



13<sup>th</sup> March 2026

*Motivated to learn, empowered to achieve*

# OTTERSHAW NEWS!

## Dates for your Diary:

### March

16<sup>th</sup> Theatre workshop for Reception and morning/all day Nursery children

17<sup>th</sup> Year 3 / 4 Cross Country at Hoe Bridge

18<sup>th</sup> Year 2 visit to Wisley

19<sup>th</sup> Squirrels Forest School

20<sup>th</sup> Badgers Forest School

23<sup>rd</sup> Easter Pause Week begins.

Relays Cross Country at Hoe Bridge

24<sup>th</sup> Year 4 Last Swimming Lesson.  
9-10am Parent Coffee Morning.  
9.30am-11.45am Panathlon Final at Guildford Spectrum. (Selected children)  
11am - Nursery Spring Assembly, followed by cakes in the Nursery .  
1.30pm Year 3 Delight in dance performance to parents.

25<sup>th</sup> Easter Church Services.  
Juniors leave school at 8.45am, return at 10.15am  
Years 1 and 2 leave school at 10.30am and return in time for lunch

26<sup>th</sup> 1.30pm Year 5 Easter Production in the Junior Hall.  
Infant Easter Bonnet Parade.  
Nursery Afternoon Children Last Day

27<sup>th</sup> OPTA Fun Run  
End of Term  
Nursery closes at 1.00pm.  
Junior School closes at 1.05pm.  
Infant School closes at 1.15pm.

### 30<sup>th</sup> March to 10<sup>th</sup> April – Easter Holidays

### April

13<sup>th</sup> Back to School

14<sup>th</sup> Year 3 Swimming Lessons start

16<sup>th</sup> Primary Application Outcomes – sent out from 5pm onwards (Reception and Y3 places)

22<sup>nd</sup> OPTA Quiz Night

Dear Parents and Carers,

As always, the children have thoroughly enjoyed their OPTA Break the Rules Day! The hardest part for us as teachers has been trying to remember all the ‘new’ names flying around today! Thank you for your support.

This week, our Highlights have been:

- **Early Years Tastes from Around the World Day:** The children in Nursery and Reception all thoroughly enjoyed dressing up, preparing and tasting food dishes from around the world (including tortillas, raita, couscous and humus) and dancing to traditional music from different countries for their culture and diversity party – inspired by their book, ‘All Are Welcome’, by Alexandra Penfold.
- **Year 4 Bikeability:** The Year 4 children have spent the last 3 days learning how to safely control their bikes and improve their steering/braking on the playground so that they are using their bikes more safely when they are out and about.
- **Year 5 visit to Fullbrook:** Our Year 5 children were invited to watch the Fullbrook production of ‘Oliver’! (we were particularly proud of all the ex-Ottershaw children who performed so well).
- **Attendance at the Commonwealth Day Service of Celebration at Westminster Abbey:** Mrs Jenkyn and I had the very great pleasure of taking some of our Junior School children up to London to attend the service. Some of us have never seen so many members of the Royal Family that close up in real life and we loved all the multicultural dance and music celebrations as well as the pomp and ceremony a royal occasion brings.

### Surrey Community Games

Booking for the Surrey Community Games is now open and there are free after school sports coaching sessions available for children aged 7 – 16 at very local venues (including Hockey with Chertsey and Thames Valley Hockey Club at Salesians School and football at Abbey Rangers FC).

Every summer local clubs offer up to 8 weeks of free training locally and these are opportunities that many Ottershaw children have really enjoyed over the years. Do please follow this week and sign up! [Equu](#) · [After school. In place of school. Beyond school.](#)

### Smartphone Free Childhood

I am sure many of you are already aware of this campaign, encouraging parents to delay giving children access to a Smartphone until they are at least 14 years old. The research is growing on the impact tablets and phones are having on the poor development of children and, without doubt, we see the impact in school too.

All 58 Surrey Secondary Schools are now firmly backing the campaign and have written to all parents this week to urge them to join the campaign and delay giving their child a smartphone before the age of 14. Their letter is attached and is something I fully endorse.

## Dates for your Diary continued...

### May

11<sup>th</sup> Year 6 SATs Week

15<sup>th</sup> Crazy Hair MUFTI

18<sup>th</sup> Class Photos Infant and Juniors

22<sup>nd</sup> Sports Day / Family Picnic

### June

1<sup>st</sup> Year 4 Multiplications Week

5<sup>th</sup> Reserve Sports Day / Family Picnic

12<sup>th</sup> MUFTI for Ottershaw Village Fair

16<sup>th</sup> Year 6 leavers service at Guildford Cathedral (children only)

18<sup>th</sup> Nursery Visit to Hobbledown.  
(Nursery closed)

26<sup>th</sup> **INSET DAY**

29<sup>th</sup> **INSET DAY**

### Welly boot storage

For OPAL and all the muddy wellies we have, we were in need of extra storage. Thank you to Holme Farm for saving the day and making these for us and to 'A cut above' helping deliver them.



### Parent Coffee Morning

The next parent coffee morning will be on **Friday 24<sup>th</sup> April at 9am-10am.**

For this coffee morning we have Lynne Lister from The Youth Fairy coming to give a talk about "Understanding Your Child's Anxious, negative or angry Brain". She will be explaining where these negative feelings come from and, more importantly, what we can do to overcome them and feel better and happier. So in Lynne's words "if your child has been struggling with certain emotions/behaviours and you'd like to gain a better understanding of this, or perhaps take away some tips and ideas of what will help them to make some simple (but effective) positive changes, then please join me at the coffee morning."

If you are thinking of attending the coffee morning, please can you let the Infant or Junior office know.

Finally, do please check the diary dates – we have so many other events coming up before Easter, we would hate you to miss a special moment!

Enjoy your weekend, especially everyone with a mothering role – I do hope you have a relaxing and stress-free day on Sunday!

Enjoy your weekend!

Yours sincerely

Handwritten signature of Mrs J Hastings.

Mrs J Hastings  
Headteacher

# Photos of the week!

## Commonwealth Day of Service Celebration



## Culture and Diversity – ‘All welcome here’

