



Growing minds, shaping futures and inspiring lifelong learning

# Houghton Regis Primary School Newsletter

Friday 27th February 2026



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

Dear Parents, Carers & Children,

Welcome back to this short but very busy half-term! I hope you had a restful break and enjoyed spending time with family and friends. The children were very excited to return to school and it was lovely to see the sun shining too! The children have been working hard and engaging in their new topics for this term. If you would like more information about the topics that your child is learning, please refer to our school website under the 'Classes' section where all classes have now uploaded their Spring 2 Curriculum Maps.

In assembly this week, we discussed the meaning of one of our values - Ambition. The children were able to share known inspirational figures and how hard they have worked to achieve their dream. I was proud to hear the children's goals and ambitions, which they were keen to share with their peers.

We celebrated and acknowledged 100 years of World Thinking Day and some of our children came to school in their Brownies uniform. They shared this great achievement in assembly and were keen to share their badges with me too. Well done to these children for showing pride and commitment to Brownies - we are proud of your contributions to the community.

This week, we welcomed a group of trainee teachers from the Chiltern Training Group. They worked in classes across Key Stage 1 and Key stage 2, observing good practice and delivering lessons to our children. It is always a fantastic opportunity for us to share the great teaching and learning we have at our school and we are proud of all our children and staff. The trainees commended the children on their manners and behaviour around the school.

The children in year 3 had a fabulous Roman Wow Day, where they dressed up as Roman Centurions or Roman ladies for a fun-filled day of adventure. They learnt about the lives of the Roman Soldiers during their rule of Britain and they had fun making their own shields. The children also learnt about Roman lifestyle and they created their own Roman mosaics. They really enjoyed their traditional 'Roman' snack time!

Well done to Sapphire class for sharing lots of wonderful knowledge about their learning to date. We learnt lots of information about the Romans! The children performed with confidence and enthusiasm. Thank you to Mr D and Miss Kaur for organising this assembly. Next Thursday, we look forward to welcoming parents to Teal's class assembly at 2:45pm in the hall.

Next week, we are looking forward to celebrating World Book Day. Mrs Baldwin has organised many activities for the children to partake in during the course of the week. Children will be sent home with a World Book Day voucher for the value of £1. A reminder that **on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March, children are invited to come to school dressed as a book character.** Please do not feel that you need to buy a costume. We would love to see simple, homemade ideas using clothes you already have at home. We would like the focus of this day to remain on celebrating stories and everybody sharing a love of reading.

Here are some ideas for homemade costumes:

- A character in pyjamas (favourite bedtime story)
- Witches or wizards (dark clothes and a hat)
- Fairy tale characters (princesses, knights, giants)
- Animals from stories
- Dressing in everyday clothes and telling us who the character is (e.g. Matilda, Harry Potter, Mr Twit, Goldilocks)

The school kitchen will be providing a book themed menu - you can book your child's school lunch on School Grid as normal.

A reminder that we have our book fair, which is set up in the hall this year. It is open from 8:20-8:40am and 3:15-3:45pm. The last day of the book fair will be Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March. There is a range of genres to choose - please come along and take a look!

Our Friends of HRPS have been working hard to organise some upcoming events. We are holding our annual Easter raffle at the end of this term - you will be receiving further information around this in the upcoming weeks. In the Summer Term, we are holding a Summer Fayre and as always, we are looking for volunteers. If you are interested in supporting with any events or would like further information about joining the Friends of HRPS, please email the Chair, Mrs R Reid-Stavrinides on ptahrps@gmail.com.

Monday is secondary school allocation day for our year 6 children - I hope the children are happy with their allocated schools. The day can be an anxious one, for parents and children alike. If you require any support with managing your child's transition to secondary school, do not hesitate to contact us. We have many staff members who are available to support, ranging from the leadership team, class teachers, support staff and our pastoral team.

I wish you all a restful weekend and look forward to seeing you on Monday morning.

Mrs R Parmar

Headteacher

## 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: Gold with 95.8%  
Reward - Class party
- KS1: Coral with 99.3%  
Reward - Early lunch
- LKS2: Teal with 98%  
Reward - Longer lunch break
- UKS2: Emerald with 96%  
Reward - Hot chocolate
- Whole School: 94%

## Housepoint Winners

- Bell - 74 points
- Curie - 73 points
- Johnson - 63 points
- Brunel - 56 points

Happiness - Independence - Excellence - Respect - Ambition

# Headteacher Awards

Congratulations to the following children:

Early Years: Reico P, Oscar G, Hope F, Mitchel O  
 Years 1 & 2: Finley A, Yannis K, Blayne F, Isla-Rose R

Years 3 & 4: Sameer D, Ada A, Isla C

Years 5 & 6: Halima H, Amira M-E, Danielle U, Darin A



## 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](http://www.kidzzoneclub.com)

## Walk your wheels

A reminder that children need to 'walk their wheels' on the school premises before school and at the end of the day. Staff patrolling the playground will be reminding children of these rules in order to keep everyone safe by preventing any accidents from happening.

## Staff Values Champion of the Week

Congratulations to Mrs Jenkins for... displaying the value of **Happiness** around the school!



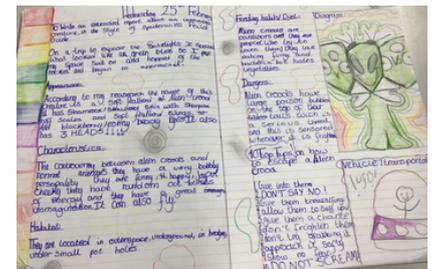
## Silver Awards - 200 Dojo Points



## Gold Awards - 300 Dojo Points



# Our learning this week...



## Spring Term Events

Date	Time	Year Group	Event	Location
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> March		Year 6	National Offer Day - Secondary School	
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> March	9:00am	Year 6 - Red Class	Class Assembly - parents invited	Hall
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> March		All	World Book Day - staff and children are invited to come to school dressed as a book character.	
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> March		Reception	Vision Screening - information has been sent home to parents around this.	
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> March	2:45pm	Year 3 - Teal Class	Class Assembly - parents invited	Hall
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> March	2:45pm	Year 2 - Orange Class	Class Assembly - parents invited	Hall
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> March	2:00-3:15pm	All	SNAP Parent Carer Forum Coffee Afternoon	Hall
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> March	2:45pm	Year 2 - Green Class	Class Assembly - parents invited	Hall
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> March		All	Red Nose Day - We are asking children to come to school wearing their own clothes (preferably something bright, cheerful and red!) in return for a donation.	
Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> March	3:45-6:15pm	All	Parent Consultation Evening - appointments times will be made available on ClassDojo	Hall/ Classrooms
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> March	9:15am	Children in iRock band	iRock band end of term concert - invited parents to attend	Hall
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> March	4:00-7:00pm	All	Parent Consultation Evening - appointments times will be made available on ClassDojo	Hall/ Classrooms
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> March	2:00pm	All	Last day of term—school finishes at 2:00pm. There will be no after school club on this day.	

## Summer Term Events

Date	Time	Year Group	Event	Location
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> April		All	INSET day - school closed for all children	
Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> April		All	Children return to school	
Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> April	2:45pm	Year 1 - Purple Class	Class Assembly - parents invited	Hall
Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> April	2:45pm	Year 1 - Coral Class	Class Assembly - parents invited	Hall
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> May	2:45pm	Reception - Platinum Class	Class Assembly - parents invited	Hall
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> May		Year 6	Key Stage 2 SATs - English Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling Papers 1 and 2	
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> May		Year 6	Key Stage 2 SATs - English Reading	
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> May		Year 6	Mathematics Papers 1 and 2	
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> May		Year 6	Mathematics Paper 3	
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> May	2:45pm	Reception - Gold Class	Class Assembly - parents invited	Hall
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> May	2:45pm	Nursery - Silver & Ruby Classes	Workshop - parents invited	Hall
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> - Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> May		All	Half-Term	
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> June		All	Children return to school	
Saturday 6 <sup>th</sup> June		All	Summer Fayre - organised by Friends of HRPS	
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> June		All	School photographs for class groups and siblings. Please ensure children have their full uniform in school for their photograph.	
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> June	2:45pm	Year 5 - Amber Class	Class Assembly - parents invited	Hall
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> June	2:45pm	Year 5 - Emerald Class	Class Assembly - parents invited	Hall

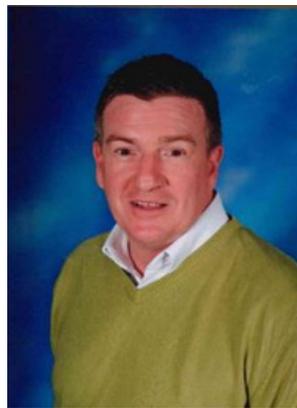
# Our Leadership Team



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-Stavriniades at: [ptahrps@gmail.com](mailto: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 19<sup>th</sup> 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](http://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!**

15<sup>th</sup> January – 26<sup>th</sup> March (No class 19<sup>th</sup> February)



Thursdays during term time  
at Houghton Regis Leisure Centre

Limited spaces! Book now:  
[info.imaginationarts@yahoo.com](mailto:info.imaginationarts@yahoo.com)  
07394 934911



Central Bedfordshire Council



POSITIVELY  
INFLUENCING  
CHANGE



SNAP PARENT CARER FORUM  
CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE

BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL



PINS  
Partnerships for Inclusion of  
Neurodiversity in Schools

*This session is delivered by qualified experts who will help you support your child/young person by discussing the following learning outcomes:*

- To understand more about Pathological Demand Avoidance
- To recognise the different ways that PDA may present in children
- To highlight relevant teaching and support strategies
- To explore the strengths associated with PDA
- To know where to get more help



Please note...

Add -vance sessions are recorded and available to watch for 7 days after to those booked/attending the session.

[www.snappcf.org.uk](http://www.snappcf.org.uk)

We are excited to announce our...



Online training:  
**Understanding  
Pathological  
Demand Avoidance  
(PDA)**

Thursday  
**05/03/2026**  
**12:00 pm - 1:30pm**



*Book Now!*

BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL...

**DATE**

**Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2026,  
12:00 pm - 1:30 pm**

*Please book your place by clicking on the live link*

<https://understanding-pda-050326.eventbrite.co.uk/>

CLICK HERE



Partnerships for Inclusion of  
Neurodiversity in Schools

# Time for you...



## Welcome from SNAP Parent Care Forum!

We are inviting you to join our third and final PINS Coffee Event

Date: 17<sup>th</sup> March 2026

From: 2:00pm To: 3.15pm

Place: Houghton Regis Primary School

You are invited to our final PINS coffee and chat event where you will be supported with:

- How to look after your well being
- How you can access SEND support for your child locally and nationally
- Find out about upcoming events such as our SNAP PCF SEND Roadshows and a reminder of the benefits of the Max Card including how to get reduced entry to Whipsnade Zoo by joining SNAP PCF



MORE INFORMATION



For more information please email  
[PINS@snappcf.org.uk](mailto:PINS@snappcf.org.uk) and see our PINS webpage

POSITIVELY  
INFLUENCING  
CHANGE



SNAP PARENT CARER FORUM  
CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE

BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL



PINS  
Partnerships for Inclusion of  
Neurodiversity in Schools

We are excited to  
announce our...



Online training:

## Understanding Challenging Behaviours

Thursday

19/03/26

12:00 pm - 1:30pm

*This session is delivered by qualified experts who will help you support your child/young person by discussing:*

- what is meant by challenging behaviour
- understand why challenging behaviour is more common in neurodivergent children/young people
- identify triggers and underlying needs
- develop strategies which anticipate and prevent challenging behaviour
- know where to get more help



BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL...

 Please note...

Add -vance sessions are recorded and available to watch for 7 days after to those booked/attending the session.

[www.snappcf.org.uk](http://www.snappcf.org.uk)

DATE

Thursday 19th of March

2026, 12:00 pm - 1:30 pm

Please book your place by clicking on the live link:

<https://understanding-challenging-behaviour-190326.eventbrite.co.uk/>

CLICK HERE

**WE'RE TAKING OURSELVES**

**FUNNY**

**FOR MONEY THIS  
RED NOSE DAY**

WHAT?

**Non-uniform day!**

WHEN?

**Friday 20th March 2026**

WHERE?

**Houghton Regis Primary School**



Scan to donate



Scan QR code  
to donate

**COMIC  
RELIEF**

**RED  
NOSE  
DAY**

Get more posters at [comicrelief.com/resources](https://www.comicrelief.com/resources)



Red Nose Day is an initiative of Comic Relief, operating name of Charity Projects, registered charity in England & Wales (326568) and Scotland (SC039730) and company limited by guarantee registered in England & Wales (01806414), registered address: 6th Floor, The White Chapel Building, 10 Whitechapel High Street, London, E1 8QS.

**FRIDAY 20 MARCH**

**GO  
ALL  
IN.**

National  
Year of  
Reading  
2026

Central  
Bedfordshire  
Libraries

## **Theatre of Widdershins presents a series of traditional tales**

Enjoy family theatre amongst the bookshelves

- **Leighton Buzzard Library - Sat 31 Jan 11am**
- **Shefford Library - Fri 6 Feb 4pm**
- **Dunstable Library - Sat 7 March 11am**
- **Stotfold Library - Fri 13 March 4pm**
- **Barton Library - Tues 31 March 2pm**
- **Flitwick Library - Fri 10 April 2pm**
- **Toddington Library - Sat 9 May 2pm**

Tickets: Children £5, Adults £5 available at the host library or online via eventbrite (booking fee applies)



# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about ROBLOX



## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Roblox is one of the most popular video games among children. In 2020, the game's developers claimed that more than half of the USA's children had played it. As a 'sandbox' title, the game lets players create their own gaming experiences with Roblox Studio to build custom levels, which can then be shared online.

### ONLINE PLAY RISKS

Because Roblox connects random players across the world, it can put younger players into an environment with anonymous users who could use the platform for nefarious reasons. For example, some role-play games are used for online dates and mature role play, which could expose youngsters to inappropriate messages in the public chat box.

### MATURE CONTENT

Content is difficult to moderate throughout Roblox, due to the number of games available. This is particularly notable on smaller games and experiences, but in summary, some of the games and experiences offered on the platform contain age-inappropriate content that could easily be seen by young players.

### IN-GAME SPENDING

The majority of games within Roblox have extensive monetisation options, usually through season passes or microtransactions. Purchases can range in value from a few pennies up to much larger sums of money. While some games offer a lot of content via purchases, others can offer very little for real world money, causing younger players to end up out of pocket.

### ANONYMOUS PLAYERS

The anonymity of users can leave players vulnerable to bullying, harassment, and predatory behaviour. Without the right parental controls or monitoring, users can connect with each other via personal messages or friend requests, and it is very difficult to know who's behind a username in this vast online world.

### RISK OF ADDICTION

Roblox games can feature rewarding or satisfying mechanics that keep players coming back – or persuade them to stay logged-in for much longer. Like most games, they focus on interactivity, with constant rewards via in-game unlocks and currencies, which can sometimes lead to an addictive need to remain online for long periods of time.

### SCAMS

Many of the games on Roblox feature collectible items, pets, or characters. These objects, while digital, are worth a lot of real money on certain online markets. Scammers will attempt to trade with younger users in the hopes of getting rare items that can be sold for real money, manipulating the child into handing them over, usually via misleading information.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### MONITOR THE CONTENT

While Roblox does implement plenty of moderation tools and parental controls, it's up to parents and guardians to monitor the types of games a child or impressionable player is experiencing. If a youngster wants to play Roblox, be sure to check out which specific games they want to play within it, and get a good idea of their content.

### TAKE ADVANTAGE OF TOOLS

Use the parental controls within the game itself and teach youngsters how to report and block other players. Knowing the powers within their reach will make Roblox a safer, happier experience. You can set age ranges for who's allowed to contact you, close public chat boxes, block spending, and even make your Roblox profile completely private. All these options are helpful in cutting off bad actors from engaging with children.

### PLAY TOGETHER

Consider playing Roblox with the children in your care. There are few more effective ways to see how monetisation works, gauge whether the game could lead to addictive behaviours, or even witness how interaction between players works, than sitting down and trying the game for yourself. This should help you figure out whether it's suitable for particular children.

### TEACH ONLINE BEHAVIOURS

Have an open conversation about the risks of online play and how to spend money wisely. By being honest and giving tips on how a younger user can protect themselves, you can empower them to not only take care of themselves, but others too. Any user can be reported to Roblox moderators by other players for behaving inappropriately. With this knowledge, younger players can be aware of what to look for and help prevent it.

### Meet Our Expert

Dan Lipscombe is a videogame journalist and author of over 20 books on gaming, including books on Minecraft, Fortnite, Roblox, and more. For 15 years he has been writing about his passion for gaming. When he's not playing games, he's talking about them at GAMINGbible.

