



OTTERSHAW NEWS!

Dates for your Diary:	
Autumn Term 2025	
September	
22 nd	Junior Head boy / girl Speeches and School Council Elections 8pm School Choir Registration opens Link Here
24 th	Year 1 Chertsey Museum Toy Workshop
25 th	Reception - Phonics Workshop at 9am and/or 5.30pm at the Infant Hall 5.30pm OPTA Uniform sale at the Infant Hall 6.30pm OPTA AGM at the Infant Hall
26 th	9am English Workshop at the Juniors -Year 3 and any New Parents in Junior Hall Otters Class - Forest School Year 6 Football Event (invited pupils)
29 th	Engage Assembly for Juniors and Year 2
30 th	8.50am Maths Workshop for Reception parents at the Infant Hall
October	
1 st	Junior Sports Crew Training (more details to follow) 8.15am School Choir Rehearsals start
2 nd	Open mornings for Prospective Parents. Infants at 9.15am / Juniors 10.30am (pre booking required)
3 rd	House Captains announced in Junior Celebration Assembly. Badgers Class - Forest School
6 th	Year 5 Rural Life Trip

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you for popping in today to see what the children have been learning since the start of term and making the most of the opportunity to see the classrooms and meet staff. We know the children love these events and we always look forward to seeing you all!

This week we have had some exciting trips, visits and speaker events happening in school:

On Tuesday Year 5 started their swimming lessons – this year we are hiring The Meath School pool and the Tiny Terrapins teacher to run lessons for all children in Years 3, 4 and 5 and I have to say that we were very pleased with how well the children behaved, how well they engaged in the swimming and we are all relieved to not have to battle through traffic with the children on a coach at the end of the day 😊.

On Wednesday, Year 3 went to Church to enjoy some reflective activities and build on their Belonging and settling in work as they begin their journey through the Junior School. It was a very calm and lovely morning and I am very grateful to Rev Mark, our friends at Christ Church and our parent helpers who made this possible for the children.

On Thursday, Year 5 had another exciting time as the Education Officer from Surrey Fire and Rescue came to work with each class – I hope the children came home telling you all about ‘Stop! Drop and Roll’ and other life saving information (if they didn’t, we are sending details out separately to the year group)!

New Clubs at the Juniors during the school day

As already mentioned, teachers will now be offering craft sessions on the playground at lunchtime during OPAL time (starting very soon – keep the donations coming in please).

We will also be offering;

Choir at 8.15am on a Wednesday morning. We have 21 spaces available for new choir members at the Junior School this term and these will be allocated on a first come, first served basis. Please see separate details on the choir letter as it will be essential that your child is able to arrive early each week and is available to come with us to Young Voices at the O2 Arena on 24th February.

Netball for girls in Years 5 and 6 on a Thursday lunchtime, starting next week (no PE kit needed, just bring trainers to change into and no need to reserve a place). Thank you to Mrs Lister and Mrs Gale for helping us offer this 😊.

School Council and Positions of Responsibility

We will be running elections and voting for our School Council and Head Student Team (also known as Head Girl, Head Boy and Deputies) next week. Please help your child plan what they would like to say – whilst the Head Girl and Head Boy speeches can have a Powerpoint presentation for support this will need to be emailed no later than Monday morning to the school office and there is a maximum of 4 slides per speech (otherwise it becomes Death by Powerpoint and they lose their audience). School Council is a simpler affair, to a smaller audience and a Powerpoint is not needed. Please note, we do not accept anything on an external device (including a memory stick).

Whilst we will announce winners on Friday 26th September, we will be sending a Top Secret letter to parents of winners at the Junior School as we have been offered the chance to take our Junior

October	
7 th	Open mornings for Prospective Parents. Infants 9.15am / Juniors 10.30am (pre booking required) 1pm Year 6 Prefect interviews
8 th	Junior School Council visit to Houses of Parliament Year 4 to Golden Hinde
9 th	Open mornings for Prospective Parents. Infants 9.15am / Juniors 10.30am (pre booking required)
10 th	Otters Class - Forest School
15 th	8.45am Maths Workshop for Year 3 Junior parents at the Junior Hall
17 th	Badgers Class - Forest School
20 th	3.30pm – 6.30pm Parents Evening (Booking details to follow)
21 st	3.30pm – 6.30pm Parents Evening (Booking details to follow)
22 nd	Harvest Services
23 rd	Year 4 and Year 6 visit Cameo
	Year 2 Fire Safety Workshop 1.30pm Year 4 Harvest performance to Parents
24 th	INSET DAY- Both schools closed
27 th – 31 st	October Half Term
November	
3 rd	INSET DAY – Both schools closed
4 th	Back to school

School Council and Head Student Team to visit the Houses of Parliament on Wednesday 8th October and we know advance warning for parents is essential (especially as we need parents to drop the children at the Brewery Road car park in Woking for this trip – we are travelling by train for this visit as parking near the Houses of Parliament is always restricted).
If your child is in Year 4 and is voted as School Council they will have the choice of which trip they would prefer to go on as Year 4 have their own visit planned on the same day.

Parent Volunteers Needed!

As always when planning trips or events we need plenty of parent helpers to make the events successful, please consider volunteering at any of our up and coming events using the links below.
[Infant Panto Trip 12th Dec Link Here](#)
[Junior Panto Trip 18th Dec Link Here](#)

Finally, one of our partners of the Good Shepherd Trust Schools is offering a **Parents Only** online safety workshop, hosted by the Breck Foundation and have extended the opportunity to **parents at Ottershaw**:

We have organised a parent online session from the Breck Foundation on **Monday 22nd September** at **6pm - 7pm** for **parents only**, which we believe will be very beneficial for parents to understand online safety. The parent and carer talks are a great opportunity to highlight the importance of communication with our children about the dangers they face online every day. This ultimately increases the family's wellbeing by opening up lines of communication. These sessions include:

Breck's story
Scrapping the stereotypes. Who or what is a groomer, and what are the types of grooming your child may be exposed to?
How to have that awkward parent-child conversation, gaining trust and sharing your concerns about online safety.
Where to find help – signposts to other useful organisations
A showing of Breck's Last Game

Please click on this link to access the online meeting
[Click Here](#)


Meeting ID: 857 9763 1228

Passcode: 092761

Do please join if you can.

Enjoy your weekend – I hear we may see some sunshine!

Yours sincerely



Mrs J Hastings
Headteacher

