

DIARY DATES 2020

Monday 28th September

- Individual Photos at Both Sites

Wednesday 30th September

- Bees' Class Forest School
- Butterflies Class Forest School

Friday 2nd October

- Dragonfly Forest School

Colder Classrooms

As the weather has turned colder this week, some of our classrooms are a little colder than we would like, as we are trying to keep them well ventilated in line with government guidelines.

We would suggest children wear a long sleeved thermal, underneath their uniform, or a thicker jumper or hoodie, which they can wear over their uniform. Our aim is to keep each room well ventilated, but obviously we are keen that the children are also warm enough to be comfortable.

School Photographs

Pret-a-Portrait will be attending both sites on Monday 28th September to take individual child photos.

This will be done in phases/bubbles and as such we are unable to extend this to siblings across both sites. However, all being well we hope to have Pret-a-Portrait re-visit in the Summer term for this purpose.

Please ensure your child is wearing winter school uniform. Please see the separate email if your child has PE on Monday.

Good afternoon. Well the weather has most definitely changed since this time last week!

Another busy working week in school. We are now well into our stride and children and adults are used to the new procedures and working pace. We are busy putting contingency plans in place should your child be required to isolate from track and trace identification, a positive test or partial closure (bubble closure). We will get this information to you as soon as possible so that you are clear about how communication and school work will take place.

I can't help but mention the crisis that has evolved over the testing situation and the impact it is having on schools. I share the frustrations that many of you are voicing over the availability of tests. At the moment, even if you are able to secure a COVID test for someone in your household, some families are experiencing subsequent delays in getting the results. This therefore requires long isolation periods. This is typical across the country and has been raised with the DfE. Like yourselves, I am only privy to statements made publicly by ministers and sadly I don't have a back door to testing. The delays in testing are impacting school staff too who are being required to isolate. I am desperately trying to keep the school open whilst staff numbers fluctuate. Sticking to the guidance will help me to keep Surrey Hills open and protect everyone's health.

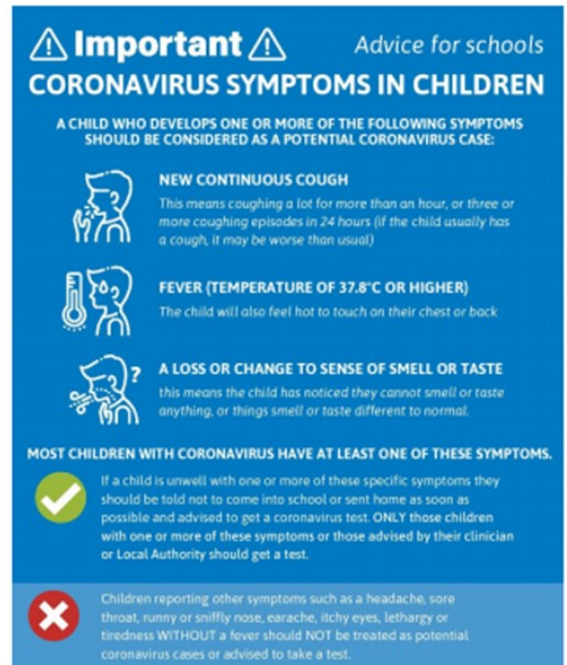
This academic year, I had hoped to be able to organise a parent/carer workshop onsite with a focus on online safety, with a key speaker. However, this is not possible at the moment, so I have asked Steve Welding, Sutton Borough Education E Safety Advisor, to lead a virtual session using Zoom on Thursday 1st October at 4pm. Steve is a former Metropolitan Police Detective who specialised in the 'risk management' of convicted sex offenders living in the community.

I am sure this will be of interest to many parents/carers so please could you indicate if you would like to attend this presentation by emailing westcott@surreyhills.surrey.sch.uk.

Finally, I am proud to announce our newly appointed Head Boy and Head Girl; Max F and Freya M. Congratulations! The position of Head Boy and Head Girl is an extremely important one, as they are a vital link between the pupils and staff. Along with the prefects and house captains, they play an ambassadorial role within the school, act as role models for the wider school community, present assemblies and organise fund raising events for charities.

Wishing you all a good weekend.

Mrs J Ratcliff



Important Advice for schools
CORONAVIRUS SYMPTOMS IN CHILDREN

A CHILD WHO DEVELOPS ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING SYMPTOMS SHOULD BE CONSIDERED AS A POTENTIAL CORONAVIRUS CASE:

- NEW CONTINUOUS COUGH**
This means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or three or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if the child usually has a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- FEVER (TEMPERATURE OF 37.8°C OR HIGHER)**
The child will also feel hot to touch on their chest or back
- A LOSS OR CHANGE TO SENSE OF SMELL OR TASTE**
This means the child has noticed they cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal.

MOST CHILDREN WITH CORONAVIRUS HAVE AT LEAST ONE OF THESE SYMPTOMS.

- If a child is unwell with one or more of these specific symptoms they should be told not to come into school or sent home as soon as possible and advised to get a coronavirus test. **ONLY** those children with one or more of these symptoms or those advised by their clinician or Local Authority should get a test.
- Children reporting other symptoms such as a headache, sore throat, runny or sniffling nose, earache, itchy eyes, lethargy or tiredness **WITHOUT** a fever should **NOT** be treated as potential coronavirus cases or advised to take a test.

Head Girl

Hello! My name is Freya and I am very proud to be Head Girl this year. I remember really well my early years at Surrey Hills school and looking up to the oldest children, because they were always friendly, kind and helpful. I promise I will always do my best to be these things as your Head Girl. Despite this slightly different time at school, I also hope to organise lots of fun activities for you all to enjoy.

When I am not at school the things I like doing are Gymnastics, Hockey and Netball... and my favourite place to be is the beach! I also have a massive soft spot for animals... at home we have 1 dog, 1 guinea pig, 2 cats, 3 ducks and 4 chickens!



Head Boy

Hi, I'm Max. I started out at Surrey Hills when my two brothers were here and I'm really pleased to be Head Boy. I've made some fantastic friends here and I think it's a really special school. I love sports, particularly hockey and football, but I also like playing the French horn. I hope I can help many of the children at the school settle in and enjoy their time as much as I have. If anyone has any questions I am always happy to help.



Pumpkin Competition 2020

If you have been busy growing pumpkins, drawing pumpkins and all other things pumpkins, then now is the time for your child to bring their entry in to school. If you haven't been able to grow a pumpkin, you still have time to enter any of the non growing categories. Please bring your entry into school, week commencing 5th October, labelled with your name and class. Judging will take place on Monday 12th October. We look forward to seeing your entries. Below is a reminder of the categories:

- Class pumpkin. This will be judged on size and form. A Year 6 child will choose a plant from the green house to grow on for the class until we are all back together again.
- Heaviest pumpkin
- Smallest/cutest pumpkin
- Best pair of pumpkins
- Best dressed - Hero pumpkin to include key workers
- Hero pumpkin picture/collage/artwork
- Pumpkin poem.



Dorking Schools Virtual Competitions



Over the autumn term the Dorking Schools Sports Partnership are running Virtual competitions for all its eleven schools. Children compete in the challenges in their classes and then their teacher sends the results through to the DSSP organiser.

All the children at Surrey Hills are taking part. Last week Year 1 and 2 competed in a multi skills challenge, a shuttle run in teams.

This week year 3, 4, 5 and 6 are taking part in the virtual cross country. We will be keeping you all up to date with how we are doing in these competitions.

Good luck everyone!

Water Bottles

Please ensure your child has a named water bottle in school with them every day. We have rather a lot of children in school at the moment without water bottles and would be grateful if you could check your child has theirs before leaving for school.

Diary Dates 2020/21	Please add these dates to your diary, any changes will appear in red. F@SH dates are shown in blue.		
October		February	
16th Oct	INSET Day	12th Feb	End of term—normal close times
21st Oct	Children’s Flu Vaccination	15th to 19th Feb	Half term
23rd Oct	End of term—normal close times	22nd Feb	INSET Day
26th to 30th Oct	Half term		
		April	
November		1st Apr	End of Term, early close times Abinger 1.15pm. Westcott 1.30pm
2nd Nov	INSET Day	19th Apr	Back to school
2nd Nov	Open Day		
3rd Nov	Back to school	May	
9 th to 13 th Nov	Year 6 Level 2 Bikeability	3rd May	Bank Holiday
21st Nov	Open Day	27th May	End of term—normal close times
23 rd to 27 th Nov	Year 6 Level 2 Bikeability	28th May	INSET Day
		31st May to 4th Jun	Half term
December			
18th Dec	End of Term (early close times) Abinger 1.15pm. Westcott 1.30pm	June	
		7th Jun	Back to school
January 2021			
4th Jan	INSET Day	July	
5th Jan	Back to school, start of the Spring Term	21st Jul	End of Term (early close times) Abinger 1.15pm. Westcott 1.30pm
Weekly Attendance Stats	W/C 7th September	W/C 14th September	W/C 21st September
Weekly Attendance %:	99.21	83.33	98.5
Attendance year to date %:	97.73	96.81	95.64

Headteacher: Mrs Jennie Ratcliff

Assistant Headteachers: Miss Bethan Lucas and Mrs Garrick

Abinger Site

Westcott Site

	Abinger Lane, Abinger Common, Dorking, Surrey RH5 6HZ	School Lane, Westcott, Dorking, Surrey RH4 3QF
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	abinger@surreyhills.surrey.sch.uk	westcott@surreyhills.surrey.sch.uk
	www.surreyhillsprimaryschool.org.uk	Chair of Governors: Mary Adair, chair@surreyhills.surrey.sch.uk