

**Where everyone matters and every day counts**



**Houghton Regis Primary School Newsletter**  
**Friday 3rd October 2025**

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

Dear Parents, Carers and Children,

It has been another fantastic week of learning and we are so proud of the enthusiasm and effort the children have shown as they continue settling into their routines. We also hope you have enjoyed reading weekly updates on ClassDojo—it is a lovely way to see the exciting learning taking place.

Earlier this week, we held our coffee afternoon which was a huge success. Thank you to all who attended and a special thank you to Zoe Francois from the Mental Health Services Team who shared lots of useful information with us all. Zoe will continue to work with us and will be leading assemblies and sessions with our Well-being Ambassadors.



Today, Mrs March delivered an assembly to the children about the meaning of Harvest and the importance of this festival. Thank you to Mrs March and the children from the Choir, who sang beautifully. We are very grateful for all the contributions, which will be donated to The Salvation Army.



Our Scholastic book fair launches next week on Tuesday. It will be held in the conservatory and parents will have the opportunity to browse and buy books before school from 8:20-8:40am and after school from 3:15-3:45pm. Payments can only be made by card and there will be a card machine that will only take payments from a physical card, not via apps or cards on a phone. The last day of the book fair will be on Tuesday 14th October. We look forward to seeing you there.

We are looking forward to welcoming parents from year 1 to join our parent workshop, where they will be making fruit kebabs. Please enter via the main school office.

Next Friday, we will be celebrating 'Hello Yellow Day', which is an annual campaign by the YoungMinds charity. It raises awareness and funds for young people's mental health. This will be a non-uniform day and we are asking all staff and children to wear yellow and donate £1, so we can support, raise money and let young people know that they are not alone in their struggles.

A reminder that all adults and children must walk their wheels when on the playground. This week, we have seen some children riding unsafely around the playground. Staff on duty will continue to ask children to walk their wheels. We thank you for your understanding with this matter.

Stay safe this weekend as Storm Amy is set to bring heavy rain and high winds. A reminder that children must bring a coat into school, labelled clearly with their name and class.

Have a lovely weekend—I look forward to seeing you on the gate next week.



*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 25-26**

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

**School Dinners**

The cost of school dinners is:

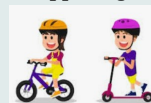
Nursery—£2.40

Years 3-6—£2.60

This can be paid via SchoolGrid.

**Bikes and Scooters**

A reminder that children must not be scooting or riding their bikes on the school premises 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.



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

**Childhood Flu Vaccination Program for 2-3 year olds**

Childhood flu vaccines are now being offered at Titan Pharmacy in Bedford Square, providing an additional convenient option for parents to protect their children this flu season. Vaccinations in the pharmacy will commence from 1st October 2025.



Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> October '25 - Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> October '25

8.20am - 8.40am

3.15pm - 3.45pm

## HEADTEACHER AWARDS



### Congratulations to the following children:

*Early Years* Noah T, Carina P, Othman H, Noah S  
*Years 1 & 2* Tia J, Yannis K, Sarah B, Penelope A  
*Years 3 & 4* Jake L, Donya H, Sara Z  
*Years 5 & 6* Izzy T, Annabelle H, Rhoda A, Darin A



## OUR LEARNING THIS WEEK:



## AUTUMN TERM EVENTS:

Day	Date	Time	Year Group	Event	Location
Tuesday— Tuesday	9th October— 14th October	Before school/ after school	All	Book Fair	Conservatory
Thursday	9th October	2:00-3:00pm	1	Parent workshop—Making fruit kebabs	Hall
Thursday	9th October	4:00pm	6	Manshead Open Evening	Manshead C of E Academy
Friday	10th October		All	World Mental Health Day—Hello Yellow Day. This will be a non-uniform day and we invite children to wear a yellow item of clothing or accessory for a suggested donation of £1	
Monday	13th October	2:00-3:00pm	6	Parent workshop—Making Anderson shelters	
Wednesday	15th October	2:30-3:00pm	Reception	Parent Meeting—Phonics	Hall
Thursday	16th October	5:00-8:00pm	6	Houstone School Open Evening	Houstone School
Monday	20th October	2:00-3:00pm	5	Parent workshop—Ancient Maya	
Tuesday	21st October	2:00-3:00pm	3	Parent workshop—Art	Hall
Wednesday	22nd October	2:00-3:00pm	2	Parent workshop—The Great Fire of London	Hall
Monday— Friday	27th October— Friday 31st October		All	Half-Term	
Friday	31st October		Year 6	Deadline for submitting secondary school applications to the Local Authority	Online
Monday- Friday	3rd November- 7th November		6	Residential Trip	
Monday	3rd November		All	INSET DAY—school closed for all children	
Tuesday	4th November		All	Children return to school	
Monday	10th November	3:45-6:15pm	All	Parent Consultation Evening	Hall, Classrooms
Thursday	13th November	4:00-7:00pm	All	Parent Consultation Evening	Hall, Classrooms
Friday	14th November		All	Children in Need	
Tuesday	16th December	2:00-3:00pm	Year 2 & Choir	Christmas Carol Concert	All Saints Church
Wednesday	17th December		All	Christmas Dinner & Jumper Day—children are invited to wear a Christmas jumper with their school uniform	
Friday	19th December	2:00pm	All	Last day of term—school finishes at 2:00pm. There will be no after school club on this day	



## ***Meet 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**



**Early Years Leader**  
**Mrs R Baldwin**



**Key Stage 1 Leader/  
Lead Practitioner**  
**Miss M Davidson**



**Upper 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-Stavrinides 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)





# Savoury Rice

## Ingredients

1/4 onion  
1/4 tomato  
17g peas

1 mushroom  
50g long grain rice  
3ml curry powder

1/4 red pepper  
2ml vegetable stock  
550 ml boiling water

## Method

- Peel and chop the onion
- Slice the mushrooms
- Deseed and dice the red pepper
- Chop the tomato
- Fry the onion in oil until soft.
- Add the mushrooms and red pepper and cook for a further 2 minutes.
- Stir in the rice.
- Mix the stock powder with the water.
- Add the stock, peas and curry powder to the rice mixture.
- Simmer for 15 minutes, until the rice is tender.
- Serve the rice in a bowl and sprinkle the chopped tomato on top.