

Houghton Regis

Headteacher: Mr J Edwards BA (Hons) QTS
Deputy Head: Mrs R Parmar BA (Hons) PGCE

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Primary School

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Houghton Regis
Dunstable
Beds
LU5 5DH

NEWSLETTER



6 December 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

I need to inform you that Mr Edwards is currently unwell, so will therefore be taking time away from school. We wish him well whilst he takes time and space to recover.

In the circumstances, and to bring continuity to the situation, the Chair of Governors has asked me, which I am in agreement with, to take up the role of Acting Headteacher effective immediately.

Houghton Regis Primary is all ready for Christmas!

(Miss Bhadresa)

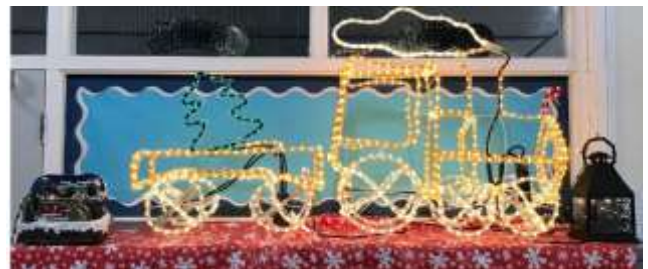
On the eve of Friday 29 November, members of the Parent Teacher Association (PTA) came along to decorate parts of our school.

They began their journey by taking all the decorations out and giving them a good clean. They used their Christmas magic to decorate the trees, set the Nativity scene and spread a whole load of tinsel, light and cheer!

The Christmas cheer spread right through the school kitchen! It's now decorated with a winter wonderland theme.

We thank the PTA for their generous time and continued efforts towards our school.

Watch out for a poster in the coming weeks to advertise a Meet and Greet session. Whilst sipping coffee and munching on biscuits, you will hear from PTA members just what we do in the background and give you the opportunity to share your thoughts and ideas to help further improve our school.



Choir Visit

(Mrs March)

Tuesday, 3 December was a great first event for our reassembled choir.

We were delighted to have been invited to sing for a Christmas party at All Saints View, an independent care facility for the over 65s. Forty-four children, wearing Christmas jumpers marched down to Houghton Regis High Street, in high spirits.

Once there, they sang a collection of traditional carols and Christmas pop songs. They all sang beautifully, to the absolute delight of the residents. Once they had finished, Father Christmas arrived bringing sweets for the children. They were then asked to hand out presents to the residents attending.

We are very proud of the children's efforts and conduct. It is very important to our school, and especially the children, to be part of the wider community and the event will be a treasured memory for many at All Saints View. They have even asked us back for future events so watch this space...



Houghton Regis Primary v Thomas Whitehead

(Mr D and Mrs White)

Boys' Team

On Wednesday afternoon, we hosted Thomas Whitehead Academy (TWA) for Girls' and Boys' football matches. The boys put in an excellent team performance against a very strong opposition and although we were 1-0 down at half time, this didn't reflect the half of football played by our boys. After some encouragement at the break, the boys really stepped up their game and applied the things that we had been working on at our practice sessions for the past 2 weeks. Our response started with David finishing off a great team move, before Alex and Cezary quickly gave us a 3-1 lead, again after some great sustained play. An unfortunate own goal shifted momentum back towards TWA and the boys had to sustain some serious pressure from them. Surviving this period then led to another great team move and David (Man of the Match) doubled his tally to give us a 4-2 lead. With practically the last move of the game TWA scored a late goal for it to finish 4-3 to HRPS. A brilliant result and team performance and all the boys should be very proud of their efforts.

Girls' Team

Against a very strong opposition, the girls lost this game 7-0. They worked extremely hard but were unable to stem the flow of shots that bombarded our goalkeeper.

We move on, heads up and look forward to our next match. Well tried: Danielle, Annabelle, Ellie, Dishana, Diana, Sophia, Alisia, Everly, Lyra and Zara.

Reception Nativity - We're going on a baby hunt

(Mrs Baldwin)

Thank you to all parents who came to watch our Reception Nativity – 'We're Going on a Baby Hunt'. We hope you enjoyed getting into the spirit of Christmas whilst listening to the songs. It was lovely to see the audience joining in with singing and actions. We hope you felt an immense sense of pride, just as we did. Well done to all the children and thank you to all staff.



Christmas Tree Festival

(Mrs Baldwin)

We are taking part in the Priory Church Christmas Tree Festival in Dunstable. All of the classes have contributed by making a decoration for our HRPS Christmas tree. Please go and vote for our Christmas tree this weekend. The children have been working extremely hard and our tree looks amazing. See if you can spot your decoration!



Upcoming Residential Trip – October 2025

Thank you to the parents and carers of year 5 children who attended the meeting where we shared information about next year's residential trip. Letters will be sent out next week to share details of the trip and the payment plan. If you were unable to attend the meeting and your child is interested in attending, please speak to myself or Miss Naisby.

Christmas Post Box

Our annual Christmas post box is now up and running. Children can post their Christmas cards and our year 6 children will sort and deliver the cards accordingly. Please ensure the envelopes are clearly labelled with children's name and class so we can ensure the card is delivered to the right child.

Christmas Carol Concert at All Saints Church- Monday, 16 December

A Carol concert is taking place at All Saints Church on Monday 16 December. Children in years 2, 3 and Elizabeth Class alongside any children who are in the choir across the school will be attending. Parents of these children are invited to watch the performance which will start at 1:45pm. Letters have been sent home to confirm the arrangements. Apologies for the misunderstanding in previous newsletters.

Christmas Lunch - Wednesday 18 December 2024

Please select your child's Christmas lunch option on SchoolGrid.

School Clubs

Please note that on the last week of term there are no school clubs or year 6 boosters. All clubs return in January 2025 and you will be notified of the start dates.

Last day of term - Friday 20 December 2024

Please note that school will be closing at 2.00pm on the last day of term (Friday 20 December 2024). In addition, **there will be no after school club on this day.** We kindly request that you make the necessary arrangements to have your child collected on time.

Thank you for your continued support. I wish you all a restful weekend.

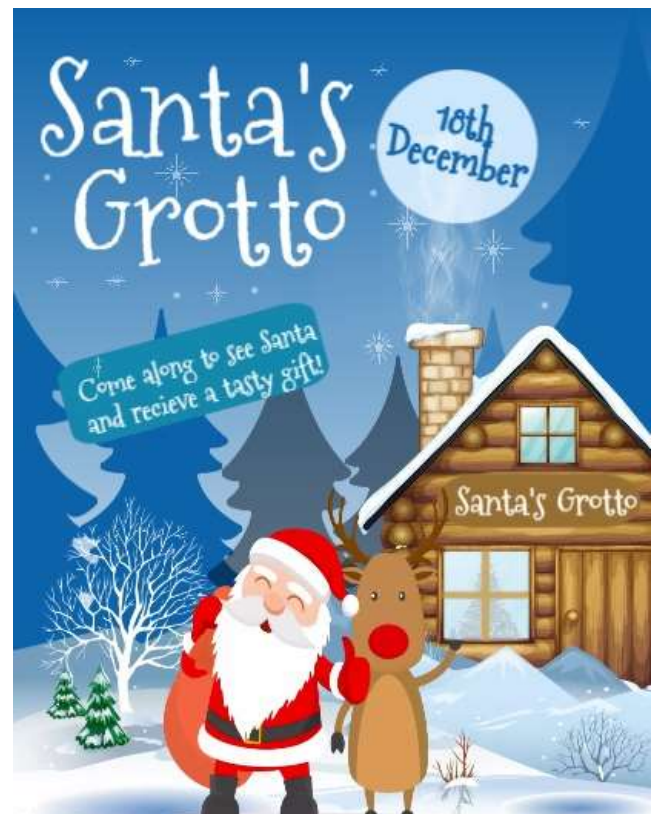
Kind regards

Mrs Parmar
Acting Headteacher



Upcoming Events



Day	Date	Time	Year Group	Event
Wednesday	11 December	9.10am and 2.00pm	Nursery	Jingle and Mingle
Thursday	12 December	10.30am and 2pm		Year 1 Nativity Christmas Jumper Day
Monday	16 December	1.00pm-2.30pm	Years 2, 3, Choir	Christmas Carol Concert, All Saints Church
Wednesday	18 December			Christmas Dinner and Jumper Day
Friday	20 December		All children	Last day of term – school finishes at 2.00pm, no clubs or after school club on that day
Monday	6 January		School closed for all children	INSET Day
Tuesday	7 January		All children	Return to school
Friday	10 January		Year 6	Heights & Weights



Values-based Education
IVET Quality Mark



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.”
Erik R	Iosua U	Mason B	Avyukta G
Thomas T	Anayah J	Ava-Kate B	Hetty C
Yannis K	Olivia G	Leon S	Jack O
Leo I	Philip S	Adwick B-N	Myahh-Rose P
Iustin V			Alexander S
Reuben S			Zaima Z
Alice A			Ashleigh G
Connor D-W			Alex P
Andrei R			Hanna C
Francesca O			
Riley S			



EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES AUTUMN TERM 2024

Club	Year group involved	Day	Time of Day
Ballet	Year 3- 6	Tuesday	Afternoon
Ballet	Nursery-Year 2	Wednesday	Morning
Football	KS2 (Boys)	Tuesday	3.15 - 4.00pm
Netball	Year 3-5 (Boys and Girls)	Tuesday	3.15 - 4.00pm
Football	KS2 (Girls)	Wednesday	3.15 - 4.00pm
Science Club	Year 3	Thursday	3.15 - 4.00pm
Street Dance	Year 1-4	Thursday	3.30 - 4.30pm
Taekwondo	Reception - Year 6	Friday	Afternoon

This week's Attendance Awards

Reception/KS1, Prince Louis

Gold 98.1%

Lower KS2, Princess Charlotte

Blue 99.2%

Upper KS2, Prince George

Amber 98.1%



School Term dates for the academic year 2024/25

AUTUMN TERM

Staff Training Days: Monday 2 September 2024; Monday 4 November 2024

Term Starts: Tuesday 3 September 2024

Half-Term: Monday 28 October to Friday 1 November 2024

Term Ends: Friday 20 December 2024 at 2pm

SPRING TERM

Staff Training Day: Monday 6 January 2025

Term Starts: Tuesday 7 January 2024

Half-Term: Monday 17 February to Friday 21 February 2025

Term Ends: Friday 4 April 2025 at 2pm

SUMMER TERM

May Day Bank Holiday: Monday 5 May 2025

Staff Training Days: Tuesday 22 April 2025; Monday 2 June 2025

Term Starts: Wednesday 23 April 2025

Half-Term: Monday 26 May to Friday 30 May 2025

Term Ends: Tuesday 22 July 2025 at 2pm

School Admissions 2025

Central Bedfordshire Council have produced a booklet to help you with applying for your child's school place for 2025.

The following link will take you to the booklet:

https://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/info/5/school_admissions

15 January 2025

- Starting School 2025
- Transfer to Middle 2025



EVERY SCHOOL DAY MATTERS



Penalty Notice Fines for absence from school are changing

From 19th 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



Values-based Education
IVET Quality Mark



University of
Bedfordshire



Central
Bedfordshire

great
prospects



**Was your child born between
1 September 2020 and 31 August 2021?**

**They will start school in September 2025, so you
need to apply for a school place by 15 January 2025.**

 **Apply online at www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/admissions**

You can also complete a paper application form which is available from your local school
or by contacting School Admissions  admissions@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk  0300 300 8037

A great place to live and work.





Does your child receive benefit related free school meals?

HAF Christmas Programme



Dance

Have you got your
booking code from
Central
Bedfordshire?.

21st, 22nd, 28th, 29th,
30th and 31st December
2nd and 3rd January

