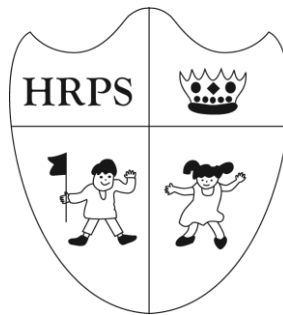


# Houghton Regis

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# Primary School

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## NEWSLETTER

9 December 2022



Dear Parents and Carers

### Nativity Plays

It has been delightful to watch all the recent nativity plays performed by both our KS1 (Years 1 and 2) and Reception children. These were a great success. I was particularly impressed by the singing of both groups.

A big thank you to all the staff who were involved in preparing the children for these special performances. The Early Years Team have added some further pictures onto tapestry for parents to enjoy.

### Christmas Piano and Choir Concert

I was also very impressed by the recent performances on our school piano – what talented children we have in Houghton Regis! These recitals were all Christmas themed and the children were very well prepared by Mrs Gommon. The school choir also made a stellar performance of a number of Christmas songs, impressively breaking into parts on several occasions.

### Christmas Jumper Day- Save the Children – Wednesday, 14 December 2022



Christmas Jumper Day is Save the Children's annual event which raises money for children in the UK and across the world. Every December, millions of people across the United Kingdom (and beyond!) put on a festive outfit at their workplace, school or with friends and donate to help give children the magical future they deserve. This year we are 'moving' our Christmas jumper day to coincide with our Christmas Dinner Day.

Therefore, please note that on Wednesday 14 December your child can wear a Christmas jumper alongside the rest of the school uniform.

List of acceptable outfits for Christmas Jumper Day:

- A Christmas Jumper worn with grey school trousers and grey/white socks.
- A Christmas Jumper worn with a grey skirt and grey or green school tights.
- A Christmas dress worn with grey or green school tights.

A donation of a shiny coin will be collected in the class rooms for participation in the Christmas jumper day. Please note this is not a mufti day and only the outfits described above are allowed.

## **Good Attendance Mufti Day – Thursday, 15 December 2022**

As a school we have reached our current attendance target. I am very pleased that less and less of you are requesting leave during term time and members of the governing body have suggested we have a 'free' mufti day to celebrate this achievement.

The mufti wear can be Christmas in theme, sportswear and football kits are also allowed as are 'Princess Style' dresses. My only request is that the children are warm. Therefore if your child is wearing a football kit please ensure they are wearing 'skins' underneath; likewise, please compliment dresses with warm tights. I make this request as the weather continues to be very cold at the current time.

## **Football, Friday 2 December v Tithe Farm**

Our Year 6 Boys played their last league game against Tithe Farm Primary winning 13-0. A fantastic team game with a debut goal for Spencer, and further goals from Pele (5), Alfie G (3), Oskar (2), Tommy (1) and Freddie (1). Well done boys. Further League games will resume after Christmas.

## **SchoolMoney and SchoolGrid – Reminders**

If you are struggling to log into your School Money or SchoolGrid account, the school office will be more than happy to assist. You will need to bring your phone with you to enable them to help. Please note that we are not able to accept cash payments. Should you be experiencing financial difficulty, please come to the school office.

## **School Clubs**

Please note that on the last week of term there are no School Clubs, with the exception of Gymnastics on Tuesday 13 December, Maths on Wednesday 14 December and Year 6 Boosters. All Clubs return on week commencing 9 January 2023.

## **Fruit Snack Reminder**

A polite reminder that children should be provided with a healthy snack for break times. Please do not send in chocolate, cake or crisps for a break time snack.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a wonderful weekend.

Kind regards

James Edwards

Headteacher



## Advice from Public Health - Strep A and Scarlet Fever information

### Advice for parents and carers

#### Symptoms of scarlet fever and when to see a GP

Scarlet fever is caused by bacteria called group A streptococci. These bacteria also cause other respiratory and skin infections such as strep throat and impetigo. Scarlet fever is a contagious bacterial infection that mostly affects young children. It is easily treated with antibiotics. The first signs of scarlet fever can be flu-like symptoms, including high temperature, a sore throat and swollen neck glands (a large lump on the side of your neck).

A rash appears 12 to 48 hours later. It looks like small, raised bumps and starts on the chest and tummy, then spreads. The rash makes your skin feel rough, like sandpaper. On white skin the rash looks pink or red. It may be harder to see on brown and black skin, but you can still feel it. A white coating also appears on the tongue. This peels, leaving the tongue red, swollen and covered in little bumps (called "strawberry tongue"). The rash does not appear on the face, but the cheeks can look red. The redness may be harder to see on brown and black skin.

Contact a GP if your child:

- Has scarlet fever symptoms
- Does not get better in a week (after seeing a GP)
- Has scarlet fever and chickenpox at the same time
- Is ill again, weeks after scarlet fever got better – this can be a sign of a complication, such as rheumatic fever
- Is feeling unwell and has been in contact with someone who has scarlet fever

Scarlet fever is very easily spread. Check with a GP before you go in. They may suggest a phone consultation.

#### What to do if you feel your child seems seriously unwell

As a parent, if you feel that your child seems seriously unwell, you should trust your own judgement. Contact NHS 111 or your GP if:

- your child is getting worse
- your child is feeding or eating much less than normal
- your child has had a dry nappy for 12 hours or more or shows other signs of dehydration
- your baby is under 3 months and has a temperature of 38°C, or is older than 3 months and has a temperature of 39°C or higher
- your baby feels hotter than usual when you touch their back or chest, or feels sweaty
- your child is very tired or irritable

Call 999 or go to A&E if:

- your child is having difficulty breathing – you may notice grunting noises or their tummy sucking under their ribs
- there are pauses when your child breathes



- your child's skin, tongue or lips are blue
- your child is floppy and will not wake up or stay awake

Good hand and respiratory hygiene are important for stopping the spread of many bugs. By teaching your child how to wash their hands properly with soap for 20 seconds, using a tissue to catch coughs and sneezes, and keeping away from others when feeling unwell, they will be able to reduce the risk of picking up or spreading infections.






UPCOMING EVENTS		
Event	Year groups involved	Date
<b>Jingle Mingle</b>	Nursery	Wednesday, 14 December 2022 Performance 1 at 9:10 am (Morning Nursery) Performance 2 at 2 pm (Afternoon Nursery)
<b>School Finishes</b>	All	Friday, 16 December 2pm
<b>School opens</b>	All	Wednesday, 4 January 2023
<b>New Nursery start</b>	Nursery	Thursday, 5 January 2023
<b>National Child Measurement Programme</b>	Year 6	Thursday, 19 January 2023
<b>PTA EVENTS</b>		
<b>School Disco</b>	All	Monday, 12 December 2022 3:00-6:00pm
<b>Santa's Grotto</b>	All	Wednesday, 14 December 2022
<b>Christmas Jumper Day</b>	All	Wednesday, 14 December 2022
<b>Christmas Lunch</b> Please select your child's option on SchoolGrid	All	Wednesday, 14 December 2022

***This week's  
Attendance Awards***

Reception/KS1 Prince Louis – Purple 96.4 %

Lower KS2 Princess Charlotte – Red 93.3 %

KS2 - Prince George- Amethyst 92.7 %



**STAR AWARDS – These will be updated next week.**



## Children's Flu Vaccination Clinics

(for children in Reception year up to Year 6 only)

If your child still needs a flu vaccination we have Saturday clinics available as follows: -

**10<sup>th</sup> December 2022 - Milton Keynes**

**19<sup>th</sup> December 2022 - Milton Keynes**

**20<sup>th</sup> December 2022 - Bedford**

**21<sup>st</sup> December 2022 - Milton Keynes**

**22<sup>nd</sup> December 2022 - Luton Clinic**

If you would like to book an appointment please call us on **0300 790 0594** and we will then give you the details of the venue.

