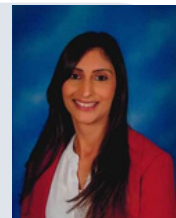




Growing minds, shaping futures and inspiring lifelong learning

Houghton Regis Primary School Newsletter

Friday 19th December 2025



Headteacher: Mrs R Parmar
Chair of Governors: Mr T Muldownie

Dear Parents, Carers & Children,

What an incredible week it has been at our school! We have had so many wonderful events and experiences that truly showcase the talent, enthusiasm and character of our children.

First, a huge congratulations to the children who visited the church this week for our annual Christmas carol concert. The children in year 2 and the choir collaborated to tell The Story of Christmas. They performed with confidence and sang beautifully. They represented the school with pride and maturity - thank you for making our school shine in the wider community! A huge thank you to Miss Davidson, Mrs Gammon, Mrs March and all the staff that contributed to making this event a wonderful memory for us all.

One of the highlights of the week was our Jingle and Mingle event. It was a joy to see our Nursery children joining in with the songs so enthusiastically, filling the room with festive cheer! We are incredibly proud of all the children. Thank you to the staff in Nursery for organising this and thank you to parents and carers for attending.

The staff in the school kitchen were very busy on Wednesday cooking us all a Christmas dinner. The children and staff were extremely complimentary of the food and agreed that it was one of the best Christmas dinners they have ever had! Thank you to Mrs Harwood and her team.

On Wednesday, we were very visited by Santa. This caused much excitement for all who saw him! Our thanks go to Santa for taking time out of his busy schedule to visit our school. We would like to extend our thanks to Mic Card from Co-op Funeralcare for donating £250 to the Friends of HRPS, from their Community Charity Fund. Co-op Funeralcare is the largest funeral company in the UK, with over 800 funeral homes, and its ethos is heavily based on community and its members. We cannot thank you enough and are extremely grateful for their generous donation!

Mrs Ali and our Wellbeing Ambassadors delivered an assembly on 'The Five Ways of Wellbeing'. The themes were based around encouraging children to prioritise their well-being by staying connected, taking notice, giving, being active and continually learning.

Yesterday, we held our annual lockdown drill - the children were extremely well behaved and showed a clear understanding of why a lockdown may need to happen in the event of an emergency. If you have any questions around this, please do not hesitate to speak to your child's class teacher.

Information about registering for clubs next term has been sent out to all parents. If you have not been able to access the relevant form, please speak to Mrs Carter-Hills in the school office.

Thank you to all your contributions to the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal last month. The collection total was £250.85.

Congratulations to the children who achieved 100% attendance for the Autumn Term - 108 children were presented with a Bronze Certificate to celebrate this achievement.

To finish, I would like to thank the children for embracing the changes that have been implemented this term - they have truly been wonderful and are a credit to us all. I would also like to thank the staff who always work incredibly hard and no task is too difficult - they really do go above and beyond and I am very grateful to lead such a dedicated and committed team. A huge thank you to our school governors, who have shown incredible support to the children and staff. We are also truly grateful to the Friends of HRPS, who have organised many events for the children this year and have given them some great experiences. Finally, thank you to you - our parents and carers for continuing to support our culture and ethos.

All that is left is for me to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. I look forward to welcoming you back on Tuesday 6th January 2026.

Mrs R Parmar

Headteacher

Happiness - Independence - Excellence - Respect - Ambition

Uniform Expectations

- White plain polo shirt/blouse or white shirt and school tie (optional)
- Bottle green sweatshirt or cardigan (with school logo - optional)
- Grey trousers or grey skirt/pinafore (knee length)
- Leggings are not permitted
- White or grey socks
- White or grey tights
- Black school shoes

PE Days

Nursery—Monday
Reception—Wednesday
Year 1—Thursday & Friday
Year 2—Tuesday & Wednesday
Year 3—Monday & Friday
Year 4—Monday & Thursday (Yellow)
Friday (Blue)
Year 5—Monday & Thursday
Year 6—Monday & Wednesday

Attendance Winners

EYFS/KS1: Orange with 97%
KS2: Red with 98%
Whole School: 95%

Housepoint Winners

Brunel - 98 points
Bell - 78 points
Johnson - 52 points
Curie - 45 points

Headteacher Awards

Congratulations to the following children:

Early Years: Kathleen Gapp, Alfie N, Annabelle D, Lailana C

Years 1 & 2: Abigail BP, Lewis P, Ethan J, Oliver T

Years 3 & 4: Teddy C, Keyan M, Safa A, Zac A

Years 5 & 6: Zakariya H, Naz M, Francesca O'C, Annabelle L



Kidz Zone Before & After School Club Information

If you would like further information on Kidz Zone, please visit their website or book on www.kidzzoneclub.com

Is your child due to start school in September 2026?

If you have a child due to start Reception in September 2026, applications need to be made via the Central Bedfordshire School Admissions portal

https://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/info/5/school_admissions/496/apply_for_a_new_lower_or_primary_school_place

The deadline for applications is **Thursday 15th January 2026** and you are encouraged to use all 3 preferences and name 3 different schools closest to your catchment. If you would like to book a visit to our school or if you require any support with the online application, please do come and speak to a member of our school admin team.

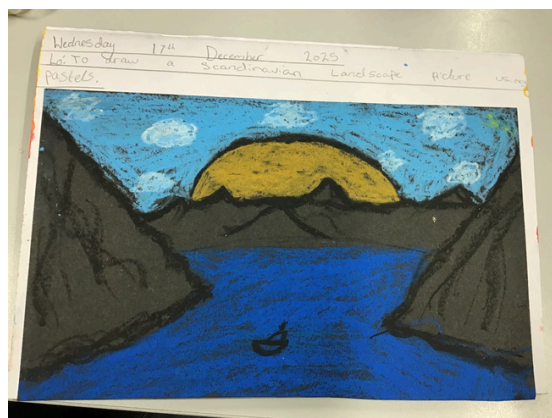
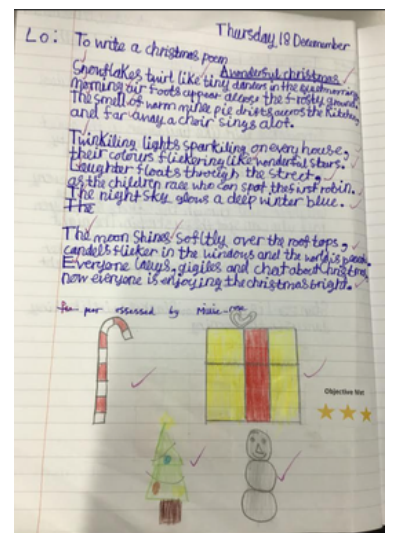
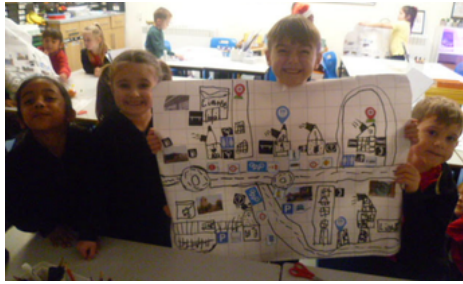
Bronze Awards - 100 Dojo Points



Silver Awards - 200 Dojo Points



Our learning this week...



Spring Term Events

Date	Time	Year Group	Event	Location
Monday 5 th January		All	INSET day - school closed for all children	
Tuesday 6 th January		All	Children return to school	
Tuesday 13 th January	9:00-10:30am	All	SNAP Parent Carer Forum Coffee Morning	Hall
Tuesday 13 th January	12:00-6:00pm	Year 6 - Red Class	Parent Consultation Evening - appointments are available to book via ClassDojo	Enter via School Office
Tuesday 13 th January	4:00-5:30pm	Year 3 - Teal Class	Parent Consultation Evening - cancelled appointments from previous term. Mrs Zarrouq will speak directly to parents	tbc
Thursday 15 th January		Nursery	Deadline for submitting primary school applications to the Local Authority <i>(for children starting school in September 2026)</i>	Online
Thursday 22 nd January	2:45pm	Year 6 - Indigo Class	Class Assembly - parents invited	Hall
Thursday 29 th January	2:45pm	Year 6 - Red Class	Class Assembly - parents invited	Hall
Thursday 5 th February	2:45pm	Year 4 - Blue Class	Class Assembly - parents invited	Hall
Monday 2 nd - Tuesday 3 rd February		Year 5	Residential Trip	
Thursday 12 th February	2:45pm	Year 4 - Yellow Class	Class Assembly - parents invited	Hall
Friday 13th February		All	Friends of HRPS Non-Uniform day - wear red for Valentine's Day	
Monday 16 th - Friday 20 th February		All	Half-Term	
Monday 23 rd February		All	Children return to school	

Our Leadership Team



Headteacher
Mrs R Parmar



Assistant Headteacher—
Pastoral & Inclusion
Ms D Faure-Alexis



Assistant Headteacher—
Academic &
Lower Key Stage 2 Leader
Mr D de Gouviea-Smith



School Business
Manager
Mrs F Jones



EYFS & Key Stage 1 Leader
Lead Practitioner
Miss M Davidson



Deputy Key Stage 1
Leader
Miss S Hayat



Key Stage 2
Leader
Miss E Naisby

Friends of HRPS

What is a PTA?

PTA stands for Parent Teacher Association. Volunteer organisations like this are usually composed of parents, class reps, teachers and other school staff who come together for regular meetings to discuss the school year and upcoming events.

PTAs bridge the gap between parents, teachers and pupils, helping to build productive relationships and further ensure the school is a place where pupils can thrive.

PTAs are now established in most schools and parents enjoy working closely with teachers, creating bonds with other parents, fundraising for events, working with the local community and learning more about the curriculum.

At our school, we are known as Friends of HRPS.

What do we do?

Friends of HRPS aim to accomplish a range of things, all usually geared at making the school a better place to learn. We work together to raise money with a variety of creative events throughout the school year, encouraging the whole community to get involved.

Friends of HRPS events

In previous years, we have organised summer fetes, Santa's Christmas Grotto, discos and a sponsored walk to name a few.

Why is our role so important?

We give parents more of a voice and get them feeling involved. Parents can provide the school community with a fresh perspective and highlight any concerns in a supportive environment.

The organisations are also instrumental in providing additional opportunities for pupils by strengthening the overall school experience.

Why should you join Friends of HRPS?

Being a part of your child's school community has several benefits:

- Scheduled meetings allow parents to keep up to date with upcoming academic events and socials.
- It creates stronger relationships with staff members, where they can easily communicate expectations and standards of learning.
- It allows parents to establish relationships and network with other parents.
- Parents can support the school in creating the best environment possible for their child and other pupils, helping make a real difference.
- Friends of HRPS members can learn new skills, from fundraising and problem-solving to communication and creativity.
- As a member of Friends of HRPS, you'll be able to see measurable results and appreciate the impact of all your efforts!

Please email the Chair, Mrs R Reid-Stavrinides at: ptahrps@gmail.com if you would like to find out more information.

EVERY SCHOOL DAY MATTERS



Penalty Notice Fines for absence from school are changing

From 19th August 2024 Penalty Notice fines increase to £160 for each parent, for each child.



You can be fined if your child has a total of 5 days of unauthorised absences in 10 school weeks, for things like:

- being late after the register has closed
- truancy
- taking a holiday without permission from the school
- or if a headteacher isn't satisfied for the reason for missing school

Over a rolling 3-year period the sanctions are:

- 1st offence – £160 reduced to £80 if paid within 21 days
- 2nd offence – £160
- 3rd offence – Court hearing and up to £2,500 fine, or up to 3 months in prison and a criminal record

For more information go to:
www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/missing-school



SEND Dance Classes

Fun and inclusive classes for those with suspected or diagnosed additional needs

Imagine & Move | 4 – 4.30pm

Sensory movement class for those aged 3+
Aimed at those who need support from a parent/carer to participate
£5 per class invoiced termly



Magic Movers | 4.45 – 5.30pm

Creative dance class for those aged 7+
For those who can follow instruction and participate independently
£7 per class invoiced termly

**Introductory offer:
20% off for Spring Term!**

15th January – 26th March (No class 19th February)



Thursdays during term time
at Houghton Regis Leisure Centre

Limited spaces! Book now:
info.imaginationarts@yahoo.com
07394 934911



Central
Bedfordshire
Council



FREE

Don't miss out! Join us
at our coffee event
and pick up your free
hard copy of the booklet



Welcome from SNAP Parent Carer Forum!

We are inviting you to join our second PINS Coffee Event

Date: 13th January 2026

From: 9am To: 10.30am

Place: Houghton Regis Primary School



Come along to a coffee and a chat about our 'Supporting Your Neurodiverse Child/Young Person' Booklet

When you first realise that your child/young person experiences the world in a different way it can feel overwhelming. But once you begin to understand their way of thinking it can be rewarding and you can learn so much from them. This booklet is full of useful information and strategies to help support you on this journey.

The Goal

To help every child feel included, understood, and supported—especially those with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)

PINS is designed to:

- ✓ Help schools improve how they support children with SEND
- ✓ Offer early help to children who may be struggling - with or without a diagnosis
- ✓ Provide training for school staff to build skills and confidence
- ✓ Enhance communication and partnerships between schools and families

MORE INFORMATION



For more information please email
PINS@snappcf.org.uk and see our PINS webpage



SNAP PARENT CARER FORUM
CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE



Partnerships for Inclusion of
Neurodiversity in Schools

**BOOK
NOW!**

FREE ONLINE Sensory Workshops for Parent Carers as part of the PINS Project.

We are excited to announce these workshops will be delivered by
Blossom Therapy's Specialist Level Occupational Therapists.

Supporting Children and Young People with the Morning Transition

- Understanding barriers to leaving the house
- The importance of the morning routine
- Learn helpful tips and strategies to aid regulation prior to school including self care

Session 1:

Date: Tuesday 6th January
Time: 12:30 - 3.15pm

Training provided by

Session 2:

Date: Monday 13th April
Time: 9.45am - 12.30pm



Blossom
Children's Occupational Therapy

Limited spaces available, booking is essential!

Please book your place for **Session 1** by emailing 'Morning Transition Training' and your name and child's school to: blossomot@outlook.com, or for **Session 2** by emailing 'Morning Transition', your name and your child's school to: PINS@snappcf.org.uk.

NB: Both sessions cover the same content



**Bedfordshire, Luton
and Milton Keynes**
Integrated Care Board

**Central
Bedfordshire**



SNAP PARENT CARER FORUM
CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE



Partnerships for Inclusion of
Neurodiversity in Schools

**BOOK
NOW!**

FREE Face to Face Sensory Workshops for Parent Carers as part of the PINS Project.

We are excited to announce they will be delivered by
Blossom Therapy's Specialist Level Occupational Therapists.

Supporting Children and Young People with the Morning Transition

- Understanding barriers to leaving the house
- The importance of the morning routine
- Learn helpful tips and strategies to aid regulation prior to school including self care

Session 1:

Date: Wednesday 4th February

Time: 9:45 - 12:30pm

**Venue: Moorfield Room, The Rufus Centre, Steppingley Road, Flitwick,
MK45 1AH**

Training provided by



Blossom
Children's Occupational Therapy

Session 2:

Date: Monday 23rd March

Time: 9.45am - 12.30pm

**Venue: Moorfield Room, The Rufus Centre, Steppingley Road, Flitwick,
MK45 1AH**

Limited spaces available, booking is essential!

Please book your place by emailing 'Morning Transition', your preferred session
(Session 1 or Session 2) and your name to: PINS@snappcf.org.uk.

NB: Both sessions cover the same content



**Bedfordshire, Luton
and Milton Keynes**
Integrated Care Board



**Cambridgeshire
Community Services**
NHS Trust



Thank
you!



A huge **THANK YOU** from SNAP Parent Carer Forum to all the schools who have welcomed us this term for our PINS Coffee Events!

Its been great meeting you and so many of your parent carers - we hope you have all found these events as enjoyable as we have.

Wishing you all a relaxing Christmas break and we look forward to seeing you again in January!



The Goal



To help every child feel included, understood, and supported—especially those with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)

MORE INFORMATION



For more information please email
PINS@snappcf.org.uk and see our PINS webpage