

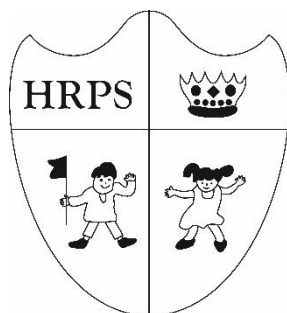
Houghton Regis

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

21 May 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Log Cabin Classroom

I am delighted to share with parents that in partnership with Central Bedfordshire Council we are having a log cabin classroom built on the edge of the school over half term. The lucky first occupants of the new log cabin will be our Platinum Nursery pupils and Mrs Gammon. We are currently buying accessories for the new classroom. Parents of Nursery children in Platinum class should deliver their children to the new classroom in the mornings and also collect them from the log cabin from Tuesday, 8 June 2021. Parents should familiarise themselves with the location of the new classroom on Monday, 7 June 2021. All Platinum children should be delivered to the main Platinum Classroom on the 7 June 2021 while the new classroom furnishings are being finalised.

Ballet

I am very pleased that there has been a very good uptake for ballet lessons at our school. Christina Marks, our fully qualified imperial ballet teacher, is really looking forward to working with our children next half term. The lessons for this term are now full as is the trip to Sadler's Wells.



Football

I am pleased to report that we are continuing to offer all children from Years 2-6 the opportunity to play football and prepare for competitions against other local schools. A big thank you to Mrs White for working with me on this project, organising kits for all the various teams and liaising with external coaches. We have had a range of coaches working with the children developing football skills, including specialists from Luton Town as well as our coaches from Future Games.





Unfortunately due to Thornhill's mini bus breaking down and then being out of operation the matches due to be played this half term have had to be re-scheduled.

Swimming

Mrs White has written a brief report about school swimming which follows this newsletters. I am pleased we have been in a position to offer swimming to all pupils in Years 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 this academic year, despite the pandemic.

Sandpit

Children in both KS1 and Early Years have been enjoying the new, large sandpit. They have been building sandcastles as well as enjoying outdoor opportunities for maths and phonics.



School Dinners

We continue to be delighted with our new school meal provider HCL. We have received really positive feedback from the children on the variety on offer and the quality of the food. I am pleased that the numbers of children having school meals each day has dramatically increased since HCL have taken over the school meals contract. If your child is still not currently having school meals, please do encourage them to try especially if they are in years Reception, one and two. All children in these year groups are eligible for paid meals under the school Universal Infant Free School Meals scheme. As already stated the governing board would very much prefer all children in years Reception, one and two to benefit from Universal Infant Free School Meals. If you have not activated your School Grid account, please contact the school office who will be able to assist you.

Attendance and Punctuality

A polite reminder that the doors open at 8:30am and your child needs to be in school before the bell at 8:45am. It is really good practice for your children to be in school on time and ready to learn. We understand that on occasion there are times when children are unwell or are unable to attend school, in these situations please contact the school office to inform us of the reasons. Thank you.



KS1 Gymnastics Club

Our KS1 gymnastics club is going really well and the children are getting prepared for competitions next year. Please see that attached report from Ms Hewer and Miss Waller.

School Trips

Thank you to parents who have quickly returned their slips for the exciting trip to Sadler's Wells Theatre in London in January 2022. Children who have secured places will be informed in due course. This trip is now full.

We are currently also in the process of organising and booking a range of school trips. These include trips for both Year 5 and Year 6 this term to Vertigo at Stanborough Park in Welwyn Garden City. Please return your slips for these as soon as possible so we can finalise the bookings.

The other trips we are currently looking at for next year are listed below. Letters will go out nearer the time for individual phases.

Paradise Wildlife Park: KS1 in the autumn term and Early Years in the spring term

Verulamium Museum and Welwyn Roman Baths: Years 3 and 4 in the autumn term.

West End Musical: Year 5 in the autumn term.

Walton on the Naze: KS1 in the summer term.

Covid allowing we are also looking at booking in a residential trip for the current Year 5 pupils when they are in Year 6 to Kingswood in Norfolk.

Please note that all school trips/clubs are invoiced through the School Money app following the offer of a place. If you have not activated your School Money account, please contact the school office who will be able to assist you.

Yours sincerely

James Edwards

Mr J Edwards
Headteacher

