

Houghton Regis Primary School

'Growing minds, shaping futures and inspiring lifelong learning'



Headteacher: Mrs R Parmar

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

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we begin the New Year, we would like to share with you the key topics and themes that your children will be exploring over the coming weeks.

In **Mathematics**, children will spend the first two weeks focusing on multiplication and division. They will begin by exploring factors and developing an understanding of how numbers are related. They will also practise multiplying and dividing by 10 and 100, helping them recognise number patterns and place value changes. Children will build on this knowledge by learning how to multiply and divide two- and three-digit numbers by one-digit numbers using a range of strategies. Throughout the unit, they will be encouraged to apply their learning to a variety of problem-solving and reasoning activities to deepen their understanding. Children will move on to learning about length and perimeter. They will learn how to find the perimeter using grids, as well as calculate the perimeter of rectangles and rectilinear shapes. Their understanding will be further developed by finding missing lengths. Children will also explore the perimeter of a range of polygons, applying their knowledge to different shapes and problem-solving activities.

In **English** we will be reading the texts *Coming to England* by Floella Benjamin and *Step into My Shoes* by Alkisti Halikia. The children will be planning and writing a memoir, focusing on a significant memory or a memory that means a lot to the writer. They will be writing from a first-person perspective, written from the author's point of view using "I" to share personal experiences. They will include inner thoughts and feelings to make it personal. They will plan correctly formed sentence structures using the following features - prepositions, conjunctions, adverbs and fronted adverbials with commas. They will also discuss and use the correct punctuation in their writing, speech punctuation and the use of pronouns to avoid repetition.

In **Science** this term the children will explore the topic of Sound. The children will learn how sounds are made, how it reaches their ears and explore the ear in detail. They will also discover how the intensity of sound is measured recording it using decibel meters and data loggers. They will learn how the strength of vibrations affects the volume of sound and what the term "pitch" means. They will work scientifically carrying out experiments and fair tests.

In our **Religious Education** lessons, children will be learning about Sikhism. They will explore who Sikhs are and where Sikhism originated, gaining an understanding of the key beliefs and values of the religion. Children will learn about important places of worship and special festivals, considering why these are significant to Sikhs. They will also study the holy book of Sikhism, the Guru Granth Sahib, and learn about important symbols and what they represent. Through discussion and activities, children will develop a deeper understanding of Sikh beliefs and practices.

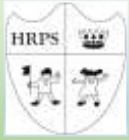
In **PSHE**, using our Jigsaw scheme the children will talk about their hopes and dreams. They will discuss how it feels when dreams don't come true and how to cope with/overcome feelings of disappointment. The children will talk about making new plans and setting new goals even if they have been disappointed. The class will talk about group work and overcoming challenges together. They will have the opportunity to reflect on their successes and the feelings associated with overcoming a challenge.

St Michaels Avenue, Houghton Regis, Bedfordshire, LU5 5DH

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In our **Art and design** lessons, we will be immersed in the fascinating art and culture of India. Children will have the chance to explore and recreate Indian paintings, create intricate Indian patterns and use these to make beautiful mehndi designs, use block printing to make patterned fabric and much more!

During **Computing**, the children will develop their understanding of how digital images can be changed and edited, and how they can then be resaved and reused. We will consider the impact that editing images can have, and evaluate the effectiveness of our choices.

In **Spanish**, we will be focusing on 'Where I Live'. We will learn how to say key words and phrases in Spanish focusing on how to describe the area they live in.

During our **History lessons**, we will be looking at how the British monarchy has changed since 1066. This will involve us studying in depth William the Conqueror's reign from 1066 onwards, how King John made himself very unpopular as a monarch and why King Henry VIII married so many times. We will also learn who Queen Anne was, what Queen Victoria achieved during her reign and look at the role of the British monarchy today.

PE – This term the children will explore the game of Quidditch popularised in the Harry Potter Books. It is designed to mirror the book version of the game as much as possible (without the broomsticks). The object of the game of Quidditch is to score more points than your opponents. Players do this by scoring goals which is done by placing a slightly deflated volleyball called the Quaffle into the opposition's baskets and by capturing the Golden Snitch. Indoor PE will be based around Gymnastics exploring Levels and Direction.

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.

Homework:

English/Maths: The children will be given their homework books after the Christmas break.

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 – Spring 1

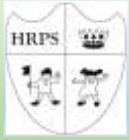
Monday 5 th January 2026	INSET DAY—school closed for all children
Tuesday 6 th January 2026	Children return to school
Tuesday 13 th January 2026	PINS Coffee morning
Thursday 5 th February 2026	Blue Class Assembly
Wednesday 11 th February 2026	Year 4 Class Trip – The Natural History Museum London

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Tuesday 12 th February 2026	Yellow Class Assembly
Monday 16 th – Friday 20 th February 2026	Half-term Break
Monday 23 rd February 2026	Children return to school

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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