



27th September 2024

OTTERS HAW NEWS!

Dates for your Diary:

Autumn Term 2024

September

30th 9:00am and 5:00pm Infants Phonics and Reading Workshops with Mrs Jenkyn in the Infant Hall

6:00pm OPTA AGM in the Infant Hall

October

2nd Wednesday 2nd October 2024 9.30am - Parent Coffee Morning with Becky White from Freemantles School Infant Hall.

3rd 9:00am Juniors Reading Workshop with Mrs Jenkyn in the Junior Hall

Year 3 Feet First Workshop

Year 6 to Jubilee High School in the morning – more details to follow

4th Year 3 Feet First Workshop

Sports Crew Training by invitation.

7th Junior Inter-House Cross Country Event in the afternoon

8th Prospective parents Mornings (pre-booking required)

9:30am Infants
11:00am Juniors

9th Prospective parents Mornings (pre-booking required)

9:30am Infants
11:00am Juniors

15th Year 5 Visit to Rural Life Museum
Volunteer Sign Up [HERE](#)

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week has been another busy one, especially at the Infants! As many of you know, the Infant School had its Ofsted inspection this week (this was the first week nationally that the new framework launched without the overall judgement at the end). The two inspectors were highly skilled, professional and thorough and we appreciated that (even though we were all tired by the end)!

As always, I was so proud of Team Ottershaw – the staff were amazing and so were the children. Because it is so early in the term, lots of the conversations with the children were about their learning last year (not easy when you're little) and they all had so much to say! Needless to say, we are all eagerly anticipating the report but don't expect to be able to share this with you until after half term. In the meantime I would like to thank you all for your amazing support – we felt the love!

We are expecting one more inspection this year – the Junior Ofsted. I do hope that one happens soon so that we can enjoy lots of celebrations together across both schools without having to wait too long.

Chertsey Museum

Amongst the intense Ofsted Activity at the Infants, our Year 1 children had a brilliant time with Chertsey Museum. The Museum brought in boxes of toys from the 1960s/70s and 80s which the children absolutely loved investigating and playing with and it was lovely to see them engaging and being 'hands on' with the 'artefacts'.

PE Changes

Obviously, the changes to Infant PE this week were only temporary, however Year 4 will be making a permanent change to their timetable for this term, with PE moving to a **Friday** from next week.

Harvest

We will be celebrating Harvest in school on Wednesday 23rd October and, as always, we're asking for dry goods and tinned food donations for our local Food Bank. Please can all the children bring their donations in by the morning of 23rd October so we can gather our donations together and say thanks for all we have. Year 4 will be leading the celebrations in both schools and Year 4 parents are invited to see the production at 2pm in the Junior Hall.

In addition to Harvest in school, we will also be celebrating Harvest with the local community. Year 4 will be performing at Cameo on Thursday 17th October and Year 6 will be making Harvest Baskets to distribute at the same time. Our Harvest Baskets include baked scones made by the Year 6 children and other treats for an afternoon tea. Can we please ask that, instead of a Food Bank donation, Year 6 bring in donations for the Harvest Baskets.

These need to be in school by **Thursday 17th October** please.

Dates for your Diary:

October

- 15th Prospective parents Mornings (pre-booking required)
9:30am Infants
11:00am Juniors
- 16th Prospective parents Mornings (pre-booking required)
9:30am Infants
11:00am Juniors
- 17th OPTA Pre-loved Uniform and Fancy Dress
Costumes Sale, straight after school on the Junior Playground
- 18th Child Flu Vaccinations
3:30pm – 6:30pm
- 21st Parents' Evening (Face to Face) for both schools
- 22nd Year 1 visit to Milestones Museum
- 23rd Harvest Assemblies
2:00pm Year 4 Harvest Production to Parents
3:30pm – 6:30pm
Parents' Evening (Face to Face) for both schools
- 24th Maths Challenge Day
2:00pm Reception
Parents Afternoon Tea in the Infant Hall
- 25th INSET DAY: Both Schools Closed

28th October to 1st November Half Term

November

- 4th Both Schools Return

Pantomime

Yippee! It's nearly Pantomime Time! For those of you who are new to Ottershaw, Pantomime is an annual trip, at Christmas Time for the whole school (except Nursery). Thanks to the generosity of OPTA and some additional funding that we use, we take every child to Camberley Theatre during the school day to see their Pantomime (this year it will be Snow White). The parental contribution per child will be **£7** this year, with the remaining cost for the ticket and coach funded by school and OPTA. This will be added to SCOPAY in due course.

The Infants are visiting the Pantomime on **Friday 13th December** and the Juniors are going on **Thursday 19th December**. As always, we will need plenty of parent helpers (and you don't need a school DBS check to come with us). Please sign up using the links below.

[Pantomime – Infants Volunteer Link](#)

[Pantomime – Juniors Volunteer Link](#)

Parent Donations

I know many of you ask how you can give our schools a donation (yes, it is true what you read in the news about school funding). We are always happy to receive boxes of tissues and 'Pritt Sticks' and have also added our voluntary donation option to your child's SCOPAY account.

Parent Coffee Morning with Becky White from Freemantles School.

Wednesday 2nd October 2024 9.30am in the Infant Hall

Is your child struggling to come into school? Do you experience challenging behaviour at home following a day in school? Is your child diagnosed with ASD or do you think your child may be displaying traits of ASD? Becky specialises in Neurodiverse strategies and support and will be giving a short presentation followed by a question and answer session on Wednesday 2nd October at 9.30am in the Infant Hall. Please join for a coffee and a chat. There is no need to book, please just turn up.

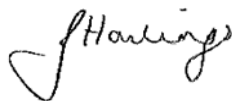
OPTA

We've signed up to Our School Lottery which is something that's been done in the past and we wanted to bring it back to life!

Anyone can sign up and people can refer friends and family and be in with a chance to receive a £200 Amazon voucher as a thank you! Please see the flyer attached or [website](#) for further information.

Enjoy your weekend!

Yours sincerely



Mrs J Hastings
Headteacher



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