



Horsley CoE (VA) Primary School  
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Dear Parents/Carers

As we go into the final phase of the term, I thought I would take the opportunity to keep you updated on a few school matters.

It has indeed been another wonderful year, and there have been many successes. Key Stage 2 gave a fantastic performance of 'Oliver with a Twist' and we all enjoyed a super Sports Day. This year's Y6 SATS have again been notably good, meaning our children leave Horsley ready for the next stage of their learning journey. Earlier in the year, we enjoyed Ofsted and SIAMS success. There have also been more diverse trips and curriculum experiences at Horsley than I can ever remember! Horsley continues to be a popular choice for parents. Whilst there are falling rolls across Gloucestershire, and many schools have struggled to fill spaces, we will again be starting the year with a full Reception cohort. Thank you for your ongoing support.

### **School Games Mark - Platinum**

We have, once again, been awarded Platinum School Games Mark. This is evidence of the school's ongoing commitment to high quality PE and the competitive sports across the school and within the local community. Thank you for the hard work of Mr Feldon, as Sports Lead.

### **Young Voices**

Horsley will again be performing in Birmingham as part of the Young Voices concert series. We hope that all children in KS2 will take the opportunity to perform in this annual and rather special event. Further information about the event will be shared in early September.

### **Leading Achievement (LA) Hub**

This year has seen the start of an exciting partnership with a number of primary schools in the Stroud area, and beyond, as part of the Leading Achievement Hub. This provides a network for sharing good practice and continuous professional development for staff, as well as collaborative projects for pupils. Horsley has played a key role in setting up the partnership. We will keep you posted how this unfolds.

### **Staffing 2025/25**

Despite the very real recruitment and retention crises in the teaching profession, we are able to be served by an amazing and committed team of professionals, comprising both teachers and teaching assistants. We wave goodbye to Mrs Brown, who is retiring, and Mrs Pickering, who is going on to take on a larger role in a Gloucestershire school. Meanwhile, we welcome two new members of staff: Mrs McDermott will be teaching in Badgers Class, and Mrs Cluer-Coleman will now also be joining us as a new member of the team, as a Teaching Assistant. TAs will continue to be deployed in response to



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individual and class needs. The idea of 'the class TA' is now very out-moded at Horsley; we adopt a much more flexible and dynamic model. Pupils with special or additional needs will continue to receive support, as required. As you are aware, I will be working across both Horsley and Gastrells Primary, in the capacity as Executive Headteacher, for the academic year 2025/6. Mr Feldon and Mrs Everrett will be providing leadership support during my times at Gastrells.

Please find below a summary of staffing information for the following year:

Foxes: Mrs Everett  
Badgers: Mrs McDermott  
Otters: Mr Feldon & Mrs Vaughan  
Owls: Mrs Vaughan & Miss Mansell

### **Keeping Children Safe During Collection**

Please notify the school office if there are any updates to your nominated individuals for pupil collection. Julia maintains an approved register for four nominated approved adults or young people to collect your child. Children in upper Key Stage 2 can walk home independently as part of an agreed home-school arrangement. Please email the office, giving your permission, if you wish your Owls child to be able to walk home.

### **Wrap-up-around Care**

We are excited to share with you, that, from September, booking Wraparound Care for your child will be much easier for us all! You will be able to book all your sessions online, on Parentpay, including cancelling or changing them, up to a set cut-off time (11.45am on the day before the booking). Our Wraparound Care numbers are ever-increasing, and for this reason, both Breakfast and Afterschool Club will have to be booked and paid for in advance, and there will be a limit of 15 children per session. Please be aware we cannot accommodate any more than 15 pupils per session. Julia will be working on setting up this new system over the Summer holidays, and will send a text out when it is live. The following link takes you the Parentpay channel, with useful guidance on how to complete specific tasks: <https://parentpay.wistia.com/folders/nrz1f2l8o2>. Please be aware that the hourly rate for wrap-around-care will be increasing from £5.95 to £6.25 per hour from September 2025.

### **School Uniform**

We are proud of our school uniform at Horsley. As we go into the holiday period, please be reminded grey, black, white or bottle-green socks are all accepted. Dark-coloured, plain trainers are expected for PE (no brightly coloured or fluorescent trainers, please). School PE kit should also be in line with school colours. Please note, too, the red and blue hoodies are no longer part of school uniform. For further information, please see uniform policy: <http://www.horsley.gloucs.sch.uk/information-and-forms.html>. Please note, we do not have a lost property area. Please ensure that your child's clothes are labelled so that they can be returned to your child as appropriate.

### **Healthy Snacks**

Thank you to all the children who continue to bring in a healthy snack for break. Please do not bring in crisps, chocolate or biscuits for day-time snacks. We actively encourage child to drink plenty of water, especially during warm periods, so please continue to bring in a water bottle daily. Children can fill this throughout the day, as required.

### **Parentpay Late Payments**

Please be reminded that the school does not offer a school-based banking service with an in-built free credit facility. Accounts should always be 'topped-up' as required; all meals and trips should therefore be paid for in advance. The school has to pay a charge for accounts not in credit. The process of



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chasing late payments is also considerably time-consuming. Please keep your account topped-up and avoid going into debt. Thank you for your understanding in this regard.

### **Occasional 'Accidents'**

Occasionally, children do have an 'accident' in school, particularly the younger children. The school keeps a small supply of clothes so that it can respond accordingly. It is essential that these are washed and returned, so that we can use them again if need be. We are now very short of clothes because items are not being returned. Thank you for your support in this regard.

### **Communication**

As always, if you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to make contact. For day-to-day matters do contact the school office [admin@horsley.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:admin@horsley.gloucs.sch.uk). A member of staff can then contact you via telephone. Staff are always more than happy to make an appointment at a mutually convenient time.

### **And finally...**

Please be reminded that there are two INSET days (Monday 1<sup>st</sup> September and Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September). The children will be starting the term on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September with our 'All about Me' Arts Week project (See previous letter from Mrs Barr). Thank you, too, for all your kind gifts and cards – we truly appreciate them.

May I end by taking this opportunity to thank you for your ongoing support and to wish you a restful summer.

Warmest regards



Gary Price  
Executive Headteacher



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