



Houghton Regis Primary School

'Where Everyone Matters and Every Day Counts'

Headteacher: Mrs R Parmar

Assistant Headteachers: Ms D Faure-Alexis & Mr D de Gouviea-Smith



Dear Parents and Carers,

As we begin our first half term of Year 4, we would like to share with you the key topics and themes that your children will be exploring over the coming weeks.

In **Mathematics**, we will begin with a unit on place value, focusing on representing numbers up to 10,000. Next, we will explore addition and subtraction of four-digit numbers. After that, we will move on to learning about area. We will also have weekly arithmetic lessons to further develop our number fluency.

In **English** we will be reading a range of non-fiction Anglo-Saxon books. During the first four weeks we will be developing our writing skills by covering a 'Place Value of Punctuation and Grammar' unit to help us embed Year 4 grammar, punctuation and spelling within our writing. We will then move onto writing a non-chronological report linked to our Anglo-Saxon and Viking topic. We will also be completing weekly guided reading tasks. The children will be taking home reading books, please can they read at home at least 3 times per week and have an adult sign their orange reading record.

During **Science** our topic will be *Grouping and Classifying Living Things*. This will include grouping animals and plants, vertebrates, invertebrates and using classification keys for Animals and Plants. We will work scientifically: Gathering, recording, classifying and presenting data in a variety of ways to help in answering questions. This topic follows on from Science in Year 2 where the children studied Animals (including Humans) and identified the needs for survival, life cycles and offspring.

In our **Religious Education** lessons, we will learn about Christianity. We will be discussing what the Holy Trinity is and why it is important to Christians.

In **PSHE**, we will follow the Jigsaw programme, focusing on the theme of 'Being Me in my World.'

As designers in our **Design Technology** sessions, we will design, make and evaluate Anglo Saxon or Viking shields. We will be discussing the features of shields from this era and the materials they would have been made from. The children will then use appropriate materials and techniques to create their shield and then evaluate their final design, identifying improvements they could make.

During **Computing**, we will be learning how computer systems and networks work when using the Internet. We will discuss the importance of keeping networks secure whilst using the internet and evaluate online content to decide how honest, accurate or reliable it is and understanding the impact of false information.

In **Spanish**, we will be focusing on '*Family members and Numbers*'. We will learn how to say key words and phrases in Spanish focusing on introducing ourselves and describing family members.

During our **History** lessons, our focus will be the Anglo Saxons and Vikings. We will be learning about how the Vikings invaded, Anglo Saxon kings, everyday Viking and Anglo Saxon life and different types of law and the justice system. We will also create a timeline of events and understand when the Anglo Saxons and Vikings settled in Britain.

PE – '*Outdoor Adventure Activities, Challenging Collaboration.*' The focus of the learning is to look at what makes an effective team with the focus on collaboration. They will learn how to work as a team to beat an opponent using effective collaboration skills. Indoors will be Dance with a Space theme the focus will be how to respond to stimuli with a partner, developing sequences, choreography and performing.

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Year 4 will have **PE** on a Monday and Fridays (Blue Class) and Monday and Thursday (Yellow class). Children are to come to school wearing their PE kits on these days. One session will be outdoors one session will be indoors.

House Names - here is a reminder of our new house names and colours:

Curie

Bell

Brunel

Johnson

Homework:

English/Maths: The children have a CGP targeted English and Maths work book set on a Friday and due the following Wednesday. *The children will soon be bringing home their homework books.*

Spellings: Spellings will be given out on a Thursday to be learnt and then tested the following Thursday. The children will bring their spellings home in a yellow spelling book, where you will be able to see their spelling score and any highlighted spellings they may need to work on.

Reading: Please ensure children are reading at least 3 times a week at home and their reading records kept up to date. Reading records will be checked every Friday.

Key Dates for Year 4 – Autumn 1

Tuesday 2 nd September 2025	Children return to school
Monday 15 th September 2025	Clubs to start this week
Wednesday 1 st October 2025	Coffee afternoon led by Zoe Francois (Mental Health Support Team) 3pm-4pm (Hall)
Monday – Wednesday 8th October - 15th October 2025	Book Fair- before and after school in the conservatory
Monday 27th October— Friday 31st October 2025	Half-Term
Monday 3 rd November 2025	INSET DAY—school closed for all children

Thank you for your continued support. Should you have any questions or would like further information, please do not hesitate to ask us at the classroom door or via our Class Dojo.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Boland, Miss Vikneswaran and Mrs White

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