

Where everyone matters and every day counts



Houghton Regis Primary School Newsletter
Friday 31st February 2025

Acting Headteacher: Mrs R Parmar
Chair of Governors: Mr T Muldownie
Headteacher: Mr J Edwards

Dear Parents, Carers and Children,

It has been another busy week with lots of exciting learning happening across the school and extra-curricular activities taking place.

Our boys' football team played a tough quarter-final match on Tuesday against The Vale. They played particularly well and held their own throughout a really close match. Ultimately, the final result came down to the team taking their chances and unfortunately we lost the game right at the end with a result of 4-2. We are extremely proud of the performance of the boys, with David chosen as the Player of the Match. Well done to you all!

On Wednesday, some year 4 children went to Chantry Primary and carried out a range of maths activities. Liz Gibbs, a leading maths specialist, was particularly impressed with the children's enthusiasm and determination to quickly solve calculations mentally and overcome challenges. The children carried out a range of activities using dominoes, counters and Numicon and completed magic number squares. Their favourite challenge was learning that when you choose three consecutive numbers, you can multiply the middle number by three and get the same answer as when you add all three numbers!



It was lovely to welcome our families to our year 6 sharing assembly this week. It was very informative and the children certainly taught us many facts about Ancient Egypt! Thank you to the children and staff in year 6 for all your hard work and making this assembly a success.

Next week, we will be celebrating Children's Mental Health Week. Miss Bhadresa will lead an assembly at the beginning of the week and there are several activities planned throughout the week. On Friday 7th February, children and staff have the option to come to school in non-uniform with the theme of 'Know Yourself, Grow Yourself'. We ask for a voluntary donation of £1, which will go to-wards our chosen children's charity Place2Be. For more information about this national event, please visit: <https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/>

We have lots of events taking place **next week**:

- year 6 children will be sitting their mock SATs
- a phonics workshop is being held on Tuesday 4th February at 3:45pm for invited parents in years 1 and 2
- years 2, 4, 6 and Reception children will be engaging in various activities as part of their themed wow days
- Elizabeth's class assembly: Tuesday 4th February at 2:45pm
- Sapphire's class assembly: Thursday 6th February at 2:45pm.

Our cultural week is taking place during the week of Monday 10th February. Staff have been busy planning activities to make this fun and engaging for all the children. I hope you have had the opportunity to sign up for open afternoons that are being held during the week. Please speak to your child's class teacher about this. On Monday 10th February, children can come to school dressed in traditional clothing or colours of the countries researched in class. If parents are interested in visiting classes to share information about their culture, please speak to your child's class teacher or email them via the class email so this can be arranged.

Miss Naisby and I will be holding a Key Stage 2 SATs meeting for parents in year 6. During this meeting, we will share information about the upcoming statutory SATs tests (taking place from Monday 12th May to Thursday 15th May). You will also have the opportunity to ask us any questions. The two sessions will be held on Tuesday 4th March. The morning session will start at 8:15am and the evening session will start at 4:45pm. You only need to attend one of these sessions.

You may have seen the signs on St Michaels Avenue stating that works are taking place next week. CBC Highways have notified us that the works being carried out do not involve a road closure. The planned works are for the footway to be resurfaced which will involve the footway being closed section by section. Cars can still be parked on the roads but not over the footpath.

Please join me in welcoming two new staff members—our new Office Administrator, Mrs Carter-Hills and our Family Support Worker, Mrs Ali. They will be starting with us on Monday 24th February. We look forward to them joining our wonderful team.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend. I look forward to seeing you next week.

Mrs R Parmar

VALUE OF THE MONTH
FOR JANUARY:

Determination

the ability to continue trying to do something, even if it is difficult.



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.

Children's Mental Health
Week

3/2/25-7/2/25

Know Yourself, Grow Yourself

Children can come to school in non-uniform on 7/2/25. for a contribution of £1. All contributions will be donated to our chosen children's charity Place2Be.

School Dinners

The cost of school dinners is £2.20 for Nursery and £2.40 for Reception-Year 6 children. This can be paid via SchoolGrid.

Studybugs QR Code



Attendance Winners

EYFS/KS1: Green with 98%

KS2: William with 99.1%

Whole School Attendance: 93.9%

Housepoint Winners

EYFS/KS1:
Buckingham—78 points
KS2:
Balmoral—57 points

Overall Winning House:
Balmoral—125

EARLY YEARS

Nursery

This week in our P.E session across nursery, we focused on acting out the nursery rhyme that we have been concentrating on for the last two weeks— "Humpty Dumpty". This supports fundamental movement skills by teaching the children how to gradually gain control of their whole body through continual practice of large movements. All of the children thoroughly enjoyed this interactive P.E session led by Mrs White.



Reception

This week, we have read 'Jack and the Beanstalk'. The children have enjoyed acting out the story, especially playing the role of the giant. There have been some changes to the layout of Gold class, which has given us much more space! In our construction areas, the children enjoyed building a Roman temple during exploring time. In maths, we have been learning about number bonds to 10.



KEY STAGE 1

Year 1

This week, the children have been really excited to make their very own moon buggy! They had a go at discussing and designing their ideas, then followed their design to build the buggy. The children used a range of junk and collage materials to construct it. This was followed by learning how to create an axle to create moving parts.



Year 2

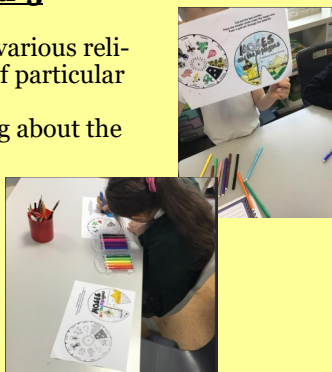
This week, we have been busy learning all about division in maths. We started by using cubes and counters to share and group before moving on to using the more abstract method of writing calculations using the division symbol. In English, we looked at the features of diamante poems (such as nouns, adjectives and verbs) and used this to plan and write our own poems- they were fantastic!



LOWER KEY STAGE 2

Year 3

In RE, we have been looking at various religions and the deeper meaning of particular celebrations or traditions. This week we have been learning about the Jewish celebration of Passover. The children now understand the story of Exodus and its significance to the Jewish religion.



Year 4

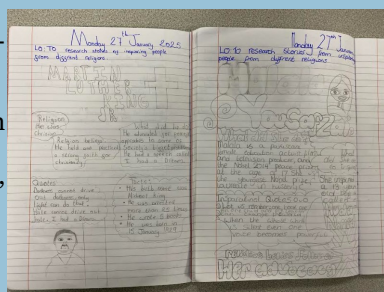
Year 4 children have been growing their knowledge of their Times Tables using TT Rockstars. Many of the children are becoming Rock-Legends and Rock Stars and turning their heat maps green. Well done for answering questions in under 3 seconds per question — keep up the great work!



UPPER KEY STAGE 2

Year 5

This week in R.E, we have been learning about inspirational religious figures. The children had the opportunity to choose from a selection of inspirational leaders (changemakers) to research, exploring how they influenced society while staying true to their faith. They enjoyed creating their own inspirational posters, filled with fascinating facts about their chosen leader's life and the positive impact they had on communities and society.



Year 6

We have been preparing for our class assembly, all about Ancient Egypt! This means that we have created our own Egyptian Artefacts: writing our names in Hieroglyphs, drawing our own images of pyramids and pharaohs, and practising a catchy song with some historical facts! In English, we have been looking at the features of a newspaper article, and in science we are looking at Natural Selection as part of our 'Evolution and Inheritance' topic.



STAR AWARDS

| | | | |
|---|---|--|---|
|  |  |  |  |
| Danny DETERMINATION says, "DON'T GIVE UP." | Colin CURIOSITY says, "THINK FOR YOUR-SELF." | Chloe COMMUNICATION says, "RESPECT OTHERS." | Izzy INDEPENDENCE says, "DO YOUR BEST." |
| Myra A | Yasir A | Jessica B | Noah T |
| Hetty C | Arran G | Joshua P | Marcus D |
| Oliver S | | Ella-Grace P | Nehemiah K |
| Jaxon-James G | | Francesca K | Sophia W |
| Marlowe K | | Arian F | Klara K |
| Rosalie F | | | Tattva S |
| Amelia M | | | Antonia M |
| Teymullah A | | | Elizabeth W |
| Annabelle L | | | Jason E |
| Sonny G | | | Yasmin L |
| | | | Evie S |
| | | | Ivy B |
| | | | |
| | | | |

Contact Information

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office@houghtonregisprimary.co.uk

Nursery:

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silver@houghtonregisprimary.co.uk

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SENDCo:

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Lower Key Stage 2 and Upper Key Stage 2:

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elizabeth@houghtonregisprimary.co.uk

william@houghtonregisprimary.co.uk

charles@houghtonregisprimary.co.uk

Upcoming Events:

| Day | Date | Time | Year Group | Event |
|-----------------|----------------|--------------|---------------------------------|--|
| Monday-Thursday | 3-6 February | | Year 6 | Mock SATs week |
| Monday-Friday | 3-7 February | | All children | Children's Mental Health Week 'Know Yourself. Grow Yourself'. Non-uniform day on Friday. |
| Tuesday | 4 February | 2:45-3:10pm | Year 5 - Elizabeth Class | Class Assembly - parents invited |
| Tuesday | 4 February | 3:45-4:15pm | Year 1 & invited Year 2 parents | Phonics Screening Check workshop for parents |
| Thursday | 6 February | All day | Year 2 | Wow day |
| Thursday | 6 February | All day | Year 4 | DT Wow day |
| Thursday | 6 February | 2:45-3:10pm | Year 5 - Sapphire Class | Class Assembly - parents invited |
| Thursday | 6 February | | Reception | Once Upon a Time Wow Day |
| Friday | 7 February | All day | All children | 'Dress to Express' day |
| Friday | 7 February | | Year 6 | Ancient Egyptians Wow Day |
| Monday- Friday | 10-14 February | | All children | Cultural Week. On Monday, children can come to school dressed in traditional clothing or colours of the countries researched in class. |
| Tuesday | 11 February | 2:45-3:10pm | Year 4 - Amber Class | Class Assembly - parents invited |
| Thursday | 13 February | 2:45-3:10pm | Year 4 - Emerald Class | Class Assembly - parents invited |
| Monday-Friday | 17-21 February | | All children | Half-Term |
| Monday | 24 February | | All children | Return to school |
| Thursday | 27 February | 2:45-3:10pm | Year 3 - Yellow Class | Class Assembly - parents invited |
| Monday | 3 March | | Year 6 | National Offer Day - Secondary School |
| Tuesday | 4 March | 8:15-8:45am | Year 6 | Key Stage 2 SATs Information Meeting for parents |
| Tuesday | 4 March | 2:45-3:10pm | Year 3 - Blue Class | Class Assembly - parents invited |
| Tuesday | 4 March | 4:45-5:15pm | Year 6 | Key Stage 2 SATs Information Meeting for parents |
| Thursday | 6 March | 2:45-3:10pm | Year 2 - Purple Class | Class Assembly - parents invited |
| Thursday | 6 March | | All children | World Book Day |
| Tuesday | 11 March | 2:45-3:10pm | Year 2 - Charlotte Class | Class Assembly - parents invited |
| Thursday | 13 March | 2:45-3:10pm | Year 1 -Orange Class | Class Assembly - parents invited |
| Friday | 14 March | | Year 1 | Trip to the library |
| Tuesday | 18 March | 2:45-3:10pm | Year 1 - Green Class | Class Assembly - parents invited |
| Thursday | 20 March | 2:45-3:10pm | Reception - Platinum Class | Class Assembly - parents invited |
| Tuesday | 25 March | 2:45-3:10pm | Reception - Gold Class | Class Assembly - parents invited |
| Monday | 31 March | 3:45-6:15pm | All children | Parent Consultation Evening |
| Tuesday | 1 April | 9:30-10:00am | Years 3 & 4 | Easter Performance - parents invited |
| Wednesday | 2 April | 2:45-3:15pm | Years 3 & 4 | Easter Performance - parents invited |
| Thursday | 3 April | 4:00-7:00pm | All children | Parent Consultation Evening |
| Friday | 4 April | | All children | Last day of term – school finishes at 2:00pm. There will be no clubs or after school clubs on this day. |



SNAP PARENT CARER FORUM
CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE

**Supporting
Your Neurodiverse
Child/Young Person**



SUPPORTING YOUR NEURODIVERSE CHILD/YOUNG PERSON DIGITAL BOOKLET

FREE

SCAN ME



DOWNLOAD NOW



When you first realise that your child experiences the world in a different way, it can feel overwhelming. But once you begin to understand their way of thinking it can be rewarding and you can learn so much from your child/young person. This free digital booklet will support you on this journey.

Download your free digital booklet now by scanning the QR code or by visiting <https://www.snappcf.org.uk/supporting-your-neurodiverse-child/>

POSITIVELY
INFLUENCING
CHANGE



SNAP PARENT CARER FORUM
CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE

BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL

Delivered by
trained experts
with lived
experiences

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



Upcoming...

- Tips and Tools to Manage School Avoidance 13/02/25
- Mediation Training 25/03/25
- Sensory Training 01/04/25
- Parent Carer Toolkit 11/06/25

www.snappcf.org.uk

We are excited to
announce our...
online training:



Understanding Challenging Behaviours

Thursday

06/02/25

12:00 pm - 1:30pm



*Book
Now!*

BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL...

**DATE Thursday 6th of
February 2025 12:00 pm -
1:30 pm** Please book your
place by emailing the
course title, 'Challenging
Behaviours' and your
name to:

admin@snappcf.org.uk

POSITIVELY
INFLUENCING
CHANGE



SNAP PARENT CARER FORUM
CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE

BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL

Delivered by
trained experts
with lived
experiences

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

- understand why some neurodivergent children/young people struggle to attend school
- highlight resources to identify what your child/young person is struggling with specifically
- suggest ways of working with school to put reasonable adjustments in place
- helping return to school after a period of absence
- know where to get more help

 Upcoming...

- Mediation Training 25/03/25
- Sensory Training 01/04/25
- Parent Carer Toolkit 11/06/25

www.snapppcf.org.uk

We are excited to
announce our...
online training:



Tips and Tools to Manage School Avoidance

Thursday

13/02/25

12:00 pm - 1:30pm



*Book
Now!*

BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL...

DATE

**Thursday 13th of February
2025**

12:00 pm - 1:30 pm

Please book your place by
emailing the course title,
'School Avoidance' and your
name to:

admin@snapppcf.org.uk



February 2025

Newsletter

Thursday
20th Feb
19:00 - 20:00
FREE



FREE SESSION

Supporting Healthy Screen Use

A range of steps that can help minimise the harms from screens

Monday
3rd Feb
10:00 - 11:30
£24



Supporting a Child with ADHD

Challenging the stereotypes and giving practical interventions. Clear explanation of the condition in all its forms and extremely useful advice.

Tuesday
11th Feb
19:00 - 20:30
£24



Facing Defiance

Specific strategy to help parents manage defiant and challenging behaviour, especially aimed at ADHD, ODD and PDA conditions, 5 to 12 years old.

Tuesday
18th Feb
19:00 - 20:30
£24



Cannabis & Ketamine Awareness

Get the facts and know the harms about these two drugs so you can hold an informed conversation with your teens.

Tuesday
25th Feb
19:00 - 20:30
£24



Understanding the Teenage Brain

A 'must see' for all parents and teachers of teens and pre-teens. Explains why teens think, feel and behave very differently from adults and how we can support them.

facefamilyadvice.co.uk

info@facefamilyadvice.co.uk

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Understanding Anger | 10 FEB 7pm |
| Supporting Healthy Screen Use | 11 FEB 10am |
| Facing Defiance | 14 FEB 7pm |
| Raising Self-Esteem | 27 JAN 7pm 25 FEB 10am |
| Supporting Healthy Sleep | 28 JAN 7pm 24 FEB 10am |
| Supporting a Child with ADHD | 3 FEB 10am 3 MAR 7pm |
| Improving Family Communication | 3 FEB 7pm 4 MAR 10am |
| AUTISM: Improving Communication | 4 FEB 10am 4 MAR 7pm |
| Understanding Addictive Behaviour | 4 FEB 7pm 3 MAR 10am |
| Anxiety-Based School Avoidance | 10 FEB 10am 10 MAR 7pm |
| What is ACT? | 17 FEB 10am 17 MAR 7pm |
| Introduction to OCD | 17 FEB 7pm 18 MAR 10am |
| Anxiety Explained | 18 FEB 10am 18 MAR 7pm |
| Cannabis & Ketamine Awareness | 18 FEB 7pm 17 MAR 10am |
| Decreasing Depression | 24 FEB 7pm 25 MAR 10am |
| Understanding the Teenage Brain | 25 FEB 7pm 24 MAR 10am |