



***Through Christ who strengthens us, all will flourish at our school,
with Faith, Love and Excellence.***

Newsletter No. 7
Friday 15th October 2021

Dear Parents, Carers, Governors and Staff

Class Observations This week I have been observing in class. My thanks to our teachers and teaching teams for their dedication; your lessons are interesting and relevant and very inspiring for the children. Massive thanks to your wonderful children who are so enthusiastic about their learning and show great resilience to share how far they have progressed.

Harvest sharing time with Sapphire Class It was lovely to have visitors to school again and the children rose to the occasion and performed beautifully. Well done to the Sapphire team for preparing such a lovely assembly and thank you for all the generous donations received for Runnymede Foodbank and the White Lodge Centre.

Football Match Our Year 5 and 6 team competed at Thorpe Lea Primary yesterday in another [ERPSSA](#) football match this week :

“Our team scored a whopping 5 goals to Thorpe Lea’s 1 in an amazing and exciting game yesterday. David ran through 4 or 5 players and scored a spectacular opening goal. Thorpe Lea got back into the game with an amazing goal and the score was level. Tommy passed the ball through the defence to Claudio who scored our second goal. At half time, a very encouraging team talk from Miss Nicholson and Mrs D’Abreo motivated the team and was one of the reasons that the game was won. In the second half, Tommy launched a cracking corner which came off the post to make the score 3-1. Goal 4 was unfortunately an own goal by Thorpe Lea. Finally, Rufus hit the ball from a tight angle and it went through the keepers legs to end the game on 5-1. Thorpe Lea tried their very best and put all their efforts into the game. A big congratulations to all the players Rufus, Joshua, Tommy, David, Hamish, Harry, Sophie, Claudio and Archie and to the coaches Mrs D’Abreo and Miss Nicholson. Thanks for Mr Mazzone for his excellent training”.

Parents’ Evenings are coming up in October and will be via ZOOM. Bookings will be via [Magicbooking](#) and are available now. You will need to create an account for your child/children and appointments will be ten minutes per child. **Please make sure your child is allocated to the correct class/year group or your booking will be with the wrong class teacher.**

On **Tuesday 19th October**, we are excited to announce a professional athlete, Frederick Afrifa will be coming into school to motivate the children and share their passion for sport. Please can all children wear their school PE kits to school on this day so they can take part in additional sporting activities.

Lost Property We encourage children to take good care of their uniform and property. We have however accumulated a huge pile of jumpers, cardigans and other school items in the ‘lost property tub’. These items are all sizes but unfortunately NONE are clearly named. All named items have been returned to the correct children. You are welcome to check the lost property tub when you collect your child at end of the day. The tub will be cleared at the end of half term (next Thursday) and donated to charity or sold as part of the next school uniform sale.



Dates for your Diary 2021

October 2021

- Tuesday 19th Professional Athlete Visit – ALL children to wear PE kit to school
Tuesday 19th 3.15-6pm – Parents Evening via ZOOM (Booking via [Magicbooking](#) NOW)
Thurs 21st MUFTI Day ~ Wear a top in your house team colour and bring a donation for the Adult Tombola – see below
Thurs 21st 4.30-7pm – Parents Evening via ZOOM (Booking via [Magicbooking](#) NOW)
Thurs 21st Break up for half-term @ 3pm
Friday 22nd **INSET Day – School Closed**
w/c Monday 25th Half-Term

November 2021

- Monday 1st School re-opens
Tuesday 2nd Y3 Visit to Chertsey Museum – see separate letter
Weds 3rd Year 4 - Hindleap Warren ZOOM Presentation at 6pm – see email for link
Thurs 4th 9.15-10.15am - Open Morning for prospective admissions in September 2022 **FULL**
Friday 5th MUFTI Day ~ Wear your brightest outfit to school and bring a donation for a Christmas Hamper – **Parents, Carers, Governors, Relatives... We urgently need your support with this as our stocks are completely depleted – thank you in advance**
Monday 8th Horizon Individual Pupil Photos – Ruby Class please wear uniform and bring PE kit
Thurs 11th Y6 Junior Citizen Workshop – 1-3pm – see separate email
Friday 19th Y4 Viking Workshop in school – see separate email

Prospective Parents welcome to our Open Morning

Thursday 4th November – 9.15 to 10.15am – **FULL** – additional dates for Look Around School visits Thursday 18th, Tuesday 23rd, Thursday 25th and Friday 26th November.

Applicants for September 2022 close on 15th January 2022. Apply online here : [Surrey Admissions](#)

Secondary applications for Year 6 close on October 31st. Apply online [HERE](#)

Free School Meals and Milk If your child is over 5 and entitled to a Free School Meal, they are also eligible for milk, free of charge. Please let the office know if you would like your child to have milk on info@thorpe.surrey.sch.uk.

Squid Game We recently wrote to you regarding this NETFLIX series. Please *do not let your children watch this series or play the associated games* – The show is age rated 15+ and contains violent, disturbing images. This can be very harmful for their developing brains at an age where they are very impressionable. Look [HERE](#) for help with parental controls for your devices. [Also, see below]

New website for young people Surrey County Council has worked with young people, the Advertising Network and a number of London boroughs to create the new microsite [Everything COVID](#) for young people, which gives information about Covid-19 vaccination and testing. Please share with your community, young people and families.

Covid-19 We continue to be extra vigilant at school due to high cases of the virus locally (40% increase in positive cases between 8th October and 14th October compared with the previous 7 days). Please wear a mask to protect others.

Kind regards

Mrs Helen Southgate

Headteacher



This is a message from Surrey County Council regarding Squid Game:

Due to the popularity of Netflix's most recent viral show, Squid Game, our online safety experts have received several questions about it from concerned parents, carers, and teachers. We decided to release a Safeguarding Update that highlights the main risks and concerns our experts found when researching the show.

What is Squid Game?

Squid Game is a South Korean television series streaming on Netflix. The plot centres on a group of adult debtors, thieves, and gamblers competing against each other in a series of childhood games for a grand cash prize. However, there is a dark twist to these seemingly innocent games – losing competitors are violently killed off in ways that grow more twisted as the games grow more intense.

Since its release in September 2021, Squid Game has become number one across 90 different countries in Netflix's ranking of most watched TV shows. It has been number one in the UK for thirteen consecutive days since its release.

Harmful Content in the Show

Currently, Squid Game has a rating of 15+ as the visual content includes high levels of gore, death, violence, and physical assault. It also has graphic depictions of suicide, murder, and sexual assault.

Children and young people are likely to know about the show via word of mouth and because it is so popular on social media. They may be unaware of the extent of gore, death, and violence the show contains. It also focuses on adult themes that are not appropriate for younger sensibilities. For young people who live with mental health issues, they may be triggered by some of the content.

The aesthetic of Squid Game, especially in promotional images and material, appears innocent and childlike. This is to provide a clash with the excessively violent content that is meant to be jarring and unsettling to viewers.

Parents and carers should be aware that video content from this show is found on TikTok, [age restriction of 13 years old]which could also increase their interest in watching the show. Remember: even if you restrict the young person in your care from watching Squid Game, they may be able to access content on other social media platforms.

The Risks of Rough Play

Due to the overwhelming popularity of Squid Game and its challenge-based plot, many of the themes within the show have become popular on social media platforms. Depictions of these games have started to become popular as people film themselves recreating them – without the murderous outcome. The most popular are:

Red Light, Green Light

Players attempt to reach a spot in the allotted time in a stop-start fashion. A particular image from the show being recreated from the show involves the giant doll-like robot that runs this game and monitors any movement.

Honeycomb Game

Players must cut out one of four shapes in a thin disc of honeycomb using a needle without breaking the shape. This has become popular on TikTok.

It's unlikely that children and young people would have the means to entirely recreate the games featured in the show. A lot of them include specialised weapons, sets, and equipment. However, there is a concern that a child or young person may unintentionally put themselves in harm's way by trying to recreate a small portion of the games. [Some reports](#) have seen children using physical violence in the playground to 'punish' losers as a substitute for the player losing their life. If a child attempts to recreate the Honeycomb Game, there is a risk of burns from caramelised sugar if they attempt to make the honeycomb themselves. Some users have also tried heating sharp objects over flames like characters in the show to make cutting an image out of honeycomb easier.