

# Where everyone matters and every day counts



## Houghton Regis Primary School Newsletter Friday 7th March 2025

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

Dear Parents, Carers and Children,

It has been lovely to see some sunshine this week and it has certainly lifted our spirits around the school.

We celebrated a whole host of activities this week based around World Book Day, including reading with an adult, peer reading, book swap and get caught reading! We also had some reading themed desserts made by the staff in the kitchen. It was lovely to see staff and children dress up as characters from a range of books. Thank you for your support with this and a further thank you for your contributions—a total of £266. We will use this to enrich our reading book selections.



Congratulations to the following children for winning a prize for the 'Get Caught Reading' competition: Ezekiel J, Soraiya T, Louie M, George F, Lara R, Lilly-May G, Bella S and Fleano M.

Well done to the children in Blue class for their wonderful class assembly on Tuesday. They shared some fantastic learning on a range of topics including the Romans and Canada. I was amazed by the facts they learnt and shared about Canada. They sang beautifully to Mrs March's impressive drumming skills! Purple class performed a fantastic assembly on Thursday. I was extremely impressed by their confidence and the way they shared information about their learning in front of a large audience. Their singing was amazing and we heard a wonderful tune played on the piano. A huge well done to both classes. You should be extremely proud of yourselves.

On Tuesday, six children from Years 5 and 6 took part in a Maths Mastery day at Parklea Primary School in Luton. They spent the day investigating and completing mathematical puzzles using dominoes, brick pyramids and magic squares. The children enjoyed the day and did extremely well by completing many puzzles accurately. They were great ambassadors for the school.



Thank you to the parents in year 6 for attending our Key Stage 2 SATs meetings this week. If you were unable to attend, please speak to Miss Naisby. The slides from the presentation have been shared on Google classroom.

Next week is British Science Week, where children will explore the theme of 'Change and Adapt'. Mrs White will be introducing this with an assembly on Monday and children will have further time in class to research specific topics and carry out experiments.

On the last day of term, Friday 4th April, we will be holding a non-uniform day to raise funds for our PTA. We ask for a contribution of £1 and all proceedings will go towards our PTA fund. We are grateful for the work the members of the PTA to support the children and our school. There are upcoming events planned and we would appreciate any support from parents who are able to volunteer.

A reminder that our Parent Consultation Evenings are being held at the end of this term. Appointment sheets will be available next week outside your child's classrooms. Please note, a change has been made for year 5 and Yellow class dates. Please see below:

Day	Date	Time	Classes
Monday	31st March	3:45-6:15pm	Silver, Platinum Jubilee, Gold Platinum, Orange, Green, Purple, Charlotte, Blue, Amber, Emerald, William & Charles
Thursday	3rd April	4:00-7:00pm	Silver, Platinum Jubilee, Gold Platinum, Orange, Green, Purple, Charlotte, Blue, Amber, Emerald, William & Charles
Tuesday	6th May	3:45pm-6:15pm	Yellow, Sapphire & Elizabeth
Thursday	8th May	4:00-7:00pm	Yellow, Sapphire & Elizabeth

Wishing you all a lovely weekend!

**Mrs R Parmar**

### VALUE OF THE MONTH FOR MARCH:

#### Resilience

the ability to be happy, and successful again after facing a challenge



### 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](http://www.kidzzoneclub.com).

### Years 5 & 6 Careers' Morning

In the summer term, we are planning to host a careers' morning for years 5 and 6 children.

We are looking for careers in any sector, such as: retail, hospitality, education, computing, engineering, medicine and healthcare, construction, media or performance of the arts, accountancy, banking and finance, law enforcement and security, leisure and tourism and more.

If you are able to support us with this event, please email the school office by Friday 28th March to express your interest at [office@houghtonregisprimary.co.uk](mailto:office@houghtonregisprimary.co.uk).

### 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 99%**

**KS2: Emerald with 98.2%**

**Whole School Attendance: 94.4%**

### Housepoint Winners

**EYFS/KS1: Buckingham—71 points**

**KS2: Windsor—57 points**

**Overall Winning House: Windsor—125 points**

## EARLY YEARS

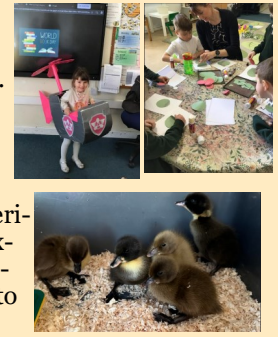
### Nursery

Having celebrated Pancake Day and World Book Day, this has been a wonderfully busy week! We have continued with our Rosie's Walk story throughout the nursery this week. We had great fun using orange playdough to create our own Rosie Hens, using loose parts and coloured feathers—we brought our creations to life!



### Reception

This week we have been learning about the life cycle of frogs through the story of The Teeny Tiny Tadpole. We also learnt about why we celebrate Pancake Day and the children had the option of pancakes at lunch. In maths, we have been looking at making patterns, using various materials and shapes. The children were excited to see the ducklings - Mrs Baldwin got a surprise when they began to hatch ahead of time!



## KEY STAGE 1

### Year 1

Year 1 began looking at plants during our science. They planted their cress seeds on their own. They continued to draw pictures of what the seed looked like and they were able to describe what the seed looked like. They also predicted what the plant seed would grow into and drew their predictions.



### Year 2

This week we have been looking at weight in maths. We enjoyed exploring and reading different scales. We also enjoyed linking this learning to addition and subtraction by using Numicon to ensure that the weight was balanced. In geography we have enjoyed learning about the different coastlines that surround the United Kingdom.



## LOWER KEY STAGE 2

### Year 3

The children threw themselves into World Book Day with great gusto. They enjoyed various activities including, author webinars, reading from other teachers and a book swap. Blue class also performed their class assembly, which was well received by the whole school and parents.



### Year 4

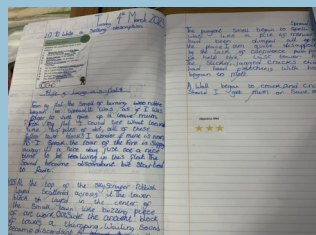
This term, the children will be learning about Scientists and Inventors. They have been researching deforestation in Madagascar. They created a PowerPoint presentation on the work of Gerard Durrell, a conservationist who worked hard to save many plants and animals in Madagascar.



## UPPER KEY STAGE 2

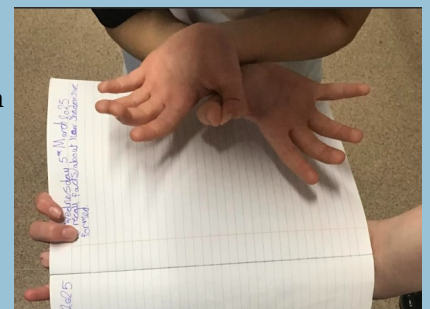
### Year 5

This week, we wrote our setting description based on our class book, Boy in the Tower. We tried to include all the key features of a setting description that we learned last week. For World Book Day, we took part in the 'Footy and Booky World Book Day event,' the 'Learn How to Be a Billionaire (Sort Of) with Pamela Butchart event,' and the 'Mighty Myths Live Drawing with Thiago de Moraes event.' As part of World Book Day, stories were read across the school by different adults, which we thoroughly enjoyed.



### Year 6

This week, we have been exploring narratives in English, focusing on using direct and indirect speech effectively. In maths, we have been recapping place value and decimal points. In science, we have introduced our new topic of 'Light'. This included some fun experiments of trying to make shadow shapes with our hands!





## HEADTEACHER AWARDS



### **Congratulations to the following children:**

*Early Years*      *Ash H, Lucas C, Hetty C, Askel G*  
*Years 1, 2 & 3*    *Adalin I, Ethan J, Teddy C, Arvi K, Alfie S, Alex P*  
*Years 4, 5 & 6*    *Jameson M-C, Jack H, Marcus S, Maya A, Cezary G, Jessica L*



## CONTACT INFORMATION

### **Office:**

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### **Family Support Worker:**

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## *Upcoming Events:*

<b>Day</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Year Group</b>	<b>Event</b>
Monday—Friday	10-14 March		All children	British Science Week—Change and Adapt
Tuesday	11 March	2:45-3:10pm	Year 2 - Charlotte Class	Class Assembly - parents invited
Thursday	13 March	8:15am	Year 5	Transition meeting for parents
Thursday	13 March	2:45-3:10pm	Year 1 -Orange Class	Class Assembly - parents invited
Thursday	13 March	3:30pm	Year 5	Transition meeting for parents
Friday	14 March		Year 1	Trip to the library
Monday	17 March		Year 5	Transition for year 5 children
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	N, R, 1, 2, Blue Class, 4, 6	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	N, R, 1, 2, Blue Class, 4, 6	Parent Consultation Evening
Friday	4 April		All children	Non-uniform day to raise funds for PTA
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

## **What Is a PTA?**

PTA stands for Parent Teacher Association. Volunteer organisations like this are usually composed of parents, class reps, teachers and other school staff who come together for regular meetings to discuss the school year and upcoming events.

PTAs bridge the gap between parents, teachers and pupils, helping to build productive relationships and further ensure the school is a place where pupils can thrive.

PTAs are now established in most schools and parents enjoy working closely with teachers, creating bonds with other parents, fundraising for events, working with the local community and learning more about the curriculum.

## **What Do PTAs Do?**

These groups may aim to accomplish a range of things, all usually geared at making the school a better place to learn.

Members of a PTA are likely to work together to raise money with a variety of creative events throughout the school year, encouraging the whole community to get involved.

## **PTA Events at Houghton Regis Primary School**

In previous years, the Houghton Regis PTA has organised summer fetes, Santa's Christmas Grotto, discos and a sponsored walk to name a few.

## **Why are PTAs Important?**

PTAs give parents more of a voice and get them feeling involved. Parents can provide the school community with a fresh perspective and highlight any concerns in a supportive environment.

The organisations are also instrumental in providing additional opportunities for pupils by strengthening the overall school experience.

## **Why Should You Join a PTA?**

Being a part of your child's school PTA has several benefits:

- Scheduled meetings allow parents to keep up to date with upcoming academic events and socials.
- It creates stronger relationships with staff members, where they can easily communicate expectations and standards of learning.
- It allows parents to establish relationships and network with other parents.
- Parents can support the school in creating the best environment possible for their child and other pupils, helping make a real difference.
- PTA members can learn new skills, from fundraising and problem-solving to communication and creativity.
- As a member of the PTA, you'll be able to see measurable results and appreciate the impact of all your efforts!

# EVERY SCHOOL DAY MATTERS



## Penalty Notice Fines for absence from school are changing

From 19<sup>th</sup> August 2024 Penalty Notice fines increase to £160 for each parent, for each child.



You can be fined if your child has a total of 5 days of unauthorised absences in 10 school weeks, for things like:

- being late after the register has closed
- truancy
- taking a holiday without permission from the school
- or if a headteacher isn't satisfied for the reason for missing school

Over a rolling 3-year period the sanctions are:

- 1st offence – £160 reduced to £80 if paid within 21 days
- 2nd offence – £160
- 3rd offence – Court hearing and up to £2,500 fine, or up to 3 months in prison and a criminal record

For more information go to:

[www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/missing-school](http://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/missing-school)







# SEND conference for parent carers

Hear from our new Director of Children and Families and get information and support from a variety of organisations



You can also sign up for two of the following workshops on the day:

- Therapeutic thinking
- Graduated approach
- Speech and language
- Emotional Based School Avoidance (EBSA)

The conference is taking place on Tuesday 11 March 2025 at the Rufus Centre, Steppingley Road, Flitwick, MK45 1AH. There is a morning session running from 9:30am to 12:30pm and an evening session running from 5:30pm to 8:30pm.

To book your free place please visit:  
[bit.ly/CBCSEND2025](https://bit.ly/CBCSEND2025) or scan the QR code on this poster.





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Your Neurodiverse  
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# Inclusive Football Sessions

**Every Sunday at  
Venue 360,  
Gypsy Lane,  
Luton, LU1 3JH**



**£8**  
per session

**12.00pm – 1.00pm**

Beginner session, including basic ball skills, gross motor skills and small sided games.

**1.00pm – 2.00pm**

Intermediate session, including ball mastery, technical drills and small sided games.

**After 6 sessions you  
will receive:**

Personalised training top including  
your name and choice of number  
on the back



For booking information please contact  
Martin Samm at

**[info@disabilityinaction.co.uk](mailto:info@disabilityinaction.co.uk)**