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MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

I would like to welcome you all back to the new academic year! It has already been a very busy start and this week, I have had the pleasure of working with the School Council to shortlist our potential candidates for the position of Head Boy and Head Girl. Children in Year 6 who have put themselves forward for the role, have taken the time to write some of the very best application letters that I have had the pleasure to read and I would like to thank the children for their efforts. We are looking forward to the interviews next week.

I am also delighted with how enthusiastic our Year 3 children have been since joining our school. The children have quickly adapted to their new surroundings, enjoyed learning new songs in assembly and starting the first pages in their books. Thank you to those parents who have joined us at the Year 3 and Year 4 Parent Information Sessions held so far this week. The recordings of these sessions will be available in the Google Classroom areas. We look forward to welcoming parents along to the Year 5 and Year 6 meetings next week held on Zoom.

As always, I would like to remind parents that we are here to help in any way we can and we are looking forward to a terrific year ahead!



FLU VACCINATIONS

The Child and Family Health Surrey Immunisation Team is visiting your school on Thursday 16th November 2023 to deliver Influenza (flu) vaccinations via nasal spray to all children in Years 3-6. Please complete the e-consent form by 4pm on Friday 10th November 2023 by visiting: www.surreyimmunisations.co.uk and entering your school's unique code

SR124979. If you do not want your child to receive a vaccine, then please fill in the 'No' box.

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PARENT GOVERNOR VACANCY

We would like to thank Mr Simon Newland for giving over 8 years of his time to the Parent Governor role at our school. During his time, Simon also served as our Chair of Governors and was supportive of our school improvement priorities, and helped out at many school events and activities. His knowledge of managing risk was also particularly helpful during the pandemic and he helped us during a number of buildings improvement projects. Although we are sad to see him go, this now means that we have a vacancy to fill for the Parent Governor role, which we would like to formally advertise to our current parent community.

Being a Governor is a great way to get involved in the life of the school. The role involves working with the leadership team to set the strategic direction of the school, ensuring the health and safety of all service users, ensuring that public funds are spent appropriately and that children receive the best quality education possible.

If you are interested in the role, please get in touch with the School Office by email. You will then be invited to meet our new Chair of Governors Beth Niven and Mrs Barnes to discuss the opportunity further.

IS YOUR CHILD IN YEAR 6?

If your child is in Year 6 you can now apply for a secondary school place. This must be done before 31 October 2023. Please visit <u>Secondary applications - Surrey County Council (surreycc.gov.uk)</u> for more information on the application process and admission arrangements for Surrey schools. If you pay your Council Tax outside Surrey, please contact your Local Authority directly for details about the application process. If you require any help, please contact the School Office who will be happy to assist. Offers will be made on 1st March 2024.

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SAFEGUARDING

At Shottermill Junior School we place the highest priority on safeguarding children and the wider school community. If you have a concern about a child, you can contact one of our Designated Safeguarding Leads via the confidential email address: dsl@shottermill-jun.surrey.sch.uk

More information on supporting families with a wide range of concerns can also be accessed here: https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/children



VIOLIN CLUB

Just a reminder that we have an excellent Violin Club which runs on a Wednesday lunchtime — currently numbers are quite low. Children are provided with a violin so there is no need to bring anything and no experience necessary! This club is open to all years. To book your child onto this club please do so via Scopay.

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC LESSONS

At school we have visiting instrumental teachers from Surrey Arts and private 121 lessons take place during the school day. A message from Surrey Arts:

Surrey Arts have helped to start the journeys of thousands of young people for over 50 years and teach in schools and music centres across the county. We help young people to develop their playing skills, express themselves and create music.

We are passionate about ensuring all young people can benefit from learning to play an instrument, so we provide a range of support such as:

- Enabling families to pay for lessons and activities in instalments to spread the cost
- Providing concessions available for families on low incomes, Looked After Children and Surrey Young Carers to help support costs.
- Link with a number of local charitable trusts which offer financial support to encourage young people to learn music.
- Providing low-cost instrument hire, and free hire to those on a concession.

In addition to lessons, there are also other opportunities to play and develop skills in one of Surrey Arts' 40 ensembles which cater for all different abilities and instruments all over the county. Please visit the Surrey Arts website to register for music lessons or ensembles or for more information.

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BOHUNT AND WOOLMER HILL OPEN EVENING

Bohunt have asked us to circulate information about their forthcoming Open Evening, which is taking place on Thursday 21 September from 5-8pm. Please book a ticket via this link if you would like to attend Open event 21 September 5-8pm - Bohunt School Liphook. The above link will also take you to a page where you can book onto a series of open mornings in September and October (9am-10.30am). If you do book your child onto an open morning please ensure you inform the School Office that your child will be late to school that day.

Woolmer Hill have an open evening on Thursday 28th September from 4pm-7pm. Anyone in Year 5 and 6 are welcome to attend and there is no need to book to attend. However, Headteacher talks between 5pm-5.45pm do need to be booked. For more information, please visit the Woolmer Hill website: Open Evening 2023 - Woolmer Hill School



WELL DONE

A huge well done to Toby in Year 6 who rose an incredible £1,523.75 for Cancer Research over the summer holidays. This enable the charity to purchase five blood spinner machines. Well done Toby, you are a superstar!

Well done to Alice in Year 4 who completed her final two hour sponsored hike at the weekend to raise money for a friend's cancer treatment. Alice has taken part in various walks over the summer, as part of a group of friends aiming to climb the equivalent of the world's seven tallest mountains across each continent — a total of 40,659 metres in elevation. Well done Alice on walking up so many hills with so much enthusiasm. What a caring thing to do!

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KEY DATES FOR 2023-2024

	September
5 TH September	Start of the Autumn Term
Tuesday 12 th September	Year 3 Parent Information Session via Zoom: 4.30pm
Wednesday 13 th September	Year 4 Parent Information Session via Zoom: 4.30pm
Tuesday 19 th September	Year 6 Parent Information Session via Zoom: 4.30pm
Monday 25 th September	Year 3 visit to Haslemere Museum
Tuesday 26 th September	Individual and sibling school photographs
Tuesday 26 th September	Parent Forum: 1.15pm
Wednesday 27 th September	Year 5 Parent Information Session via Zoom: 4.30pm
	October
Wednesday 10 th October	Governors Meeting
Wednesday 18 th October	Parent Consultation appointments: from 1pm
Friday 20 th October	Break the Rules Day
Monday 23 rd -27 th October	HALF-TERM
	November
Friday 10 th November	Flu vaccinations - optional
Monday 13 th November	INSET DAY
Thursday 16 th November	Year 4 Portals to the Past workshop at school
Tuesday 28 th November	Governors Meeting
	December
Friday 15 th December	End of Term: 1.30pm finish

Penalty Notices - Just to remind parents/carers that if you take your child out of school without authority, you will be liable to receive a penalty notice. Currently the amount payable under a penalty notice is £60.00 per parent/carer per child if paid within 21 days. Thereafter the amount increases to £120.00 if paid between 21 and 28 days. If the penalty notice remains unpaid after 28 days, the Local Authority will consider a prosecution in the Magistrates Court. Please note that penalty notices are issued per parent/carer per child so a family of two parents and two children will receive four penalty notices. Our full Attendance Policy is available to view on our website.

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