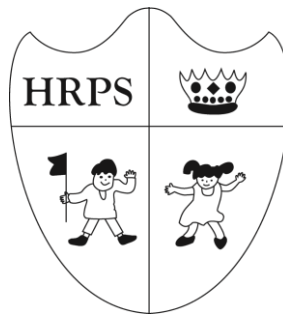


Houghton Regis

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Deputy Head: Mrs R Parmar BA (Hons) PGCE

Telephone: 01582 867487
Fax: 01582 867487

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Website: www.houghtonregisprimary.co.uk



Primary School

St Michaels Avenue
Houghton Regis
Dunstable
Beds
LU5 5DH



3 May 2024

NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents and Carers

Year 5 Trip - Bedford Faith Tour- Tuesday, 30 April 2024

On Tuesday, the children in Year 5 visited three places of worship as part of the Faith Tour in Bedford. They visited the gurdwara first. The children learnt about the values and beliefs of this religion and we also learnt about the ten gurus and their teachings. They sat in the langar hall, which is where vegetarian food is served and anybody is welcome to join. They then went to the darbar hall, where people sit and pray peacefully. This is where the Guru Granth Sahib Ji is kept. The Guru Granth Sahib Ji is the holy book, which is known as the eleventh guru.



After this, the children visited the mosque. The Imam (leader of the mosque) taught them about the 5 pillars of Islam, which are -

- Faith (shahada)
- Prayer (salah)
- Fasting (sawm)
- Alms (zakat)
- Pilgrimage (hajj)

There are 5 prayers that are followed daily and there is a special prayer on Fridays called Juma, which takes place at 1:30pm. When people pray, they face the direction of the Kaaba - a shrine located near The Great Mosque in Mecca. This is the largest mosque in the world and holds up to 3 million people.

The children also learnt about Ramadan and the festival of Eid. The ceiling of the mosque they visited holds the 99 attributes and teachings of Allah.



Their final visit was to All Saints church, which was built in 1910. They learnt that Christianity is based on the teachings of Jesus and Christians believe in God the Father, Jesus Christ, the Son of God and the Holy Spirit, known as the Holy Trinity.

The children walked around the church and observed the following:

- stained glass windows
- the nave
- baptismal font
- church organ
- crosses
- candles
- high altar



They also learnt that the Bible in the Church of England is made up of 66 books. The Old Testament has 39 books and the New Testament has 27 books, of which 4 are gospels that tell the stories of Jesus' teachings and life.

The Year 5 children had a wonderful time and gained new knowledge about each religion in detail. The children were commended for their impeccable behaviour by the organisers of the tour. Thank you to Miss Rogers, Mrs Jenkins and Mrs Parmar for accompanying the children on the trip.

Ismail- 'My favourite part was visiting the gurdwara, where we were taught about Sikhism and I learnt there are ten Gurus.'

Danyaal- 'I was surprised how beautiful the gurdwara was and how different this looked to other places of worship.'

Laura- 'I loved being able to stand up on the pulpit in the parish church.'

Isaac- 'I liked seeing the font in the church and hearing the story of how it got to the church.'



Gracie- 'I loved being given the chance to walk around the church to see all the different parts.'

Music sessions with choir specialist

Yesterday, we were fortunate to have a special choral day with Mrs Emily Owen from The Voices Foundation. In the morning pupils from Elizabeth, Charlotte and Red Classes went to All Saints Church for a special all morning choral teaching session. They learnt a number of new songs in preparation for their summer concert and explored pitch, dynamics and a range of effects including focusing on changing the volume of their voices. The group also sang in cannons and developed many new skills.



In the afternoon pupils from Sapphire, Yellow and Blue Classes had sessions with Mrs Owen and at the end there was a special sharing assembly where all the groups sang together. Year 1 Orange Class joined this assembly as a special audience.



Yellow Class Parents' Consultations- Wednesday, 15 May 2024

We will be holding parents' consultations meetings for Yellow class on:

Wednesday, 15 May 2024 12:30pm-6:30pm

An appointment signup sheet will be displayed outside the Yellow classroom.

If you are unable to attend an appointment on this day, please speak to Mr D about arranging an appointment for an alternative day.



Housepoints

Key Stage 1		
	House	Points
1st	Windsor	162
2nd	Sandringham	133
3rd	Balmoral	104
4th	Buckingham Palace	71

Key Stage 2		
	House	Points
1st	Buckingham Palace	290
2nd	Windsor	234
3rd	Balmoral	143
4th	Sandringham	128

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

Kind regards

Mr James Edwards

Headteacher



Message from PTA

Houghton Regis Primary School urgently requires a new PTA Chair – is that you!

The role of the **PTA Chair** is crucial for the smooth functioning of the committee. As the chair, you'll be at the helm, steering the committee toward its goals. Here are the key responsibilities:

1. **Leadership and Facilitation:**

- **Chairs and facilitates meetings** in a manner that encourages everyone to contribute.
- Sets the **date and agenda** for meetings and keeps discussions on track.
- **Delegates tasks** to committee members.

2. **Decision Implementation:**

- Ensures that committee decisions are **implemented** effectively.
- **Liaises with the school** regarding fundraising priorities.
- **Welcomes and motivates new volunteers** to join the PTA.

3. **Financial Oversight:**

- Acts as a **designated signatory** on the PTA bank account.
- Ensures the PTA is **registered with regulatory bodies**, such as the Charity Commission, and submits necessary reports. (Already in place)

4. **Annual Report:**

- At the **AGM**, writes the **annual report** summarizing the PTA's activities.

Qualities for a PTA Chair:

- **Strong leadership** skills.
- **Diplomatic** and fair.
- **Enthusiastic** and full of bright ideas.
- **Good delegators** who involve others effectively.

If you're interested in becoming our next PTA chair, or part of the PTA committee feel free to reach out for more information!

Please speak to Mrs White in Nursery Class or email twhite@houghtonregisprimary.co.uk

Let's make a positive impact together!

If this role is not filled, then sadly the PTA will have to fold at Houghton Regis Primary School.



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.

Contacting class teachers

Every class in Houghton Regis Primary School have their own email address to enable parents to easily contact their child's teacher. The format of the email address is the class name followed by @houghtonregisprimary.co.uk.

Nursery:

charles@houghtonregisprimary.co.uk

platinumnursery@houghtonregisprimary.co.uk

silver@houghtonregisprimary.co.uk

Reception and Key Stage 1:

platinum@houghtonregisprimary.co.uk

gold@houghtonregisprimary.co.uk

indigo@houghtonregisprimary.co.uk

orange@houghtonregisprimary.co.uk

purple@houghtonregisprimary.co.uk

green@houghtonregisprimary.co.uk

Lower Key Stage 2 and Upper Key Stage 2

blue@houghtonregisprimary.co.uk

yellow@houghtonregisprimary.co.uk

charlotte@houghtonregisprimary.co.uk

red@houghtonregisprimary.co.uk

elizabeth@houghtonregisprimary.co.uk

sapphire@houghtonregisprimary.co.uk

amber@houghtonregisprimary.co.uk

emerald@houghtonregisprimary.co.uk



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EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES SPRING TERM 2024


Club	Year group involved	Day	Time of Day
Ballet	Nursery- Year 5	Tuesday	Afternoon
Ballet	Nursery-Year 5	Wednesday	Morning
Multi-sports Club	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 4	Thursday	3.15 - 4.00pm
Taekwondo	Reception- Year 6	Monday	Afternoon

UPCOMING EVENTS

Event	Year groups involved	Date
Early May Bank Holiday	All	Monday, 6 May 2024
Heights & Weights	Reception	Friday, 10 May 2024
KS2 SATs week	Year 6	Monday, 13 May 2024- Friday, 17 May 2024
House on the Hill- trip	Year 1	Tuesday, 14 May 2024
Disney's Aladdin Trip	Years 4 & 5	Wednesday, 15 May 2024 at 2:30pm
Go Bowling	Year 6	Friday, 17 May 2024
Inset day- school closed for pupils	All	Friday, 24 May 2024
Half-term	All	Monday, 27 May 2024- Friday, 31 May 2024



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. ”
Alaya A	Damian P	Maria C	Adam B
Iustin V	Cillian M	Honey Y	Sarah B
Milan Z	Charlie B	Kyla S	Jake L
Francesca K	Khrisha T	Marcus S	Olivia G
Abbie D	Aleks B		Emmanuel A
Alice-Eva A	Alexandru S		
Alayah A	Adam A		
Kira A	Kelsey S-G		
Connor D			
Anton R			
Alisia C			
Samira A			

This week's Attendance Awards

Reception/KS1 Prince Louis–
Platinum 98.2%

Lower KS2 Princess Charlotte –
Charlotte 100%

Upper KS2 Prince George–
Elizabeth 100%



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Cyber Choices and Online Safety Events

For parents / carers of children aged 9 and up

You are invited to attend two **free** online sessions to discuss all things "cyber".

These sessions will be suitable for parents/carers of children in Year 5 (age 9) and above. This will be a fantastic opportunity to learn and ask questions regarding your child's online world and it shouldn't be missed!

Part 1 will introduce you to the Cyber Choices programme which will be delivered by the Eastern Region Cyber Choices Team. They will provide:

- An overview to parents and carers on what cybercrime is.
- What the risks to young people are.
- How the Cyber Choices programme supports at-risk individuals.
- How you can refer a young person into Cyber Choices.

You will also hear from Kent County Council's Education Safeguarding Team, who will provide an overview of;

- Some of the potential risks that children and young people may experience online.
- Advice to support parents to make informed decisions and keep their children safer online.

Please visit the NCA website to find out more about [Cyber Choices](#)

Please register for **one** part 1 session only (as these will be duplicated), by clicking on the link below.

Wednesday 8th May 2024 @ 1000 - Part 1
[Book here](#)

Wednesday 5th June 2024 @ 1300 - Part 1
[Book here](#)

Wednesday 3rd July 2024 @ 1600 - Part 1
[Book here](#)

Part 2 will be delivered by the Eastern Region Cyber Protect Team. They will provide:

- Advice on how to improve your personal cyber security.
- Identifying and protecting yours (and your children's) key accounts.
- Threats and techniques that cyber criminals may use to target you / your family.
- Benefits of family accounts.
- Parental controls on your router.
- Signposting to useful resources.

The aim of the session is to provide you with tools and techniques to improve the cyber security of your family.

Advice and guidance from the session will be in line with the Government's [Stop! Think Fraud](#) and the National Cyber Security Centres [CyberAware](#) campaigns.

Again, please register for **one** part 2 session only (as these will be duplicated), by clicking on the link below.

Wednesday 15th May 2024 @ 1000 - Part 2
[Book here](#)

Wednesday 12th June 2024 @ 1300 - Part 2
[Book here](#)

Wednesday 10th July 2024 @ 1600 - Part 2
[Book here](#)

If you have any questions or would like us to cover a certain topic within our sessions, then please complete our [online form](#).



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