

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 our Spring half term in year 6, we would like to share with you the key topics and themes that your children will be exploring over the coming weeks.

In **Maths**, we will be developing our understanding of ratio, where we will use scale factors, ratio language, the ratio symbol, solve proportion problems and use ratio in recipes. We will then move onto algebra, learning to form expressions, understand function machines, understand formulae, form equations and find pairs of values. After that, we will move onto a decimals unit where we will learn to round decimals, understand the place value of decimals, add and subtract decimals, multiply and divide by 10, 100 and 1,000, multiply decimals by integers and divide decimals by integers.

We will continue to have weekly arithmetic lessons to develop our number fluency and use our lesson starters to recap skills and develop our long-term memory. We aim to develop our reasoning skills during every lesson to deepen our understanding. We will continue to use Times Table Rock stars to ensure we have fluent times table recall, along with SATs Boot Camp and Arithmagicians to develop our mathematical knowledge.

In **English**, we will continue our unit where we will write a persuasive speech and read Talking History: 150 years of world-changing speeches by Dr Joan Lennon and Dr Joan Dritsas Haig. We will then read Arthur Spiderwick's Field Guide to the Fantastical World Around You by Tony DiTerlizzi and Holly Black and write a formal non-chronological report in the style of these authors, about an innovated creature of our imagining.

We will continue to learn and embed year 6 spelling, punctuation and grammar within our writing and focus on how to edit and correct our work effectively.

Our **Science** lessons will involve learning about light, investigating how we see, the relationship between light and straight lines, shadow formation and plan a shadow experiment. We will also learn about refraction.

In our **RE** lessons, we will be looking at 'Creation and science: conflicting or complementary?' We will understand the importance of the creation story and sequence events, suggest what Genesis 1 might mean and how it is interpreted, explore the scientific account of cosmology (the beginning of the Universe) and evolution (the development of living beings). In addition, we will summarise the key ideas between Christian beliefs and Science and write a balanced argument.

In **PSHE**, we will follow the Jigsaw programme, focusing on the theme of 'dreams and goals,' where we will look at our strengths and things we find challenging to set goals and look at steps we will take to reach them. We will look at how we can make the world a better place and understand what people in our class are like and learn to accept their praise.

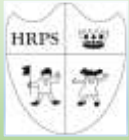
In our **Art** sessions, we will be learning how to draw a pyramid and a pharaoh, which links to our history Egyptian topic.

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In **Computing**, we will be creating a website using Google Sites. We will learn to Identify what makes a good webpage and use this information to design and evaluate our own website using Google Sites. We will learn about copyright and fair use of media, the aesthetics of the site and navigation paths. We will review an existing website and consider its structure, learn how to plan the features of a webpage and how to consider the ownership and use of images (copyright). We will also learn to recognise the need to preview pages. how to outline the need for a navigation path and the implications of linking to content owned by other people.

In **History**, we will be learning about the different ways in which ancient Egyptians lived and worked, what was important to people during ancient Egyptian times and the ancient Egyptian ritual of mummification. We will understand how evidence can give us different answers about the past, compare and contrast the powers of different Egyptian gods, learn about the ancient Egyptian writing systems and about the discovery of the tomb of Tutankhamun.

PE days: Children now need to come into school wearing their PE kit on their PE days. In Year 6, our PE days will be:

Indoor PE: Monday

Outdoor PE: Wednesday

Homework:

English/Maths: The children have a CGP targeted English and Maths work book set on a Friday and due the following Wednesday.

Spellings: Spellings will be given out on a Friday 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.

TTRockstars, SATs Boot Camp and Arithmagicians- as regularly as possible.

Thank you for your continued support. If 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.

Miss Rogers, Miss Coleman and Mrs Jenkins.

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