coming into school without their PE Kit. This is upsetting for the child, impacts on learning time and is extremely disruptive for the school office. Please ensure your child is sent to school fully equipped.



Upcoming  
Events



**JANUARY**

## Good As New Uniform

**Sat 18th**

**10:00-11:30**

**Horsell Junior School**

*Volunteers needed for setup, sale & pack up. Please contact your class rep*

**Bags2 School**

**TBC**



Advanced  
Notice

On Friday 7th February we will be taking part in the NSPCC Number Day. We will be having a fun day of maths activities and we will be taking part in 'Dress up for Digits' Children are invited to wear a top / jumper with a number on it. You are welcome to decorate a plain t-shirt with numbers or draw and pin numbers to a plain t-shirt. Please do not feel you need to buy a new item of clothing. This t-shirt / jumper should be worn with normal school uniform. Here are a few ideas:



## 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](mailto: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



## Curriculum News Focus on Oracy

Here at The Horsell Village School our teaching and learning approach has Oracy at its heart. Supporting children to develop effective communication skills - whether this be verbal or non verbal, it's an essential life long skill.

Oracy can:

- 1) Enhance social and emotional development by supporting children to express their needs and communicate effectively with both peers and adults.
- 2) Empower children to better understand themselves, each other and the world around them by specifically teaching effective speaking and listening skills
- 3) Develop strong communication skills, which are essential for success both academically and personally for mental health and well-being
- 4) Support the fostering of critical thinking by encouraging children to think critically about information and ideas and expose them to higher level vocabulary and context.
- 5) Build confidence in expressing themselves to different audiences and in different situations,

The Horsell Learning Cycle is used in every lesson and at the beginning and end of a unit of learning or part of a weekly review session.

Each lesson starts with the question 'What do I already know' - this provides opportunity for children to recall previous skills and knowledge and recall key vocabulary.

'What will help me learn' refers to the characteristics of an effective learner and 'What do I know now' provides opportunity for children to share what they have learnt and 'talk like an expert' using subject specific vocabulary



The Horsell Learning Tree is used in every lesson across KS1 and clearly identifies the key knowledge and learning skills for a unit of work.

Key vocabulary for each unit of work is clearly identified and shared through our Word Aware approach. Children are encouraged to use this higher level focused vocabulary when talking about and sharing their learning.



The 'Characteristics of effective learning animals' forms part of our Learning Cycle and are referred to in every lesson. Language to support our children to express how they are feeling is modelled throughout.



At School, we use Word Aware which is a structured whole school approach to promote the vocabulary development of all children. Our aim is to develop the children's spoken and written vocabulary.

Vocabulary development is critical for overall cognitive development, literacy skills, and language acquisition and is directly linked to school achievement.

What can you do at home?

Are there any familiar words used in your home, for example 'tired', 'hungry'? Try to introduce a synonym for that word for your child to practise using e.g. weary, famished. Exposing children to new vocabulary, used in context, will help their understanding and they will be more likely to use this vocabulary themselves.



## WOKING FAMILY CENTRE GROUPS/COURSES 2025

<p><b><u>Play &amp; Learn Plus</u></b></p> <p>Tuesdays weekly (Term time only) 9.45am – 11.15am Woking Family Centre, Sythwood Woking GU21 3AX</p> <p><b>Starting 7<sup>th</sup> January</b></p>	<p><b><u>Parent Wellbeing Group</u></b></p> <p>Tuesday weekly (Term time only) 9.30am – 11.00am Parkview Centre for the Community Blackmore Crescent, Sheerwater, Woking GU21 3AX</p> <p><b>Starting 7<sup>th</sup> January</b></p>
<p><b><u>Thursday Tots</u></b></p> <p>Thursdays weekly (Term time only) 10.00am - 11.30am St Mary's Centre for the Community Stream Close, Byfleet KT14 7LZ</p> <p><b>Starting 16<sup>th</sup> January</b></p>	<p><b><u>Parenting Puzzle</u></b></p> <p>Tuesdays weekly (4 week course) 6.45pm – 8.00pm Via Microsoft Teams</p> <p><b>Starting 21<sup>st</sup> January</b></p>
<p><b><u>L-SPA</u></b></p> <p>(Learners Single Point of Access) Woking Family Centre, Sythwood Woking GU21 3AX</p> <p><b>15<sup>th</sup> Jan, 19<sup>th</sup> Feb, 19<sup>th</sup> Mar (by appointment)</b></p>	<p><b><u>Baby Steps Group in partnership with SMEF</u></b></p> <p>(Surrey Minority Ethnic Forum)</p> <p>Tuesday weekly 12.00pm-2.00pm Woking Family Centre, Sythwood Woking GU21 3AX</p> <p><b>Starting 7<sup>th</sup> January</b></p>
<p><b>SEND online support group</b></p> <p>Monday weekly (4 week course) 7.00pm - 8.00pm</p> <p>Via Microsoft Teams</p> <p><b>Starting 27<sup>th</sup> February – 20<sup>th</sup> March</b></p>	<p><b>For more information contact:</b></p> <p><b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:wokingfamilycentre@bamardos.org.uk">wokingfamilycentre@bamardos.org.uk</a></p> <p><b>Phone:</b> 01483 310419</p>

# What's happening in Reception...

Welcome back! We hope you enjoyed a restful break. The children have returned to school with lots of stories about what they did over Christmas and are displaying excellent learning behaviours. Well done!

We have started our new topic "Are we there yet?" with great enthusiasm. So far, we have looked at aeroplanes. We have explored where Emma Jane might be going on her journey by looking at the cover of Emma Jane's Aeroplane. Next, we will read the story and use a map to find where she has been. All the Reception team are very proud of how motivated the children are at recording their ideas in words and sentences. We can see the phonics we have learnt being applied. We will continue learning diagraphs now, please practise these at home too.

In Maths we are continuing our learning on subitising, counting and composition of number. We will be representing quantities and matching these with numerals. 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 places and how it feels to belong to them. We will discuss places of worship and how they are special to people. Also, we will find out about Amelia Earhart and Garret Morgan and how transport has changed over time.

In PSHE, we are beginning our new topic "Dreams and Goals" thinking about how to stay motivated when doing something challenging and how we can set a goal and work towards it.

Our PE sessions will focus on balancing - static and dynamic. 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:

ng ai ee igh oa oo (food) oo (look)  
ar or ur

We will look at the tricky words:

they we are you

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.



transport  
journey  
visit  
adventure



different  
empty  
first  
front  
hard  
heavy  
large  
last

## 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.

# What's happening in Year 1...

We have started the year, diving straight into our new topic, 'Underwater Adventure'. We will be beginning with the text, 'The Storm Whale' and will explore fiction writing looking at character and setting description as well as the story's main events, thinking about what might happen next. We will then use the text 'Somebody Swallowed Stanley' to inspire our non-fiction writing, exploring the issue of pollution. We will finish our topic with 'Tiddler' by Julia Donaldson. Our Geography learning will be around revisiting the five oceans and locating them on a map of the world.

In Maths, we will be focusing on addition, subtraction and place value within 20, including number bonds and doubles.

Our Art will be inspired by the work of Sue Coccia. We will be using our observational skills to zoom in on a variety of sea creatures and exploring line, tone and texture.

In Computing, we will be learning all about the importance of following a set of instructions as we learn all about what a computer algorithm is.

Our PE this half term is gymnastics and the children will be developing their use of balance and coordination.

In PSHE, we will be focusing on goals and dreams and how we can set a goal, work towards it and experience success.



## 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.

ocean

spill

beneath

impact

local

vast

deep

endangered

climate

safe

pollution

current



# What's happening in Year 2...

Welcome back everyone!

On the very first day back in school we had a mysterious door appear in our classroom.

It appears to be a door leading to The Whispering Pages Library and we seem to be having daily deliveries through the door including a letter and books. We are not sure what else might appear but are very excited to discover more about its' secrets! Watch this space!

In Maths we will be learning about money, identifying coins and notes and using them to make amounts. In History we will be learning about the development of books over time, starting with cave painting.

In English, we will be writing descriptions of our own magical libraries and instructions.

In Art, we will be learning how to use pencils and pastels to create images inspired by magical creatures.

Now that we are back in school, please make sure that you are reading daily and using Numbots.



## Phonics



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

Phase 3/4

Phase 5 alternatives

## Tricky Words

cloth, clothes, pretty,  
pass, grass, class,  
old, gold, cold,  
could, should would,  
couldn't, shouldn't, wouldn't,  
beautiful, wonderful, colourful

secluded

roam

rumble

emerald

tendrils

venomous

mythical

fearsome

fantasy

absorbed

wealthy

reflected

compass

fractious

directions