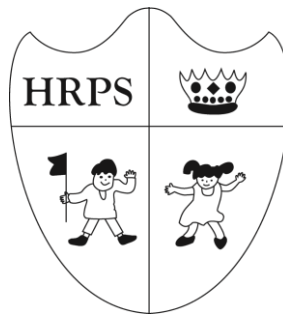


# Houghton Regis

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# Primary School

St Michaels Avenue  
Houghton Regis  
Dunstable  
Beds  
LU5 5DH

## NEWSLETTER

2 February 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

### Staffing and Recruitment

We have had a successful round of recruitment recently. We have appointed some wonderful new learning support assistants. These include Miss Maariyah Chaudhry who will be starting in Year 4 and will be supporting groups in Red and Charlotte Classes and Mrs Marina Perzefi who will be supporting groups of children in Purple Class. Mrs Deborah Trotman is also returning to the school and will be working in Silver Nursery Class. Our new staff members are extremely well qualified and the children have been really enjoying working with them.

We have also appointed an additional full time Nursery Teacher who will be based in Silver Nursery. Mrs Monica Bura originally trained for teaching in Romania but has since had experience working as a pre-school teacher in nursery schools in Pinner and Hemel Hempstead. Her appointment will provide further staffing in our nursery classes and will also release Mrs White to teach some maths and science lessons in Red Class. Furthermore, during the majority of the time when both teachers are in the nursery Mrs White will have the opportunity to further develop our forest school and outdoor early years' provision.

As a result of this new additional teaching appointment there will be some other staffing re-arranged. This means that intimate care forms will need to be completed again in early years for some children. These will be sent out by Miss Waller later today. I thank parents and carers for completing and returning these as soon as possible.

Finally, we are pleased that Mrs Henshall will be returning after her maternity leave. Mrs Henshall will be sharing responsibility for Charlotte Class with Mrs Jenkins and Miss Hendrickson. Mrs Henshall will be teaching these pupils on Mondays next half term and on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays in the summer term.

With all of these additional appointments the children are in a very fortunate position of having much higher than average amounts of support in classrooms for the remainder of the academic year.

I have listed all the teaching arrangements for the remainder of the academic year over the next few pages. These arrangements will begin next week.

## Early Years

Key Stage Leader: Miss A Waller

<b>Silver Nursery Class</b>	
<b>Teachers in Charge: Mrs White and Mrs Bura</b> Senior EYE: Mrs N McBrearty	
AM Class	PM Class
<b>Platinum Reception and Platinum Jubilee Nursery Classes</b>	
<b>Teacher in Charge: Miss Waller</b>	
<b>Platinum Reception</b>  Class Teacher: Miss Waller	<b>Platinum Jubilee Nursery</b>  EYEs in charge of Nursery Class: Mrs Gammon and Mrs Hill
<b>Gold Reception Class and King Charles Nursery Class</b>	
<b>Teacher in Charge: Miss Yates</b>	
<b>Gold Reception</b>  Class Teacher: Miss Yates	<b>King Charles Nursery Class</b>  Nursery Nurse in charge of Nursery Class: Mrs Camfield (NNEB)

## Key Stage One

Key Stage Leader: Miss M Davidson

Year	Class	Teachers
1	Indigo	Mrs Scott Hyde
1	Orange	Miss Mole
2	Green	Miss Hayat
2	Purple	Miss Davidson

## Lower Key Stage Two

Key Stage Leader: Mr H Simmonds

Year	Class	Teachers
3	Yellow	Mr Simmonds
3	Blue	Miss Lee and Miss Hendrickson (Fridays)
4	Princess Charlotte	Mrs Henshall, Mrs Jenkins and Miss Hendrickson
4	Red	Mrs Boland, Mrs White and Mrs Abdalla

## Upper Key Stage Two Teacher

Key Stage Leader: Mrs R Parmar

Year	Class	Teachers
5	Sapphire	Miss Rogers
5	Prince George	Miss Coleman and Miss Rogers
5	Queen Elizabeth II	Mrs Parmar
6	Amber	Miss Naisby
6	Emerald	Mr Page and Mrs Gustard Brown  (On some days of the week both teachers will be in and Mr Page will complete interventions across KS2)



## A.I.M. High Maths Day at Whitefield Primary Academy- Friday, 26 January 2024

On Friday 26 January, members of Year 4 visited the Whitefield Primary Academy and took part in a fun and engaging day of mathematical activities. The children used their problem solving and reasoning skills and worked collaboratively to complete tasks. Some even were successful in solving an old Year 6 SATS style problem and was able to share how they solved it to the rest of the group.



## New Age Kurling- Monday, 29 January 2024

On Monday 29 January, three Year 6 boys participated in a Kurling event in The Dunstable Centre. The boys performed really well, showing good teamwork to finish the event in third place. Well done boys!



## Natural History Museum at Tring, Year 4 school trip- Tuesday, 30 January 2024



On Tuesday 30 January, Year 4 visited The Natural History Museum at Tring.

The Museum was originally the private collection of Lionel Walter Rothschild but is now controlled by the Natural History Museum in London.

The children spent the day walking and exploring the galleries and sketching some of the many stuffed mammals, birds, reptiles and insects the museum holds. The staff from the museum shared many interesting facts about the animals. They learned that the Museum holds 4000 different species of animals and insects. They had the opportunity to touch a stuffed snake, fox, and squirrel monkey.

Bailey - 'My favourite fact - the stuffed tortoise in the museum was Baron Rothschild's pet before it was stuffed when he was a child.'



Francesca – 'The fox was my favourite part as it was very soft to touch.'

Bella – 'My favourite part of the day was looking at the gallery that had all the stuffed dogs.'

They also attended a workshop looking at different skulls and comparing their sizes and features.

Arian – 'I learned that if the eyes on the skull are on the side then the animal is prey, if the eyes face forward then the animal is a predator.'



Parnika – 'We learned that a cat's skull and brain are smaller than a human's and a dog's skull and brain are larger than a human's.'

The children thoroughly enjoyed the day and created some lovely sketches of the animals they saw.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a wonderful weekend.

Kind regards

Mr James Edwards

Headteacher





## Extra Curricular Activities Spring Term 2024

Club	Year group involved	Day	Time of Day
Taekwondo	Reception- Year 6	Monday	Afternoon
Gymnastics	Year 3-6	Tuesday	Morning
Ballet	Nursery- Year 5	Tuesday	Afternoon
Ballet	Nursery-Year 5	Wednesday	Morning
Football	Year 3-6 (Boys)	Tuesday	3.15 - 4.00pm
Football	Year 3-6 (Girls)	Wednesday	3.15 - 4.00pm
Football	Reception-Year 2 (Boys & Girls)	Thursday	3.15 - 4.00pm
Science Club	Year 5	Thursday	3.15 - 4.00pm

### Free school meals

If you think you meet the free school meals eligibility criteria, please call the Local Authority on 0300 300 8306. When you call to apply for free school meals, please have the following information ready:

- National Insurance numbers and dates of birth for you and your partner
- Dates of birth for your children
- If you receive support from the National Asylum Support Service, your NASS number

If your application is successful, please contact the school office to confirm this to enable us to update our records to reflect this.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

Event	Year groups involved	Date
Ancient Greek Day	Year 5	Thursday, 8 February 2024
Ancient Egyptians Day	Year 6	Friday, 9 February 2024
Bikeability Training	Year 5	Monday, 12 February 2024- Thursday, 15 February 2024
Half-term	All	Monday, 19 February 2024- Friday, 23 February 2024

### ***This week's Attendance Awards***

Reception/KS1 Prince Louis –  
Gold 96%

Lower KS2 Princess Charlotte –  
Blue 99%

Upper KS2 Prince George –  
Sapphire 93.8%



Values-based Education  
IVET Quality Mark



University of  
Bedfordshire



**Star Awards**

			
<b>Danny DETERMINATION says, "DON'T GIVE UP."</b>	<b>Colin CURIOSITY says, "THINK FOR YOURSELF."</b>	<b>Chloe COMMUNICATION says, "RESPECT OTHERS."</b>	<b>Izzy INDEPENDENCE says, "DO YOUR BEST."</b>
Natalie M	Imogen H	Abi H	Myles B
Jessica Rose B	Mikael I	Vlad R	Ada A
Freddie A	Louis T	Adam G	Jude E
Bella S	Bailey B	David J	Jaxon-Jay R
Oliver H	Elijah O	Kyla S	Noah E
Fleano M	Everly K-A	Kade L	Hannah K
Lia P			Annabelle H
			Arthur D
			Kimberly F

