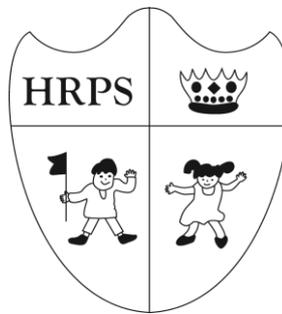


Houghton Regis

Headteacher: Mr J Edwards BA (Hons) QTS
Deputy Head: Mrs R Parmar BA (Hons) PGCE

Telephone: 01582 867487
Fax: 01582 867487

Email: office@houghtonregisprimary.co.uk
Website: www.houghtonregisprimary.co.uk



Primary School

St Michaels Avenue
Houghton Regis
Dunstable
Beds
LU5 5DH

NEWSLETTER



22 September 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

School Site

As you are all aware we have recently installed a new gate and path. These were installed to ensure the safety of parents and children when walking to school as well as leaving in the evenings. Our governing board were previously very concerned about cars and pedestrians potentially sharing tarmac space. Indeed this situation was sometimes made worse by bin collections and food deliveries. The new set up certainly makes the school site much safer. The new arrangements also bring the school site in line with what would be expected for new build school campuses from a health and safety perspective.

Despite a few teething problems, stage one of our process has gone well. Families are now used to using the new gate, the council has tidied up the foot path, bin men waited until after 9:15am to collect the bins and children have been protected from coming into contact with cars and other vehicles. Parents were also well informed of the changes by regular updates.

We would now like to move to our final stage of these planned new arrangements. From Monday, 25 September 2023 the green gate next to Yellow Class will be closed in the mornings and during collection times. This will prevent **any** potential mixed use of tarmac space by cars and children.

This will mean that children and parents in Purple and Green classes will need to walk past Orange to access their classrooms and parents in Orange and Indigo Classes who currently walk past Purple to access the Orange Classroom will also need to use the approach around the side of Silver Room. Year 6 pupils should be dropped off in the playground and make their own way around to Amber and Emerald Classrooms. This will help prevent too much congestion. Pupils in Elizabeth, Charlotte, Blue, Yellow, Red, Silver, Platinum, Gold, Platinum Jubilee and Sapphire Classes remain essentially unaffected by this change.

It will be helpful if more families use the 'Morrisons' entrance, if they are able to, as this will help avoid congestion.

Please note this decision has been made by the governing body and senior leadership team after seeking advice from a health and safety officer. It is not the decision of the school caretaker nor any other single member of staff. Parents will be given an opportunity to provide views on the change once the change process has been completed. I must re-iterate however that these changes to arrangements have been made to ensure the safety of your children. The current site was built a long time ago and was inherited by me and our current governing body. The design is not suitable by modern safety standards and that is why this change is an important one to make for health and safety reasons. The governors and I appreciate that the new routes may be a little slower for some families in the morning. However, many other schools have pedestrian entrances away from the main staff and car entrance. Newer schools are designed in this way because it makes sound sense from both a safeguarding and health and safety perspective.

I thank parents and carers for their patience with and understanding of these new arrangements.

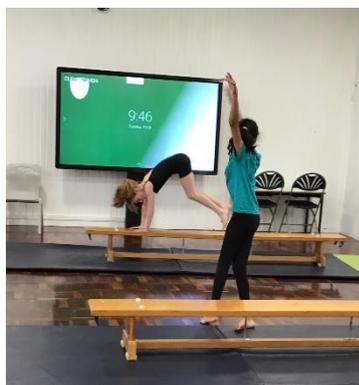
Mayor's visit

We were very lucky to have a visit from Mr J Carroll, Houghton Regis Mayor. Mr Carroll led an assembly and answered questions around civic life. Mr Carroll will be returning to HRPS to do some local history projects with some of our children.



Gymnastics classes- Elizabeth and Charlotte classes

The children enjoyed a fun and active gymnastics session with our Olympic coach, Elliott Browne. They learnt the skills for completing handstands, forward rolls and cartwheels which they managed confidently. The children then used these to perform a routine in small groups and had the chance to share their individual expertise with their peers.



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SLA Flu Immunisation Session

You should receive an email from Essex Partnership University Trust Immunisation Team regarding flu vaccination for your child with a link to complete a consent form.

The deadline to complete a consent form is Friday 29 September 2023.

If you are struggling to complete a form or did not receive a link please contact the school office.

The flu vaccine program will be taking place at Houghton Regis Primary School on Tuesday 3 October 2023.

Pupil's medical information

Please could all the parents ensure they update and/or advise us of any medical needs that their children may have. To ensure all staff at school have a comprehensive picture of any specific medical needs, please can you contact the office, in the first instance.

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

Kind regards

Mr James Edwards

Headteacher



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.

School Admissions 2024

Central Bedfordshire Council have produced a booklet to help you with applying for your child's school place for 2024.

The following link will take you to the booklet

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

The national closing dates for applications to be received by the School Admissions Team are:

31 October 2023

- Transfer to Secondary 2024
- Transfer to Upper 2024

15 January 2024

- Starting School 2024
- Transfer to Middle 2024



UPCOMING EVENTS

Event	Year groups involved	Date
Paradise Wildlife Trip	Reception	Tuesday, 26 September 2023
SLA Flu Immunisation Session	Reception- Year 6	Tuesday, 3 October 2023
Residential Trip- Caythorpe Court	Year 6	Sunday, 15 October- Wednesday, 18 October 2023
Half-term	All	Monday, 23 October- Friday, 27 October 2023
INSET Day- school closed for pupils	All	Monday, 30 October 2023

This week's Attendance Awards

Reception/KS1 Prince Louis–
Indigo 97.2%

Lower KS2 Princess Charlotte –
Blue 100%
Charlotte 100%

Upper KS2 Prince George–
Elizabeth 100%



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Star Awards

			
Danny DETERMINATION says, "DON'T GIVE UP."	Colin CURIOSITY says, "THINK FOR YOURSELF."	Chloe COMMUNICATION says, "RESPECT OTHERS."	Izzy INDEPENDENCE says, "DO YOUR BEST."
Freya D	Sophia D	Sebastian S	Henlie K-A
Logan S	Harper H	Joshua P	Sienna W
Cory B	Jude M	Patrick M	Freya R
Safa A	Amelia D	Medina N	Willis Y
Arfa C		Samira A	Elizabeth W
Adam A		Ava H	Zaima Z
Freddie C		Kyla S	Jesse H
Serafim R			Fleano M



HRPS PTA are RECRUITING



TREASURER NEEDED

JOB DESCRIPTION

- MANAGES DAY TO DAY FINANCES
- KEEPS RECORDS OF PTA'S FINANCIAL ACTIVITY
 - ARRANGES FLOATS
 - BANKS TAKINGS
- FINANCIAL REPORTING

SUITS PEOPLE WHO ARE...
CONFIDENT AT HANDLING MONEY AND
BUDGETS, GOOD WITH NUMBERS AND
METHODICAL.

EMAIL

ptahrps@gmail.com



Houghton Regis Primary School PTA



Wednesday 27th September

6PM IN THE MAIN HALL

EVERYONE'S WELCOME

Free refreshments, children are welcome.
Working together for our children's future.

Contact us via email: ptahrps@gmail.com Onsite: Mrs T White
Or directly to a PTA member to save your seat or for more information.



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