



Horsley CoE (VA) Primary School
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09 September 2022

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome back. I hope you have had a restful Summer break and are ready for the term ahead. Please find below some key information, which I hope you will find useful as we steer through the Autumn Term.

Death of Queen Elizabeth II

Today we marked the sad loss of Queen Elizabeth II. The bells of St. Martin's were rung at 12:00pm and the children and staff observed a moment of reflection. I will keep you posted about the school's response to the period of mourning as information becomes available. We will want to seek a balance between responding to our civic duties, and the children's learning and well-being during this time.

Communication

As always, the website remains a key means for communicating. You will continue to receive an electronic newsletter (typically sent on a Friday, every other week). Staff will continue to present you with termly curriculum updates in the form of a curriculum letter. The website also provides key curriculum information. Additional letters will be sent, usually electronically, via text links. Texts will also be used for key information. Please ensure we have your latest mobile number. We hope to continue with face-to-face Parents' Evenings this year. The first round of Parents' Evenings will be taking place on Wednesday 2nd and Thursday 3rd November. However, if you have any worries about your child in school, please do not hesitate to make contact. Staff will be keen to talk through concerns and will be happy to arrange a time to telephone or meet with you. Zoom meetings are also an option for communicating. In the first instance, please make contact via email (admin@horsley.gloucs.sch.uk) or by telephone. Please do not contact the teacher directly via their school email. Staff will always try to be about at the end of day for a quick chat, if needed. Do contact me, as headteacher, if you have any concerns. I try to adopt an 'open-door' policy as much as possible.

School Uniform

It is great to see children returning looking smart for the new term. Please be reminded that socks should be black, grey, British racing green or white. Odd or patterned socks are not school uniform. Children are expected to wear stout shoes (no crocs, sandals or flip-flops). The following days are PE days.

Foxes	Badgers	Otters	Owls
Tuesday/Friday (outdoor learning)	Monday/Thursday	Monday/Thursday	Tuesday/Friday

Please ensure your child attends in PE uniform on PE days. Trainers are to be worn on PE days only. Children will be expected to bring a coat, daily. Please ensure coats are labelled.

Data Sheets

You will have received a letter requesting an update to the information we hold on file about your child (e.g. your child's medical details and emergency contact numbers). In the interests of keeping your child safe, please ensure



these are up-to-date and returned promptly. In previous years the office staff have had to chase and chase the information, potentially putting children at risk.

Lunchtime and drop-off procedures

In the interests of keeping children safe, we are currently reviewing our drop-off and collection procedures. We will keep you posted. Please ensure that cars are not parked in the church car park and on the yellow lines in front of school. We have received a number of complaints from parents about unsafe parking outside the building. Please help us to keep everybody safe.

Allergies

As from last term, we are officially a nut-free school. School meals provided by Caterlink will continue to be nut-free. In the interests of keeping children with nut allergies safe, nuts and foods containing nuts are not permitted as part of day-to-day snacks or packed lunches. Children may continue to bring in cake or biscuits to mark birthdays, but these must not contain nuts. Birthday treats will be given out at the end of the school day.

Assemblies/Collective Worship

Friday Congratulation Assemblies are public assemblies. We very much welcome you to attend. The church door will be open from 8:45am. Wendy will be serving tea and coffee and biscuits! (voluntary contributions are welcome). If your child is to receive a Special Award, you will receive a personal invitation by text on the Tuesday preceding. This year, all classes will be offering a class assembly. These will be taking place on Fridays; your child's class teacher will keep you posted about this.

Photographs

We will assume that you are happy for us to take photos or short clips of your child in school to be used on social media, such as the school's website and electronic newsletter, unless you inform us in writing that you would not like us to do so. Please inform us by Friday 16th September via email (admin@horsley.gloucs.sch.uk).

Clubs

As always, we have some very exciting clubs on offer. There are currently spaces available in all clubs. Please consult the school website for a full list of our offerings (under the Parent Hub tab>Letters). Do make contact if you wish your child to join a club. Breakfast Club will continue to operate daily (7:45-8:45am). After-school Club will continue to run, Monday to Thursday, 3:15-5:15 in pre-bookable 1hr slots. Toddler Foresters will run on Wednesdays, from 14th September. Please see Raffles website for further details.

Parent pay/wrap-around care payments

Please ensure your Parentpay account is kept in credit. It is not acceptable for schools to be holding the debts of parents. Equally, chasing payments can be time-consuming for office staff. Your support in this regard is much appreciated.

Special Educational Needs (SEND)

Staff will be reviewing SEND plans and holding SEND meetings with parents and guardians in the coming weeks. If you have any concerns relating to Special Education Needs, do not hesitate to make contact with your class teacher or me, as the school SENCO.

Your faithfully



Gary Price
Headteacher

