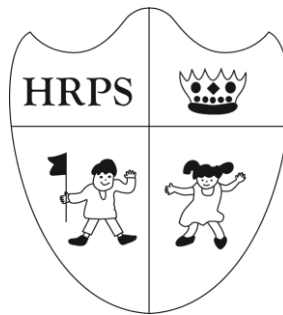


Houghton Regis

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Primary School

St Michaels Avenue
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NEWSLETTER

4 November 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

As the weather gets colder can parents please ensure that all children have a warm coat with them at school. Winter school uniform should now be worn by all pupils. Please note that this includes green or grey tights with skirts. 'Layering' such as leggings and socks under skirts is not appropriate for school and is not part of the school uniform. PE kits should now include black jogging suit bottoms and tops. This is important for outdoor PE so pupils stay sufficiently warm. Children who wear tights should have socks and leggings/jogging suit bottoms in their PE bag to change into for PE.

We have had a number of trips this week. Year 6 have been on their residential visit at the lovely Woodrow High House, we will find out more about their time there in next week's newsletter. Yellow Class have also been to Celtic Harmony Camp this week. Please see the write up below.

Yellow Class Celtic Harmony Trip – Stone Age to Iron Age

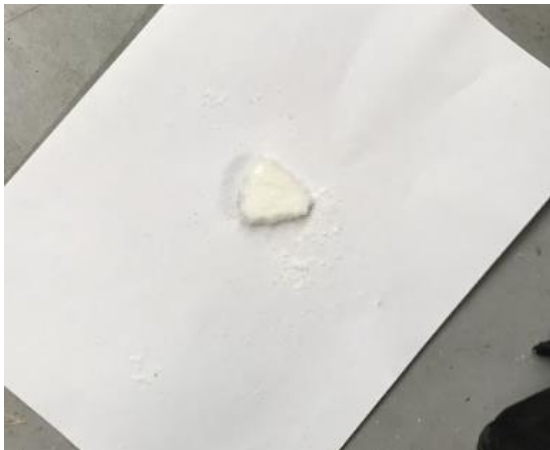
Year 3 had a fantastic trip to the Celtic Harmony Camp on Monday. To complete our Stone Age to Iron Age topic, the children travelled back in time to the Stone Age. When the children arrived at the camp, they were met by two people from the Iron Age who took the children around the camp and showed them what it was like to live in the Stone Age, Bronze Age and Iron Age. The children started the day by placing key events on a timeline. They used a piece of flint, bronze, iron and a child from the class to place key events on the timeline. This visual representation helped the children understand how long ago the Stone Age was.



Then, the children learnt how to make a fence by weaving wattle. The children were brilliant at this task and really understood what weaving meant and how to do it. Next, the children learnt about the Beaker folk (Bronze Age people) who around 4, 500 years ago, brought with them new customs, burial practices, and beautiful, unique bell-shaped pottery to Britain. The children made their own beakers using clay and were able to design their pottery using similar markings as the beakers from the Bronze Age.



After lunch, the children learnt about flint knapping and how the Stone Age people used this technique to make lots of different tools. Using small bits of soap, the children carved out a triangle and used a lollipop stick to carve the arrow head/spear head. The children really enjoyed this activity and were able to take their tools home with them.



To finish the day, the children learnt how to make flour. One group focused on grinding the flour and using a sieve to get the powder from the grains. The other group explored how bread was made using the flour. They thoroughly enjoyed this activity even though they were left with very sticky hands.



What to do should you be concerned that your child is struggling academically?

If you are concerned that your child may be falling behind their peers at school please initially make an appointment to see your child's class teacher. This can be done either by speaking to the school office or by contacting the teacher concerned using the class email address. Each class has an address. This is the colour of the class followed by @houghtonregisprimary.co.uk. For example, purple@houghtonregisprimary.co.uk. All classes have one of these addresses with the following exceptions, Elizabeth and Red Classes share red@, Platinum Jubilee Nursery and Platinum Reception Classes share platinum@.

If parents are still concerned then please ask the office to make an appointment to see our SENDCo, Ms Dawn Alexis to discuss specific issues and concerns. If your concern is more around your child's behaviour an interaction at home then we also have a family support worker, Mrs Lynsey Fennell.

Yours sincerely

J Edwards

Mr J Edwards
Headteacher



***This week's
Attendance Awards***

R/KS1 – Platinum – 98.75%

KS2 – Elizabeth – 100%



PTA AGM

**Wednesday 9 November, 6pm-7pm
Amber Classroom**

At present we do not have a full committee. We are working on getting more interest drummed up amongst parents.

Fundamentally, should we not be able to fulfil the committee roles, we run the risk of the PTA having to fold. We really want to avoid this outcome and would be grateful if as many staff and parents as possible can attend next week. Mr Edwards will be attending and working with the PTA to raise money for the school. This is of particular importance during this period of national austerity.



UPCOMING EVENTS

| Event | Year groups involved | Date |
|--|---------------------------|--|
| KS1 Nativity | Years 1 & 2 | Tuesday, 6 December 2022 - 1:45 – 3.00 pm |
| KS1 Nativity | Years 1 & 2 | Wednesday, 7 December 2022 - 9:15 – 10:15 am |
| Reception Nativity | R | Wednesday, 7 December 2022 – 2:00 – 3:00 pm |
| Reception Nativity | R | Thursday, 8 December 2022 – 10:00 – 11:00 am |
| Christmas Piano and Choir Concert If your child learns piano at school or is in Mrs Henshall's choir and you would like to attend please contact the school office to reserve a place in the audience. | Choir and Piano Pupils | Tuesday, 6 December 2022 - 1:45 – 3.00 pm |
| PTA EVENTS | | |
| PTA AGM | All | Wednesday, 9 November 2022 – 6.00 – 7.00 pm |
| PTA Coffee and Cake event in the Woodland Classroom Please contact the school office if you would like to attend. | All but led by Blue Class | Thursday, 24 November 2022 – 1:30 pm |



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CAR PARKING ISSUES

A reminder for parents that the school car park is for staff use only. Please do not drive in to drop your children off. Also, please be considerate of our neighbours when dropping your children at school. Please do not park on the adjacent give way, in front of drives or across the school gates.

Thank you



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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." |
| Penelope LA (Silver) | Willow DS (Green) | Mia B (Gold) | Ella B (Yellow) |
| Paul (Platinum Jubilee) | | Dylan S (Chloe) | Zakariya (Platinum) |
| Leo H (Platinum) | | | Alfie S (Orange) |
| Alanna M (Orange) | | | Izzy T (Purple) |
| Connor DW (Purple) | | | Frankie (Red) |
| Maya A (Yellow) | | | |
| Fleano M (Blue) | | | |
| Chloe O (Emerald) | | | |
| Mia (Indigo) | | | |
| Ollie F (Amber) | | | |
| Jayden W (Elizabeth) | | | |

