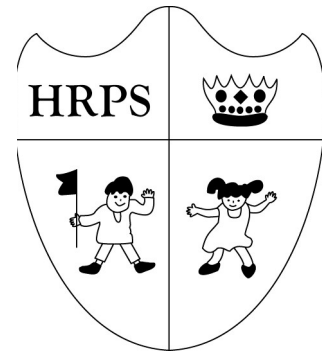


Houghton Regis Primary School

Key Stage One

Topic Newsletter

for Parents & Carers



Issue 1: September
2016

Autumn term Newsletter: 1st half term

This half term we will be studying three topics; Magic & Mystery, The Titanic and The Great Fire of London.

Our topics for the Autumn term

- Magic & Mystery
- The Titanic
- The Great Fire of London
- Autumn
- Vehicles
- Christmas

Topic	Some areas to focus on...
Magic & Mystery	<p>Magic & Mystery is a fun topic to start the year. We will begin by learning some magic tricks in groups to help our Wizard (puppet) solve a problem. The Wizard will be used to help name body parts, suggest healthy eating and stimulate creative writing activities.</p> <p>Science: Name parts of the body. Talk about how we grow and change from a baby to a child to an adult. What do we need to be healthy? How are we different? Encourage sensitive answers.</p> <p>Maths: Making potions. Using coloured water to measure capacity and plastic spiders and bats etc to weigh ingredients. safely. Use kitchen scales and kitchen jugs to help your child measure in grams and millilitres.</p> <p>Stories: Read stories such as 'Meg and Mog' and 'Winnie the</p>
The Titanic	<p>This topic will focus mainly on developing Historical and Literacy skills. We will find out about why the Titanic sank and how it helped prevent disasters of this kind happening again.</p> <p>Science: Floating & sinking. In the kitchen sink or at bath-time test which materials/ objects float or sink. Find a container which will float (e.g. margarine tub), how many small toys or marbles will it take?</p> <p>History: What was the Titanic? When was it? How do we know it was true?</p> <p>Maths: We will be using centimetres and metres to measure. We will look at how tall we are and how long parts of our bodies are. We will be making boats from Lego and reclaimed materials and measuring them. Try measuring things with a ruler at home.</p> <p>Please only measure in centimetres and metres!!!!</p>
The Great Fire of London	<p>This topic will focus mainly on developing Historical and Literacy skills.</p> <p>History: We will find out about why the fire started and what happened as a result.</p> <p>Geography: We will be finding out about some London landmarks.</p> <p>Maths: We will be learning about time. We will be linking it to our History work and using the language of time E.g. long ago, century, decades. You can help your child by encouraging them to recognise o'clock, half past, quarter to and quarter past.</p>

Diary Dates:

- 15th September– KS1 Gym club begins
- 30th September– 9am: Mac-Millan coffee morning (school hall)
- 5th October– Individual School Photographs.
- 11th October– Sponsored walk
- 12th October– Harvest festival
- 19th October– Open evening
- 21st October– Wear pink: Mufti day (£1)
- 21st October– PTA school disco
- 21st October– end of term. Return to school 31st October

Hopefully our half-termly newsletter will provide you with any extra information that you may need to help you support your child with the topic work that they are doing in school, through family trips out or extra research.

We deliver a Creative Curriculum, which means that we plan a topic and use this to deliver many curriculum objectives that link naturally. We find that this helps your children to make links between subject areas and apply their learning. Each topic usually lasts for two weeks and will incorporate learning in both the indoor and outdoor environment, which helps us to provide for children's different learning styles, as well as enriching their experiences.

House Keeping Reminders?

Entering and leaving procedures:

We would like to welcome all parents and children to Key Stage One (Years 1 & 2). Your child visited their new classrooms during July and met their new teachers and Teaching Assistants. If you have already had older siblings pass through Key Stage One then you will be aware of certain procedures, but for new parents to our Key Stage can we just take this opportunity to remind you that all KS1 pupils must be collected from their classroom doors by a known adult at 3.10pm. If another adult or parent is collecting your child please inform the Office or your child's teacher. All children will enter

through classroom doors at 8.50am. We are trying to develop your child's independence, so please allow your child to enter school with their classmates. If you need to speak to your child's teacher please do so after school, or make an appointment through the school office.

PE:

Your child needs a full PE kit in school each day (plimsolls, T-shirt and shorts). They will have two PE lessons a week but may need plimsolls for lots of other activities.

Ear rings:

Please remember that your child cannot join in with PE lessons if they

are wearing ear rings. They must be able to remove them on their own. Staff are not allowed to do this. We will place them in an envelope to bring home if they are unable to replace them themselves.

Water bottles:

Now your child is expected to work at a desk for increasingly longer periods, visits to the water fountain will be disruptive. Please provide your child with a water bottle with a sports top, not a screw top. These can be refilled from classroom taps and kept on their desks or in a central point. Please only send water. Juice or squash will not be allowed as accidental spills cause damage to books and cause surfaces to become sticky.

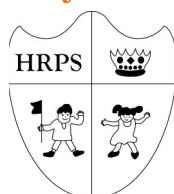
Values

At Houghton Regis Primary School every individual is valued for who they are and what they contribute to our school community. Our Values Education Programme is intended to support the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of every pupil throughout the school. The whole staff team and all pupils are involved in promoting values and recognizing where others are "living the values". The values developed through our Values Education Programme have been selected as those which are important within our school community and which will prove important throughout life.

This term our Values will be... 1st half term: September– Respect, October– Friendship, 2nd half term: November– Understanding, December– Thoughtfulness

You can help your child by encouraging them to... Respect themselves and others. Use good manners, but also show respect for the belongings of others. Be a good friend, not just to special friends, but notice if others are lonely or unhappy and try to help them. Show understanding by realising that we are all different. Some people learn to read more slowly, or struggle to learn their tables. Encourage your child to think about why another child might act as they do. Think about others and change your behaviour if you think it will help other people or make them happier.

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