



# Houghton Regis Primary School

## Newsletter

Friday 3rd July 2026



Headteacher: Mrs R Parmar  
Chair of Governors: Mrs D Pargeter

Dear Parents, Carers & Children,

This week has been fun-packed and full of exciting experiences for children from transition to educational visits to parent meetings. We were also relieved to welcome the cooler weather although this will again be changing next week.

On Tuesday, our children in Reception had a fantastic time welcoming Hazel from Animal Experience for an exciting hands-on animal encounter! They met a wonderful variety of animals, including a chinchilla, meerkat, milk snake, royal python, crested gecko and a tenrec. Hazel shared fascinating facts about each animal, teaching the children about their habitats, diets, behaviours and how to care for them. The children were encouraged to ask questions, observe the animals up close, and, where appropriate, gently stroke them. It was a brilliant opportunity to build confidence, curiosity and respect for living creatures while creating lots of smiles and unforgettable memories. We hope the children enjoyed telling you all about their amazing animal adventure at home! Thank you to Mrs March for arranging this excellent experience.

The children in Year 1 enjoyed an exciting visit to Wardown Park Museum, taking part in an Old Toys Workshop and a museum Mouse Hunt. They explored toys from the past, compared them with modern toys, searched for hidden mice and developed their historical knowledge through fun, interactive learning. Well done to the children for showing excellent behaviour and representing our school well. Thank you to Miss Hayat for organising this trip and thank you to all staff who accompanied the children on this visit.

Well done to all the children who transitioned to their new classes. They had an exciting time meeting their new class teachers and peers and engaged in a range of activities that involved them getting to know each other. Our year 6 children also had the opportunity to visit their secondary schools and are very excited to begin the next stage of their educational journey.

Yesterday, we held a meeting for Reception children starting school in September. Please join me in welcoming our new and existing families and we look forward to supporting your child's school journey. If you were unable to make the meeting or require any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact the school on office@houghtonregisprimary.co.uk.

The weather is becoming warmer again next week and temperatures are predicted to increase. We will continue to ventilate the school to ensure all rooms are kept cool for children and staff. Please adhere to the following:

- Ensure your child brings a named water bottle to school every day
- Send your child in with a named sunhat that has a wide brim to avoid sunburn
- Apply sunblock or broad-band sunscreens with high sun protection factors (of at least SPF 30 and ultraviolet A (UVA) rating of 4 or more stars) to protect skin

The Royal Life Saving Society (RLSS UK) has created helpful, age-appropriate guidance on how to enjoy water safely this summer, including what to do in an emergency and how to reduce risks around open water. The resources can be accessed here: <https://www.rlss.org.uk/share-summer-water-safety>

A letter was sent home earlier this week around rearranged dates for sports days. Please see the Summer Term Events page for dates and times.

Next week will be the last week of our school led clubs. These will recommence in September and you will receive further information about clubs on offer nearer the time.

We look forward to our year 6 production next week - there are three performances taking place and parents and carers have been sent information on ClassDojo about how to reserve a space.

I wish you all a wonderful weekend.

*Mrs R Parmar*

Headteacher

Happiness - Independence - Excellence - Respect - Ambition

### 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

- Silver & Ruby—Monday
- Badger, Fox & Lemur—Thursday & Friday
- Cheetah & Puma—Monday & Friday
- Hyena & Wolf—Thursday & Friday
- Jaguar & Leopard—Tuesday & Wednesday
- Lion & Tiger—Monday & Thursday
- Indigo & Red—Monday & Wednesday

### 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.

### Housepoint Winners

- Brunel - 31 points
- Curie - 29 points
- Bell - 28 points
- Johnson - 24 points

# Headteacher Awards

Congratulations to the following children:

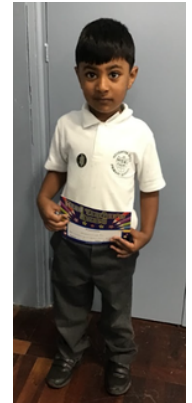
Ruby & Silver: Mitasha M & Muhammad A

Badger, Fox & Lemur: Oliver W-H, Murray B & Ruby-Rose R

Puma, Cheetah, Wolf & Hyena: Lola Ann S-S, Reuben S, Jude E & Chloe H

Jaguar, Leopard, Tiger & Lion: Amelia M, Theo K, Izzy T & Amira M-E

Indigo & Red: Xivaan G & Riley S



## 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)

## Staff Values Champion of the Week

Congratulations to Miss Davidson for... displaying the value of **Excellence** and **Ambition** when facing new challenges.



## Silver Awards - 200 Dojo Points



## Gold Awards - 300 Dojo Points



## Platinum Awards - 400 Dojo Points



## Special Award - 500 Dojo Points



## Ruby Award - 600 Dojo Points



# Our learning this week...



## Summer Term Events

Date	Time	Year Group	Event	Location
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> July	2:15-3:00pm	Nursery	Nursery Graduation Day	
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> July	6:00pm	Year 6	Production to parents and carers	Hall
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> July	2:00pm	Year 6	Production to parents and carers	Hall
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> July	9:30am	Year 6	Production to parents and carers	Hall
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> July	9:00am	Nursery (morning children)	Sports Day	Field
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> July	9:30am	Fox, Badger & Lemur Classes	Sports Day	Field
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> July	10:30am	Puma, Cheetah, Wolf & Hyena	Sports Day	Field
Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> July	9:15am	Jaguar, Leopard, Lion, Tiger, Red & Indigo	Sports Day	Field
Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> July	2:30pm	Nursery (all day and afternoon children)	Sports Day	
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> July		All	Break the Rules Day	
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> July		All	Themed school lunch - Fifa World Cup Picnic Day	
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> July	4:30-6:00pm	Year 6	Leavers' Event	
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> July	9:15am	Year 6	Leavers' Assembly	Hall
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> July		All	Last day of term—school finishes at 2:00pm. There will be no after school club on this day.	

# 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 Leader  
Lead Practitioner  
Miss M Davidson



Key Stage 1  
Leader  
Miss S Hayat



Key Stage 2  
Leader  
Miss E Naisby

# Parent Governor Vacancy

Are you interested in becoming involved in the strategic leadership of the school? Do you want to support the school's journey of improvement?

We have a vacancy for a parent governor and are looking for parents, grandparents or carers who want to work with school leaders enriching the Houghton Regis Primary School experience for our children.

The commitment is generally a couple of meetings a term and a couple of school visits – approximately six hours a term.

If you are interested and want to find out more, please email the Chair of Governors, Deborah Pargeter at [governingbody@houghtonregisprimary.co.uk](mailto:governingbody@houghtonregisprimary.co.uk)

for an informal discussion on what the role entails and how your skills and experience can support the governing body.

# 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.

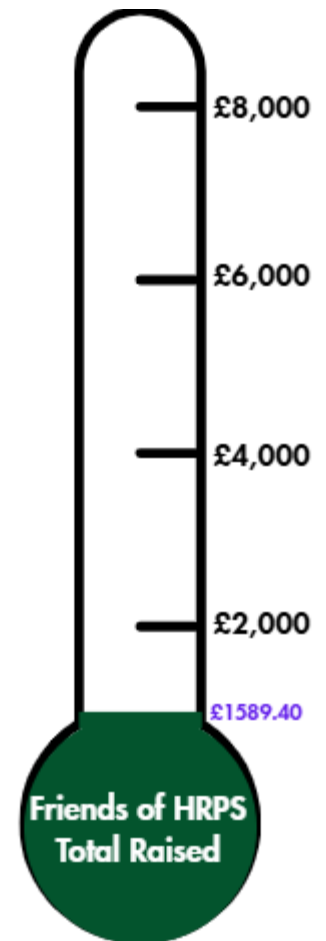
The organisations are also instrumental in providing additional opportunities for pupils by strengthening the overall school experience.

## 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.**





# BREAK THE RULES

## DAY... 15<sup>TH</sup> JULY

Join in with a day of fun by breaking some of our usual school rules!

The cheeky things that children are allowed to do (for one day only!) are listed below.

**The one rule we insist on is that children must pay £1 for every rule they break!**

**Cash donations to be given at classroom doors, please!**

**Wear your own clothes to school!**

Please ensure your outfit is suitable for school though!

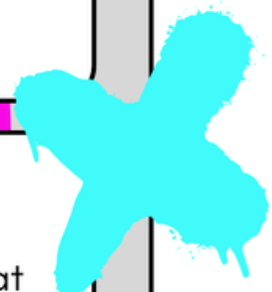
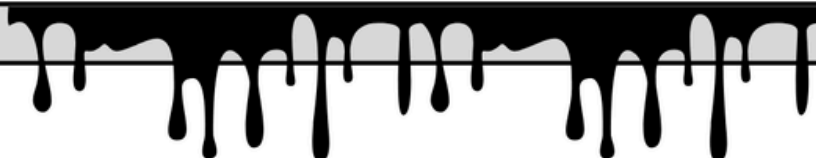
**Bring in sweets or crisps for a breaktime snack!**

**Wear jewellery, have crazy hair and painted nails!**

**Bring juice in your water bottle!**

**Only fun activities all day long!**

Children can bring in board games from home (this is at your own risk as we cannot guarantee no lost pieces!)





## WELCOME TO YOUR NEW SCHOOL!

You've joined a school that rocks...literally! Every week, children get to jam together in real bands with iRock School of Music. Whether they're on keys, drums, vocals or guitar, they'll learn their favourite songs and even perform live for their grown-ups to cheer them on.

But, iRock is more than music – it's about confidence, friendship and imagination. **Our youngest iRockers in Reception start their musical journey through play, rhythm and teamwork, building foundational skills whilst having fun!**

👏 *It's great to see our child having the confidence to go on stage and sing. Such a proud moment and he was so chuffed with himself!* 🎉  
– Proud Parent of Reception iRocker, 2025



## All About iRock

- **Band-based lessons for Reception to Year 6**
- Real instruments and music pupils love
- **Taught by expert Band Coaches in small groups**
- Bands grouped by age
- **Regular concerts and rewards**
- Exam-free Group Performance qualification awarded by RSL
- **Journey through the engaging iRock curriculum**
- Simple monthly subscription service
- **Log in to the iRock Parent Portal to view your child's progress.**

# “ 4- to 5-year-olds in a rock band... how does that work? ”

At this early stage, your child is developing language, coordination and emotional awareness – all the things iRock supports naturally through music.

**Being in a band is about so much more than just learning notes** - the benefits of iRock help develop so many vital skills during early childhood.

## Social

Children learn to take turns, share ideas, and play as a team. Listening is essential, and bandmates build empathy, situational awareness and reasoning whilst working towards a shared goal.



## Language

Children follow musical cues, learn new words, and grow confidence in speaking and listening. iRock builds strong language and listening foundations through music-led communication.



## Motor Skills

Strumming, tapping, and pressing keys develop fine motor control. iRock strengthens hand coordination and muscle memory through clapping and instrument use each week.



## Emotional

Playing music helps children release energy and feel proud of what they achieve. iRock builds a sense of belonging, responsibility, and joy—key emotional tools as they enter structured school life.



## Cognitive

Reception pupils build focus by keeping rhythm and solving musical challenges through play. iRock boosts attention spans and early reasoning in a fun, structured way that supports classroom learning.

# Are your children eligible for benefits-based free school meals?


All children in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2 are entitled to free school meals referred to as 'Universal Infant Free School Meals' (UIFSM).

But any child in Reception through to Year 11 that meets the Government criteria listed below is entitled to benefits based free school meals. By claiming this, there are also other benefits available to the child and family such as access to the Holiday Activities and Food programme, providing free activities during the Easter, Summer and Christmas school holidays.

Do you receive one of the following benefits?

- Universal Credit (provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400, as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods)
- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- \* Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- support under Part IV of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the Guarantee element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you are not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and you have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on (paid for four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)

If so, your children may be entitled to benefits based free school meals. Turn over to find out how to apply.

Find us online  [www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/free-school-meals](http://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/free-school-meals)

# How to apply for free school meals




If you think you meet the free school meals eligibility criteria, please call us 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
- your NASS number, if you receive support from the National Asylum Support Service

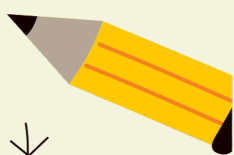
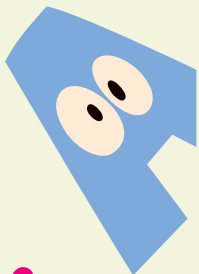
If your child is aged 16-18 and attends a further education or sixth form college, please contact the college for information about free school meals. If your child attends a school sixth form, please contact us to apply.

As soon as we have confirmed that you qualify, we will tell your child's school that their free school meals can start from the date you apply.

Need some more advice or support? Head to your local Children's Centre for help.

Find your local centre by visiting  [bit.ly/familyinfodirectory](https://bit.ly/familyinfodirectory)

Find us online  [www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/free-school-meals](http://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/free-school-meals)



# DEVINE

## FOOTBALL COACHING

DEVELOPMENT CENTRE

FOR BOYS & GIRLS



## MONDAY NIGHTS

DEVELOPING PLAYERS.  
BUILDING FUTURES.

### TIME

5-6PM | U5-U7

6-7PM | U8-U10

7-8PM | U11-U13



DEVELOP  
TECHNICALLY



BUILD CONFIDENCE  
IN A POSITIVE,  
FUN ENVIRONMENT



LINKS TO  
GRASS ROOTS  
TEAMS



LOCATION | CREASEY PARK, DUNSTABLE



07860 164156



sd3vine2729@outlook.com

# NEW SCHOOL STARTERS

Meet your new classmates  
and their families!

Is your child starting Primary School in September?  
You and your little ones are invited to come along and  
make friends with their new classmates and their  
parents at Snakes and Ladders!

## Dates

All sessions run 9.30am - 11.30am

Week 1	School	Promocode
10/08	Beecroft Academy	15911NH2T1
11/08	Lark Rise Academy	16011GMUCX
12/08	Hadrian Academy	161118NBHU
13/08	Watling Lower School	162119RGJ1
14/08	Dunstable Icknield Lower School	16311QPZGA
<b>Week 2</b>		
17/08	Houghton Regis Primary School	164115PS2Y
18/08	Lancot School	16511SH9QM
19/08	Thornhill Primary School	166116C5Z7
20/08	Tithe Farm County Primary School	16711BVYN2
21/08	Aston St. Peter's CofE Primary School	16811ZW MJ2

You'll need to show a letter from the school  
confirming your child is attending from September,  
on entry. Additional adults and siblings are also  
welcome to join in at our normal admission charge.

  
**Snakes & Ladders**

**1 FREE**  
Adult and  
Child Entry