



3rd July 2026

OTTERS HAW NEWS!

Motivated to learn, empowered to achieve

Dates for your Diary:

July

6 th	Year 6 residential to PGL – all week (return on 10 th July) Year 2 to visit the Junior School for lunch all week.
8 th	Reception Look Out Trip
9 th	Year 4 to Chertsey Meads
14 th	1.30pm Nursery end of year assembly followed by treats
16 th	9am Year 2 leavers assembly – Infant hall. Choir to CAMEO 1.30pm Year 6 leavers production – Junior hall. Last day for Nursery afternoon children
17 th	End of Term Nursery closes at 1.00pm. Junior School closes at 1.05pm. Infant School closes at 1.15pm.

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had some big events in school this week, especially our transition day on Wednesday and our Celebration of Work event this afternoon (thank you to all who came – if you weren't able to join us, your child's report will be available for collection from the school office).

Getting ready to 'move on' can be unsettling and we were so pleased to see how well all the children settled in their new classrooms on Wednesday.

When the children come back to school in September we will be thinking about how we all belong together. As part of this early settling in work, we would love it if you could let your child bring in a small artefact/object of something they like to use at home with family (or a picture of the artefact/object). Each day children will be given the chance to share their artefact/object and tell their friends and teachers about themselves and what they like to do at home with family (please don't over-think this, it really can be something as simple as a wooden spoon for cooking, a pair of trainers for running, a paint brush for art, a favourite bedtime story, a favourite game you like to play as a family or pictures of things you enjoy at home on a regular basis like listening to music, playing in the garden or your favourite local place to visit, just not holiday pictures this time). We hope this helps everyone get to know one another quickly and is a great way of showing everyone how much they belong and we value them.

September OPAL Play session for parents and children

For those of you with children in Years 1 – 6 next year, we will be inviting you all in on Friday 11th September to see your child's new classroom and meet their new teacher, then finish the day with an OPAL play session on the field.

For both schools, this session will run from 2.15pm - 3.00pm and all children will be allowed to go home with parents at the end of the day.

As was the case with our last OPAL play session, this is not suitable for younger siblings and we ask just one adult per family join us so we still have enough space and play resources for everyone to enjoy. If you have children at both schools, the internal gate will be open so that you can visit both classrooms before the play session.

Staffing news

Today we were so pleased to welcome Mrs Parmenter back to work following a year of maternity leave (some of you may best remember her from the Infants as Miss Walsh, before she got married). It's so lovely having her back with us! Next year, she will be supporting in Year 5 (and helping to cover for Mr Sanders when he is out and about with children at sporting events).

At the end of term, we will be saying some goodbyes:

Mrs Denny will sadly be retiring from the Infant School. This will be a big loss for our community as she is such an experienced teaching assistant. Another Miss Pearson will be joining in September as Mrs Denny's replacement.

Mrs Dockley will be leaving Ottershaw, and again this will be a big loss for us as Mrs Dockley leads the Forest School which we all love.

Year 4 Art Exhibition



Mrs Pearson will be going on maternity leave (let's hope she can hang on until the end of term)! Mrs Kanasova will be replacing Mrs Pearson as a job share with Mrs Smithers (you may already be familiar with Mrs Kanasova as she joined us as a qualified teacher in an HLTA role in January this year – we have persuaded her to move back up to being a teacher). Mr Goupil and Mr Henry have successfully completed their teacher training with us and will be moving on to their first teaching roles in September – next year we will be joined by 3 new trainee teachers; Miss Roll, Miss Matthews and Mrs Iles (Mrs Archdeacon will be replacing Mrs Iles as a teaching assistant at the Infants). Good Luck to you all!

In terms of who will be teaching where next year, our line up for September looks like this:

Class	Teacher(s)	Support Staff
Nursery	Mrs Waters and Mrs Yeates	Mrs McFetridge and Miss Greaves
Robins	Mrs Bracken	Mrs Harrison and Miss Roll
Sparrows	Miss Holland	Mrs Skeet and Mrs Alsem
Squirrels	Miss Philbey	Mrs Archdeacon
Hedgehogs	Miss McDougall	Mrs Burrows
Otters	Miss Pearson	Mrs White and Miss Law
Badgers	Mrs Thornton	Miss Pearson
3D	Mr Dennis	Mrs Cocker
3SK	Mrs Smithers and Mrs Kanasova	Mrs Rodriguez
4P	Mrs Potter	Mrs Dyke and Miss Matthews
4W	Mrs Winsor	Miss Sykes
5G	Miss Grey	Mrs Van den Broek and Mrs Iles
5S	Mr Sanders	Miss Hobbs
	Mrs Parmenter supporting on Fridays	
6I	Mrs Ikin	Mrs Collins and Mrs Amaee
6A	Mrs Ali	Mrs Hunter
	Mrs Syrett supporting on Wednesdays and Thursdays	

Hot weather next week

We are expecting the temperatures to rise again next week, but not to the extreme heat levels we experienced last week. It will still be important that all children have a sun hat and water bottle in school every day. We will monitor classroom temperatures and move physical activity to the mornings but do not plan at this stage to offer early collection – it will be hot enough to work outside in the shade, but not hot enough (according to the forecast) to go home early!

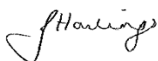
Amnesty for Library Books

Over the next 2 weeks, we will be busy auditing resources to double check that we have everything we need for September. Please can you double check at home for any unreturned school reading books or library books and send in any you find – they will all be gratefully received.

Finally, please find attached our latest Online Safety newsletter – we hope it provides invaluable guidance to help you better navigate the summer holidays safely.

Enjoy your weekend!

Yours sincerely



Mrs J Hastings