



11th September 2026

Motivated to learn, empowered to achieve

OTTERSHAW NEWS!

| Dates for your Diary:                                          |                                                                               |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| September                                                      |                                                                               |
| 15 <sup>th</sup>                                               | Year 6 Head Boy/Girl Speeches                                                 |
| 16 <sup>th</sup>                                               | Year 3 Visit to Church for Welcome activities. 9am - 11.30am                  |
| 17 <sup>th</sup>                                               | Junior Flu vaccinations and Year 6 Height and Weight                          |
| 21 <sup>st</sup>                                               | Year 6 Sports Captains briefings                                              |
| 24 <sup>th</sup>                                               | Reading and Phonics workshop for all parents- Infant hall – 9am and 5.30pm    |
| 28 <sup>th</sup>                                               | Year 6 Prefect Letter deadline                                                |
| 30 <sup>th</sup>                                               | Year 1 Toy Workshop with Chertsey Museum                                      |
| October                                                        |                                                                               |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup>                                                | Head Student Team and Junior School Council visit to the Houses of Parliament |
| 6 <sup>th</sup>                                                | Year 5 visit to ‘The Museum of Rural Life’                                    |
|                                                                | Open Morning – Infants 9.30am /Junior 11am.                                   |
| 9 <sup>th</sup>                                                | Reception Tea Party with parents- 2.15pm                                      |
| 13 <sup>th</sup>                                               | Open Morning – Infant 9.30am /Junior 11am.                                    |
|                                                                | Parent Consultation at both schools for all parents – 3.30pm- 6.30pm          |
| 14 <sup>th</sup>                                               | School Harvest Celebrations                                                   |
| 15 <sup>th</sup>                                               | Year 1 visit to Milestones Museum.                                            |
|                                                                | Year 4 Harvest production to parents – Junior hall – 2pm                      |
|                                                                | Parent Consultation at both schools for all parents – 3.30pm- 6.30pm          |
| 19 <sup>th</sup> October – 30 <sup>th</sup> October- Half Term |                                                                               |
|                                                                |                                                                               |

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had a lovely full week in school! Well done everyone, especially all our new Nursery and Reception children who have made a fantastic start to life at Ottershaw.

Thank you to everyone who joined us for our Meet the Teacher and OPAL play session this afternoon. The children absolutely love showing you all they have done and I know it helps you keep up with everything we do in school – there will be more sessions like this throughout the year so keep your eyes peeled and keep joining us!

As a reminder, we constantly need OPAL donations, so please think of us every time you are sorting things out! Children also need a pair of wellies, a waterproof coat and a set of spare clothes to keep in school in case they get very wet or muddy – OPAL happens whatever the weather, as does playtime!

We have some additional dates for you to add to your diaries:

- Miss Philbey is running a ‘how we teach maths at Ottershaw’ workshop for all parents at 9am in the Infant Hall on Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> September.
- OPTA are having their AGM at 6.00pm on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> September in the Infant Hall (straight after Mrs Jenkyn’s ‘how we teach phonics and reading at Ottershaw’ workshop, starting at 5.30pm)
- Everybody save the date – our OPTA Fireworks will be on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> November this year! It is one of the highlights of our events calendar so please join us!

Arbor Parent Portal

Thank you to those who have logged on to the Arbor parent portal inputting all the information required. For those that still need to do this, please could this be done by October Half -Term. It is incredibly important we have at least 3 emergency contact details for your child, along with any medical or dietary requirements. Please see attached the Arbor Parent Portal Checklist to help guide you.

Attendance

I’m sure you all keep hearing about school attendance in the news and it is something we are still working to improve at Ottershaw. We definitely need your help! Obviously, we totally understand if your child is too poorly to come to school (and, in fact, we insist children stay home for 48 hours after their last bout of sickness or diarrhoea) but we ask that any other absence is kept to an absolute minimum. When it comes to school attendance, any absence less than 95% is a concern and any attendance less than 90% is defined as persistently absent and we need to meet with you to plan how this can rapidly improve. Please see the link [Attendance-Policy](#) for the full Attendance Policy and we ask for your full support with this please.

| November                           |                                                                                                              |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2 <sup>nd</sup>                    | All children return to school                                                                                |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup>                    | Infant Flu Vaccinations and Reception height and weight                                                      |
| 6 <sup>th</sup>                    | Year 4 visit to the Golden Hinde                                                                             |
| 9 <sup>th</sup> & 10 <sup>th</sup> | Year 3 Feet First road safety training                                                                       |
| 11 <sup>th</sup>                   | Year 3 visit to Haslemere Museum<br><br>Open morning- Infant - 9.30am                                        |
| 12 <sup>th</sup>                   | School Photographs – Infants<br><br>Year 3 Egyptian Day                                                      |
| 13 <sup>th</sup>                   | School Photographs - Juniors                                                                                 |
| 16 <sup>th</sup>                   | Odd socks and non- uniform for Antibullying week. £1 donation via SCOPAY for NSPCC                           |
| 17 <sup>th</sup>                   | Open morning – Infant- 9.30am/ Juniors 11am                                                                  |
| 23 <sup>rd</sup>                   | Year 5 Hindu workshop in school<br><br>Open Morning – Infant 9.30am/Juniors 11am                             |
| 25 <sup>th</sup>                   | Year 6 House Captains ‘Sports Crew’ training                                                                 |
| 30 <sup>th</sup>                   | Open Morning – Infant 9.30am                                                                                 |
| December                           |                                                                                                              |
| 8 <sup>th</sup>                    | Infant Nativity performance for parent with Children in Robins, Hedgehogs and Otters. NO SIBLINGS            |
| 9 <sup>th</sup>                    | Infant Nativity performance for parents with Sparrows, Squirrels and Badgers. NO SIBLINGS                    |
| 10 <sup>th</sup>                   | Infant Nativity for all parents – siblings welcome<br><br>Year 3 Christmas Production – Junior Hall – 1.30pm |
| 11 <sup>th</sup>                   | Infant school trip to the Pantomime in Camberley                                                             |
|                                    |                                                                                                              |

Just to remind parents/carers that if they take their children out of school without authority for 5 or more days (which do not have to be consecutive), then the following will apply:

1. If you have not incurred a penalty notice relating to this child/children in a rolling 3 year period since 19 August 2024, then the penalty notice will be charged at the rate of £160.00, **per parent/carer per child**, if paid within 28 days. This will be reduced to £80.00 if paid within 21 days of receipt of the notice. Failure to pay the Penalty Notice will result in Surrey County Council considering legal proceedings against you in the Magistrates Court.

2. If you have incurred a penalty notice relating to this child/children since 19 August 2024, the rolling 3 year period will be activated from the date of the first penalty notice and the second penalty notice will be charged at the flat rate of £160.00, **per parent/carer per child**, if paid within 28 days. There will be no reduction for payment within 21 days. Failure to pay the Penalty Notice will result in Surrey County Council considering legal proceedings against you in the Magistrates Court.

3. If you have incurred 2 penalty notices relating to this child/children in the rolling 3 year period since the first penalty notice was issued, then you will NOT receive a third penalty notice – Surrey County Council will have no option but to consider a prosecution, **per parent/carer per child**, in the Magistrates Court under s 444 Education Act 1996.

Surrey County Council is not responsible for authorising pupil absence and therefore cannot withdraw any Penalty Notice requests without the written permission of the Headteacher.

Finally, a reminder to all Year 3 parents that we will be taking all the children to church next Wednesday morning to celebrate the start of Year 3 and complete some reflective activities while we are there. All Year 3 parents are welcome to join us (and we would really appreciate helpers to walk with us to church and back). To volunteer, please add your name on the form attached to [this link](#). Thank you.

Enjoy your weekend and make the most of the nice weather!

Yours sincerely

Mrs J Hastings  
Headteacher



N.B – For the Open Mornings – pre book via the school office

