



Horspath Church of England Primary School  
Blenheim Road  
Horspath  
OXFORD  
OX33 1RY  
Tel/Fax 01865 872702  
email: [office@horspathschool.org](mailto:office@horspathschool.org)  
Headteacher: Mrs Rachel Medley  
Chair of Governors: Mr James Askew

## Horspath C of E School Newsletter 16th October 2020

Dear Families,  
Welcome to this week's newsletter.

### Star workers and Values champions

We awarded Star worker and Values champion certificates last week. Please see the names and the photographs below.



Acorn: Luka and Emily



Beech: Jorgie and Charlie



Lime: Jack and Martha



Oak: Faye and Josh



Willow: Olivia and Lily





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## Parents' evening

You should by now have received your parents' evening joining instructions letter(s). If you have not, please contact the school office.

## Parking

Many of you will have seen me outside ensuring the parking is safe for our children. I am very pleased that when a member of staff is visibly patrolling, parking is much better. However, I would ask that you all park safely even when a member of staff is not visible. In particular please do not park on the zigzags, across the road from the top gate or on the corner of Butts Road. We also ask that you do not use the school car park to park or to turn. I will continue to be out on the road as much as possible to ensure that our children can walk to school safely and we have also asked the community Police to attend.

## Family Talk Homework

Thank you for the responses to the last FTH. As October is Black History Month please take the opportunity to discuss [Black Lives Matter](#) using the resource that was put on the home learning site during lockdown.

## ParentMail issues

We apologise sincerely for the issue some of you have had with dinner money on ParentMail. We think the issue is fixed so please book your dinners on the app. Of course, if you do come across any further issues please let us know.

## Power Maths

We are now teaching maths using the mastery approach and Power Maths is our new scheme to support this. Here is some information from Mr Mayling about Power Maths.



Power Maths is a resource that has been designed for UK schools. It is recommended by the DfE, and is widely used within our Partnership. It has been influenced by the research and experience of maths teaching from around the world and here in the UK.





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The idea behind Power Maths is that being successful in maths is not just about rote-learning procedures and methods, but is instead about problem solving, thinking and discussing, moving through the curriculum in small steps, and gaining a deep understanding of each concept – this is sometimes called the ‘Mastery Approach’ to learning.

During their Power Maths sessions, the children will use lots of different models and representations to solve problems. They are encouraged to use the approach that best suits their way of working, and to explain their reasoning to their friends and to the class.

We will also be using Power Maths practice books to record the children’s ideas (as opposed to recording responses in a traditional exercise book). These books, and the activities they contain, have been created in an expert manner that helps to deepen the

children’s understanding. We can see that the children are already loving the new way of working and we hope this investment in Power Maths will have a big impact on the children’s enjoyment and confidence in maths.

More information on this new resource (including example activities and images taken from the practice books) can be found in the Slides presentation linked below.

<https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1LJV5FDbcS4Y6Ch4Is8riqtF74rRdQsRdJCgmyBRhcqA/edit?usp=sharing>

Please contact Mr Mayling if you would like any further information about our use of Power Maths.

### **Year 6 applications to secondary school**

If you have a child in Year 6, please note that applications for secondary school close on 31<sup>st</sup> October. To apply online go to: [www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/secondaryadmissions](http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/secondaryadmissions)

Best wishes

Stay alert, stay safe but most of all stay blessed.

Mrs Rachel Medley

