

Where everyone matters and every day counts



Houghton Regis Primary School Newsletter
Friday 23rd May 2025

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

Dear Parents, Carers and Children,

We ended a very packed but equally short half-term with a fun and exciting disco this afternoon. All children and staff had a great time singing and dancing! Thank you to our PTA committee for organising this fun-filled event and making the last day of term enjoyable for us all. I would like to celebrate the hard work of all the children to date. They have achieved so much during the course of the year and we are all extremely proud of them. Providing a high standard of education, running extra-curricular clubs and planning fun enrichment activities takes a huge amount of time and passion, so please join me in thanking our wonderful staff for all their efforts. A huge thank you to parents, carers and our governors for supporting the school to provide the best opportunities for our children.

Our clubs this term have been a huge success and we will be continuing with these after half-term. A letter will be sent out after half-term with the relevant information.

We will be hosting the following curriculum sessions for you to engage in activities with your child. These will all take place in the hall. Please see details below:

Date	Time	Year Group	Details
Wednesday 4th June	2:00-3:00pm	1	Toy Workshop—please bring in any toys from the past to this session.
Thursday 5th June	2:15-3:00pm	Reception	Phonics Workshop
Monday 16th June	2:00-3:00pm	5	Science Workshop
Wednesday 18th June	2:00-3:00pm	6	Art Workshop
Monday 23rd June	2:15-3:00pm	Nursery	Maths Workshop
Tuesday 1st July	2:00-3:00pm	4	Art/Design & Technology
Wednesday 2nd July	2:00-3:00pm	2	Design & Technology
Thursday 3rd July	2:00-3:00pm	3	Science

We are holding our annual sports days in June and are hoping the weather holds out for us this year! Children can come into school in their PE kits for their sports day. The arrangements are as follows:

Date	Time	Year Group	Details
Tuesday 10th June	9:30-10:30am	Nursery & Reception	These will take place on the field. Entry and exit to the field will be via the gate at the bottom of the playground.
Tuesday 10th June	1:30-2:30pm	Nursery (afternoon children)	Members of the PTA will be selling refreshments—cold drinks and snacks during these events. Please note, cash payments will only be accepted.
Thursday 12th June	9:30-11:30am	Years 1 & 2	
Thursday 12th June	1:30-3:00pm	Years 3, 4, 5 & 6	If sports day is cancelled for any reason, we have planned reserve dates. Please see the 'Upcoming Events' section for dates.

I wish you all a restful half-term break. Information about activities during the half-term week can be found overleaf.

A reminder that we have an INSET day on Monday 2nd June and look forward to welcoming the children back on Tuesday 3rd June.

Mrs R Parmar

**VALUE OF THE MONTH
FOR MAY:**

Empathy

**the ability to understand
and share the feelings of
another person**



**Kidz Zone Before and After
School Club
Information**

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

Bikes and Scooters

A reminder that children must not be scooting or riding their bikes on the playground before school and at the end of the day. Staff patrolling the playground will be reminding children to 'walk their wheels' in order to keep everyone safe by preventing any accidents from happening.



School Dinners

The cost of school dinners is:
Nursery—£2.40
Years 3-6—£2.60
This can be paid via SchoolGrid.

Studybugs QR Code



Attendance Winners
**EYFS/KS1: Gold and Orange
with 94.3%**

KS2: Elizabeth with 100%

**Whole School
Attendance:
93.1%**

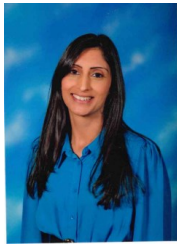
Housepoint Winners

**EYFS/KS1:
Buckingham—56 points**

**KS2:
Sandringham—167 points**

**Overall Winning House:
Sandringham—206 points**

Meet our Leadership Team



**Interim
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



Early Years Leader
Mrs R Baldwin



Key Stage 1 Leader
Miss M Davidson

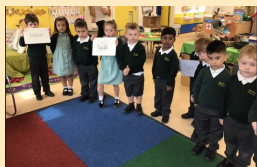


**Upper Key Stage 2
Leader**
Miss E Naisby

EARLY YEARS

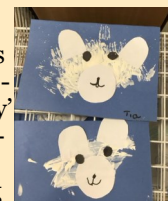
Nursery

In maths we have been learning height vocabulary such as 'tall', 'taller', 'tallest', 'small', 'smaller', 'smallest' and showing how we understand this by using different resources to build towers. The children are continuing to learn the initial sound of their name and beginning to write them. The children love music and movement; especially our stick song using claves. They are developing their listening skills and following instructions- Well done!



Reception

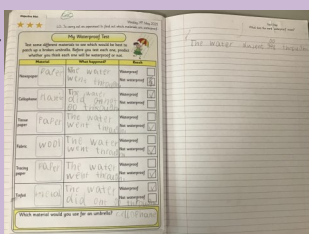
This week, we have been busy learning polar bear facts - did you know they have 42 teeth! They use their large paws to swim, walk on ice and snow. They are carnivores and eat meat. Polar bears have black skin and white fur, with their blubber to help keep them warm. We had an 'I spy' activity outside counting the different characters from the story which the children enjoyed. In maths, we have been sorting different things ensuring that the items in 1 group have something in common as each other and in the other group they are the same.



KEY STAGE 1

Year 1

The children in year 1 have been magnificent scientists this week! They carried out an experiment to find out which materials are waterproof. We made predictions of whether the materials would be waterproof or not. In history, we explored what our older relative's toys used to be like. We discussed if toys from 60 years ago were similar or different to modern day toys!



Year 2

In science, we have been looking at how plants grow. As part of this unit of work, we are conducting an experiment to see if a seed will germinate without sunlight. We have planted seeds in two pots, leaving one in a cupboard with no sunlight and putting one on the windowsill. We will take the latter one home and our half-term homework will be to take care of it!



LOWER KEY STAGE 2

Year 3

This week, we have been studying the unit of money in maths. The children have been converting pounds to pence, adding and subtracting and checking that they have been given the correct change. They have enjoyed the hands on experience of working with money and we have suggested helping you, the parents, with the shopping this weekend!



Year 4

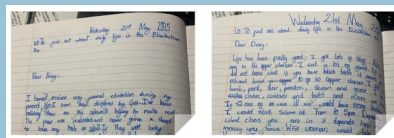
This week, we have been busy turning scenes from our class reader, Krindlekrax by Philip Ridley, into exciting playscripts. The children have been learning how to use key features of playscript writing, including stage directions, character dialogue, and guidance for actor voice and expression. They have worked hard to bring the colourful characters of Lizard Street to life.



UPPER KEY STAGE 2

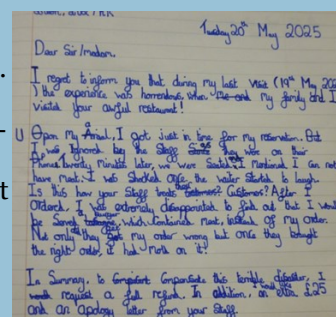
Year 5

This week, the children have been busy planning and writing recount letters based on key events from the Elizabethan era. They carefully considered how people from different backgrounds might have felt during the major changes that took place under Queen Elizabeth I's reign. In their history lessons, the children explored the stark differences between the lifestyles of rich and poor Elizabethans. They investigated contrasts in education, healthcare, employment, and crime and punishment. The children were fascinated by how dramatically life could vary depending on one's social status.



Year 6

This week, we have been writing complaint letters and setting descriptions in our English lessons. The children really enjoyed creating these and they were fantastic to read. In history, we began looking at crime and punishment through different periods of time. In science, we created circuits for our electricity topic.



HEADTEACHER AWARDS



Congratulations to the following children:

<i>Early Years</i>	<i>Theo R, Marcus D, Primrose H, Charlie N, Leo I</i>
<i>Years 1 & 2</i>	<i>Myles W, Penelope L A, Joel B, Sameer D, Esmae T</i>
<i>Years 3 & 4</i>	<i>Mia P, Ayaan M, Alexander P S, Harry F</i>
<i>Years 5 & 6</i>	<i>Dishana S S, Aiden N, Zahra R, Hans W</i>



CONTACT INFORMATION

Office:

office@houghtonregisprimary.co.uk

Nursery:

platinumjubilee@houghtonregisprimary.co.uk

silver@houghtonregisprimary.co.uk

ruby@houghtonregisprimary.co.uk

Reception and Key Stage 1:

platinum@houghtonregisprimary.co.uk

gold@houghtonregisprimary.co.uk

orange@houghtonregisprimary.co.uk

green@houghtonregisprimary.co.uk

charlotte@houghtonregisprimary.co.uk

purple@houghtonregisprimary.co.uk

SENDCo:

senco@houghtonregisprimary.co.uk

Family Support Worker:

fsw@houghtonregisprimary.co.uk

Lower Key Stage 2 and Upper Key Stage 2:

yellow@houghtonregisprimary.co.uk

blue@houghtonregisprimary.co.uk

emerald@houghtonregisprimary.co.uk

amber@houghtonregisprimary.co.uk

sapphire@houghtonregisprimary.co.uk

elizabeth@houghtonregisprimary.co.uk

william@houghtonregisprimary.co.uk

charles@houghtonregisprimary.co.uk

Upcoming Events:

Day	Date	Time	Year Group	Event
Friday	23 May	1:45-2:30pm 2:30-3:30pm 3:30-4:30pm 4:30-5:30pm	Reception Years 1 & 2 Years 3 & 4 Years 5 & 6	PTA Disco—children in Nursery, Reception, Years 1 and 2 can come to school in appropriate party wear on this day.
Monday-Friday	26-30 May		All children	Half-Term
Monday	2 June		All children	INSET Day—school closed for all children
Tuesday	3 June		Year 6	Go Construct Knex Challenge
Wednesday	4 June	2:00-3:00pm	Year 1	Parent workshop —please bring in any toys from the past to this session.
Thursday	5 June	2:15-3:00pm	Reception	Parent workshop—Phonics
Monday	9 June		All children	School photographs - please ensure children have their full uniform in school for their photograph.
Monday-Friday	9-13 June		Year 1 & Year 2 resitting	Phonics Screening Check Week
Tuesday	10 June	8:45-10:00am		Coffee Morning
		9:30-10:30am	Nursery & Reception	Sports Day
		1:30-2:30pm	Nursery (PM)	Sports Day
Wednesday	11 June		Year 2	Visit from the Fire Brigade
Thursday	12 June	9:30-11:00am	Years 1 & 2	Sports Day
		1:30-3:00pm	Years 3, 4, 5 & 6	Sports Day
Monday	16 June	2:00-3:00pm	Year 5	Parent workshop—Science
Wednesday	18 June	9:30-10:30am	Nursery & Reception	Sports Day (Reserve Day)
		1:30-2:30pm	Nursery (PM)	Sports Day (Reserve Day)
Wednesday	18 June		Year 3	Trip to Buckingham Railway Centre
Thursday	19 June	9:30-11:00am	Years 1 & 2	Sports Day (Reserve Day)
		1:30-3:00pm	Years 3, 4, 5 & 6	Sports Day (Reserve Day)
Monday-Friday	23-27 June	All day	Year 6	Careers Week/Enterprise Week
Monday	23 June		Year 2	Key Stage 1 SATs—Reading, Grammar, Punctuation & Spelling
Monday	23 June	2:13-3:00pm	Nursery	Parent workshop—Maths
Tuesday	24 June		Year 2	Key Stage 1 SATs—Reading, Grammar, Punctuation & Spelling
Thursday	26 June	3:00-3:45pm	Year 6	Year 6 Enterprise Fair
Wednesday	25 June		Year 2	Trip to Ashridge
Tuesday	1 July	2:00-3:00pm	Year 4	Parent workshop—Art/Design & Technology
Wednesday	2 July		Year 2	Key Stage 1 SATs —Maths
Wednesday	2 July	2:00-3:00p,	Year 2	Parent workshop—Design & Technology
Thursday	3 July		Year 2	Key Stage 1 SATs —Maths
Thursday	3 July	2:00-3:00pm	Year 3	Parent workshop—Science
Tuesday	8 July		Year 6	Key Stage 2 SATs results
Tuesday	8 July	5:00-6:00pm	Year 6	End of year production
Wednesday	9 July	9:30-10:30am	Year 6	End of year production
Thursday	10 July	2:00-3:00pm	Year 6	End of year production
Monday	21 July	9:15-10:00am	Year 6	Leavers' Assembly
Monday	21 July	4:00-5:30pm	Year 6	Leavers' Party
Tuesday	22 July		All children	Last day of term—school closes at 2pm

Half-Term Activities:

Houghton Regis Children's Centre
Half Term
26th May until 30th May

Monday
Bank Holiday
Closed

Tuesday
Thorn Springs Care Home. 0-5 years
11am - 12pm

Wednesday
Mini Play & Weigh for under 1s
Tithe Farm 1.15pm - 2.45pm

Thursday
Buggy Walk @ Houghton Hall Park
10.15 to set off for 10.30

Friday
SEN Play & Play In your Own Way
Tithe Farm 10.30 - 11.30
Breast Feeding Support & Social Group
Parkside 10.30 - 12pm

Houghton Regis Children's Centre, Tithe Farm Road, Houghton
Regis LU5 5JB 0300 300 8115

Central Bedfordshire

**Bennett's
Splash**

*Bennett's
Splash Park*

WE ARE OPEN!
MONDAY TO
SUNDAY
10 AM TO 6 PM



Half-Term Activities:

Half Term Activities - Dunstable, Houghton Regis and Toddington Libraries

Dunstable Library

Find more than books at your local library this half term! Join us at [Dunstable Library](#) for these free crafts and activities. All crafts are available between 10am to 3pm and there's no need to book, except for the Special Spring craft session.

Caterpillar craft: Tuesday 27th May

Special Spring craft session: Tuesday 27th May

2.30pm – 3.15pm. Spaces are limited, book your free place now

Rocket craft: Wednesday 28th May

Jellyfish craft: Thursday 29th May

Bookworm Bookmark: Friday 30th May

Owl craft: Saturday 31st May

Houghton Regis Library

Find more than books at your local library this half term! Join us at [Houghton Regis Library](#) for these free crafts and activities.

Tuesday 27th May: Axolotl fridge magnet

Wednesday 28th May: Paper cup fox friend

Thursday 29th May: 3D paper piggy

Friday 30th May: Lemur hanger

And there's also an animal themed scavenger hunt all week!

Toddington Library

Find more than books at your local library this school holidays. Drop into [Toddington Library](#) for these great crafts and activities.

All crafts are available while stocks last

- Tuesday 27 May: 10am to 12pm - Butterfly Wooden Magnets
- Wednesday 28 May: 2.30pm to 4.30pm – Cut and Stick Craft
- Thursday 29 May: 10am to 12pm – Make a Windmill
- Friday 30 May: 10am to 12pm & 2.30pm to 4.30pm - Frog Bead Decoration Kit
- Saturday 31 May: 10am to 3pm – Mix 'n' Match

YOU'RE INVITED COFFEE MORNING

AT HOUGHTON REGIS PRIMARY

Tuesday, 10th June 2025

8:45 AM – 10:00 AM

Join us for a warm drink,
friendly conversation, and an
opportunity to connect with fellow
parents and staff. We look forward
to seeing you



Ms D Alexis

Mrs R Ali

Miss A Coleman

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.

What Do PTAs Do?

These groups may aim to accomplish a range of things, all usually geared at making the school a better place to learn.

Members of a PTA are likely to work together to raise money with a variety of creative events throughout the school year, encouraging the whole community to get involved.

PTA Events at Houghton Regis Primary School

In previous years, the Houghton Regis PTA has organised summer fetes, Santa's Christmas Grotto, discos and a sponsored walk to name a few.

Why are PTAs Important?

PTAs 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 a PTA?

Being a part of your child's school PTA 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.
- PTA members can learn new skills, from fundraising and problem-solving to communication and creativity.
- As a member of the PTA, 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

