



3rd October 2017

Dear Parents

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Reading meetings

Just as a reminder, our reading meetings for Reception parents are on **Wednesday 4th October at 9am and Thursday 5th October at 2.15pm and 7pm.** These are primarily for Reception parents, however everyone is welcome. There will also be a reading meeting for KS1 parents on **Thursday 12th October at 9am.**

During the meetings we will share with you how we teach reading at The Horsell Village School and how you can help with your child's reading homework, which will vary depending on their age. We will talk about the importance of reading, the ethos we create, the practicalities and some of our resources. It is also an opportunity for you to ask questions. We do ask that you try to find alternative childcare for these meetings as they are not aimed at children.

October Dates 2017

4th Reading meeting for reception parents 9.00am
5th Parent tours for September 2018
5th Reading meeting for reception parents 2.15pm and 7.00pm
6th Parent tours for September 2018
12th Reading meeting for Key Stage 1 parents 9am
13th Harvest festival in school (children only)
13th Parent tours for September 2018
20th Welly Walk
23rd-27th HALF TERM
31st Snowy Owls Parent Conferences

Visiting the classroom

We have an open classroom every Thursday after school. Please feel free to pop in and look at your child's learning during this time.

We do ask that you wait until the teacher has dismissed all the children before come into the classroom, thank you.

Parent helpers

If you have a DBS registered with us (Disclosure and Barring Service check) or are happy to get one we would love to have you help out in school.

This could be a regular weekly session, an ad hoc basis or once in a blue moon. We always have something you can lend a hand with.

Reading Partners

Do you enjoy reading? Did you find learning to read difficult when you were younger? Do you have 10 minutes to spare? Then you can help!

We are asking for help to provide extra reading opportunities for some children in the school. Each adult will be allocated a class and teamed up with one, two or three children to work with them over the year, depending on how much time they can spare.

If you are interested in helping some children develop their reading, please let Mrs Emslie know, via the office to find out more about the role.

Homework

Homework at The Horsell Village School consists of daily reading. We ask that you spend the 10 to 20 minutes a day reading with your child, ideally at least 4 times a week. We know from experience that this daily practise at home makes the difference.

We teach your child reading every day at school, using books, the interactive whiteboard, computers, the children's own learning and during group reading time (for year 1 and 2). The children need to practise these skills at home with you.

New website

www.horsell-village.surrey.sch.uk

Our new website is up and running, please continue to look each week at the class page. This is under the home tab and your child's year group. This page lets you know what is happening in class each week and gives you some further ideas on what to do at home.

Harvest Festival

We are holding our Harvest Festival on Friday 13th October, the festival is for children only.

This year we will be donating tinned or dried food to the York Road project for the homeless. Please send your contribution with your child on the day of the Festival (13th October); these will then be taken to the hall and later by the foodbank, if you can help delivering to the foodbank that would be greatly appreciated.

Library challenge

If your child took part in Surrey Library reading challenge could they please bring in the certificate for Friday 13th October? This is so we can discuss this with all the children during the harvest festival.

Coffee morning

On Wednesday 1st November at 9am I will be running another Coffee Morning.

Please come and have a coffee with me to talk about our school, what you would like to see improving and how you see this happening.

We will have a coffee and a chat; it is intended to be very informal. The Coffee Sessions will vary on days and times, the first of this year will be a Coffee Morning being at 9am on Wednesday 1st November.

This is an opportunity for you to come and have an input into focuses for our school. The first meeting will be on what you would like to see on our website. Please let the office know if you are coming, younger siblings are welcome.

Parent Conferences

This terms Parent Conferences begin on 31st October. This is an opportunity for you to meet with your child's class teacher for 10 minutes. Each class has a different day during the 2 weeks following the 31st October. You will be able to meet with the class teacher to talk about your child's progress and their next steps.

We also have a Parent's Evening on the **Thursday 9th November from 6-8pm, for all classes**, should that date and time be more convenient for you. You need only sign up for one appointment. The daytime appointments are held in the conservatory, so please come to the school's **main entrance**. In the evening, each teacher will be in their classroom. Again we ask you to use the **main entrance**. Details about how to book these will come home in a couple of weeks.

Parking

With our first evening event in mind, please remember on these evenings we ask that you don't park in the village hall or pub car parks as they request we leave them free for their patrons.

Kind regards

Elaine Cooper