



New Parents A to Z
Guide to Horsley C of E Primary School

A	<p>Artist in Residence: Mrs Barr is our amazing artist in residence. She lives in the store cupboard in Owls Classroom.</p> <p>Arts Day: A whole school extravaganza, which takes place annually, usually in the Summer Term, with everyone dressing up inspired by art, and a variety of artistic/creative activities to choose from throughout the day.</p> <p>Assemblies: Friday assemblies are celebration assemblies – parents are welcome to attend. Each class also has one class assembly a year, usually based on a curriculum theme (e.g. Greeks, India, etc.). As a Church of England School, assemblies are often referred to as Collective Worship.</p> <p>Attendance and Punctuality: It is important for children to arrive on time, in order to start each day with their classmates and teacher. Please be aware that the Local Authority may now fine parents of children who are persistently late or absent.</p>
B	<p>Badgers Class: Class 2, which is made up of Year 1 and Year 2 children. Mrs Saddington and Mrs Neale are teachers in Badgers Class.</p> <p>The Big Breakfast: A regular event held in our school playground, where children arrive early and enjoy a yummy breakfast of croissants, fresh fruit, cereals and juice. Parents also come along for a chat and a hot cuppa to start their day. Proceeds either go to charity or towards a specific fundraiser for school.</p> <p>Birthdays: Children are allowed to bring individual/fairy cakes to share with their class. They may also come to school in non-school uniform (this is a well-established tradition in Horsley).</p>
C	<p>Chamber Concert: An annual tradition – an opportunity for our children to showcase their musical learning, whether it's guitar, flute, violin, drums or singing! Held in the church, parents sit informally, bistro-style, with refreshments provided by FHS (see F!)</p> <p>Christmas: We love Christmas! The infant children rehearse and perform a Nativity play, and if we have been good, Father Christmas comes to visit! The whole school also enjoys a Christmas Lunch together in the church. On Christmas Eve, the church holds its Crib Service, in which all children are invited to take part as characters from the Christmas Story. A donkey usually makes an appearance too! Our annual Christingle service is also a special occasion, lit by candles.</p> <p>Clubs: For a small school we offer a BIG selection of clubs. The website and newsletter will keep you up to date on these. Clubs change termly, and are booked and paid for online using Parentpay. To allow our Reception Class children to settle in, we usually offer clubs to Year 1 and above.</p> <p>Contact Details: It is essential that these are correct! Please notify us if there is a change to your address or phone number (or if you have dropped your phone unwittingly into a nearby puddle) and need us to contact somebody else in an emergency!</p> <p>Curriculum: The school has its own Horsley Curriculum, which is based on the National Curriculum. The HC comprises cross-curricular projects which last for a term. Often projects are linked to a key book (e.g. Y1/2's space theme is linked to 'Aliens love Underpants').</p>

D	<p>Development Plan: The school has a School Development Plan. This is a strategic document that is produced by the Head Teacher, governors and teachers. It shapes the strategic direction for the school.</p> <p>Dinners: These are currently free for infant children. They are freshly prepared at a nearby school, and brought to school daily. Friday is usually fish and chips day!</p> <p>Duck Race: Not to be missed, an annual race of rubber ducks down the stream at Washpool, with the obligatory refreshments provided by FHS.</p>
E	<p>Easter: As a Church of England School, Easter is a very important part of our calendar. The Open the Book team (see 'O') dramatise the Easter Story.</p> <p>Eco-Loo: Situated in our playground, so no-one is caught short!</p> <p>ELSA: Stands for 'Emotional Literacy Support Assistant'. Mrs Everett is fully trained to support children with any emotional needs if they arise - from a cherished hamster death to family problems at home – helping our children to express and manage their feelings.</p> <p>Experience Events: Experience Easter, Experience Christmas, etc. These are events put on by volunteers of the church. They provide an opportunity for children in KS2 to learn about key events in the Christian calendar.</p> <p>EYFS: Early Years Foundation Stage – Foxes children all follow the EYFS curriculum, which leads into the National Curriculum, statutory in Year 1 onwards.</p>
F	<p>Feet: We encourage children to come to school under their own steam – bike and scooter racks are available at the front of school.</p> <p>FHS: Friends of Horsley School - this is our Parent/Teacher Association. The group meets once a term and raises £1000s every year for the children so they can experience all manner of extras. They have funded playground equipment, refurbishment of the library, art equipment etc. See their page on the website.</p> <p>Foxes Class: Class 1, which is made up of Reception children. Miss Kibble is the teacher in Foxes Class, with Mrs Everett being the teacher during Miss Kibble's Maternity Leave.</p>
G	<p>Governors: An elected body which fulfils a strategic role in the leadership of the school. As a voluntary-aided school, our governing body is made up of parent, staff, Local Authority and Foundation (church-linked) governors.</p>
H	<p>Hall: We don't have one, but our church is used as a hall substitute, for assemblies, productions, school lunches and PE lessons (although in fine weather these often take place outdoors).</p> <p>Harvest: We celebrate our Harvest Festival near the beginning of the Autumn Term, with donations of food which are then distributed by our older children to the elderly and infirm in Horsley. Any extra donations are taken to the Food Bank in Stroud.</p> <p>Homework: Homework is set very much at class level, and will be based around the needs of each year group. It is ALWAYS crucial to hear your child read daily!</p>
I	<p>INSET: These are teacher training days, of which there are five each year. Dates are published on the school website, and we will also remind you when they are, via newsletters, texts, etc.</p> <p>Illness: If you child is ill and unable to attend school, please phone and let the office know before 9.30am, on <i>each</i> day of your child's illness. If your child has been sick, they need to stay at home for 48 hours after the last bout of sickness.</p>
J	<p>James: James Jeffery is our beloved sports coach. All children have at least one lesson a week with him.</p>
K	<p>Key Stage (KS): There are two key stages within a Primary School. Key Stage One means Year 1 and Year 2. Key Stage Two is used to refer to Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 collectively.</p>

L	<p>Lost Property: We encourage all children to be responsible for their own possessions, and as such, we ask that all clothing etc is clearly labelled.</p> <p>Lunches: Caterlink provide our hot school meals. They must be decent or our staff would not eat them! Children may also bring a healthy packed lunch (no crisps or chocolate please).</p>
M	<p>May Day: An extravaganza and an essential part of Horsley life. The oldest boy and oldest girl lead the celebrations, as we welcome in the merry month of May, with singing, music, and poetry. The whole school, along with members of the local community, all process down to Ruskin Mill for country dancing and refreshments.</p> <p>Messy Church: This family event happens once a month in the church, with art activities, a bible story and tea together.</p> <p>Music Lessons: A number of peripatetic music teachers offer children lessons each week. Currently these include piano/ keyboard, violin, viola, flute and clarinet.</p>
N	<p>Newsletter: This is published fortnightly on Fridays on our website. It celebrates events from the previous weeks and keeps you up-to-date with forthcoming events. Do get in the habit of checking it weekly for important updates. We will text you each time the latest newsletter is published.</p>
O	<p>Open the Book: A group of volunteers, which aims to bring Christian stories and festivals alive, through drama and workshop activities. The group visits regularly to lead collective worship, and also organises our Experience Events.</p> <p>Otters Class: Class 3, which is made up of Year 3 and Year 4 children. Mr Feldon is the teacher in Otters Class. They are located up in the eaves of the building.</p> <p>Outdoor Learning: Miss Wykes is a Forest School leader and we love to spend time outside as much as possible.</p> <p>Owls Class: Class 4, which is made up of Year 5 and Year 6 children. Miss Wykes is the teacher in Owls Class, which can be found on the ground floor near the office.</p>
P	<p>Parentpay: We are a cashless school, so all trips, school lunches, clubs etc. are paid for via our school system.</p> <p>Phonics: At Horsley we use a variety of approaches to teach phonics, where children learn about the many sounds and combination of letters which make up our language. In the infants this is taught daily, usually for about 20 minutes.</p> <p>Phonics Test: A statutory test carried out at the end of Year 1. Government policy dictates that children who do not pass are to retake it in Year 2.</p>
R	<p>Recycling: Although we are a healthy eating school, if children wish to bring crisps in their packed lunches, they can be recycled. Some kind parents collect them to raise money for the school.</p> <p>Reports: This is a summation of your child's year at school, and gives you information about their progress, attainment and effort in all subjects. They are sent home during the last few weeks of the Summer Term.</p> <p>Residential: Each Summer, Owls Class jet off on a 2-night trip away. This changes each year and may involve camping, outdoor activities etc.</p> <p>Reverend Caroline: Our friendly vicar</p>
S	<p>Sainsbury's Schools Award: This award acknowledges our commitment to school competitive games. In 2016 we received a Silver Award. In 2017 we achieved a Gold Award, and we are going for gold again this year!</p> <p>SATs: Standard Assessment Tests - these take place in Years 2 and 6. The children are tested in English, Reading and Maths. They are important but we try not to lose sight of other, very important, things like art, music, PE, etc.</p>

	<p>SEND (Special educational needs and disabilities): Mr Price is our co-ordinator</p> <p>SIAMs: An Ofsted-style inspection, which occurs every 4 years to grade the Christian Ethos of our school.</p> <p>Smelly Stickers: If you have done something really amazing, Mr Price might give you one of his special smelly stickers!</p> <p>Special Awards: 2 awards per class are presented each week in our Friday assembly. They aim to celebrate our children's contribution to their own work and/ or to school life, and may be given for showing perseverance, innovation, focus, kindness, progress etc. You will receive a text on the Wednesday if your child is to receive an award, so that you can attend the assembly and watch them receiving it.</p> <p>Sports: Sports are very important to us here at Horsley. In recent years they have been particularly high profile. We now give many of the local bigger schools a 'run for their money!' James Jeffery is our Sports Coach. He runs many of our after-school clubs.</p> <p>Sports Day: Another annual event where we take to the field and compete in a variety of sports and games. Parents are welcome to come and watch. Refreshments, as always, are provided!</p> <p>St Martin's Church: This is our local church. It is unique in that it is a church, a school hall and a community space that can be hired for community events. The 3 in 1 Committee meets regularly to manage the building.</p>
T	<p>Terms: There are 6 of them (not three like in the olden days). The last day of each old (long) term ends early, at 12:15pm. Term dates are on the school website. We adhere to Gloucestershire LA term dates. INSET days are set annually – there are five a year (see I).</p> <p>Text Messaging: We use this a lot these days to inform you of events, unexpected changes (e.g. cancellation of sports events due to adverse weather), reminders (including reminders to settle your Paypal account) and last minute information.</p> <p>Trips: Teachers aim to plan for at least one trip each term, linked to their topic. Information will be sent home in advance, and payment made, if applicable, on Parentpay.</p>
U	<p>Umbrellas: These may be deposited in the reception area on rainy days!</p> <p>Uniform: We expect children to wear our school uniform – see our website for specifics.</p> <p>Unicorn: Not to be confused with uniform.</p>
V	<p>Vegetarianism & Veganism: Special dietary requirements can be catered for!</p>
W	<p>Website: The school website is a mine of information. Do check it regularly for the newsletter, past letters, updates, policies, etc. We try hard to keep it up-to-date. It hopefully says much about who we are and how we work at Horsley.</p> <p>World Book Day: Come to school dressed as your favourite book character! As English Lead, Mr Feldon organises the fun-filled fiesta.</p> <p>Wraparound Care: Breakfast Club runs daily from 7:45-8:45am, and After-school Club from 3.15-5.15pm, both with Wendy Freeman at the helm. Sessions are currently £5.00 per hour. After-school Club is booked and paid for in advance on Parentpay; Breakfast Club is drop-in – just turn up, no need to book!</p>
X	<p>X-rays: We don't currently provide this service.</p>
Y	<p>Young Voices: An annual event where children in Year 3 and above are invited to join the Horsley Choir, which then travels to Birmingham to join in with thousands of other children in a massive concert.</p> <p>Youth Club: Year 6 children are invited to join Horsley Youth Club in term 6 ahead of their transition to secondary school. It is held in the Village Hall on Wednesday evenings.</p>