

Houghton School Newsletter



Happy Christmas to our Houghton Families.



Dear Families

Christmas is a busy time of year for most people but in a primary school it can feel as if there is something in the diary every day from December 1st. I appreciate it must feel the same for families too and you will have been frantically checking diaries to make sure you haven't missed the performances, tree festival, hamper and chocolate donations, panto, and Christmas jumper and dinner day! You will be relieved to hear that we have a few quieter months coming up but thank you for all the contributions you have made so that these events are successful.



Although December is a busy month for staff as well as families, it is also a privilege to work in a school in the run up to Christmas. Some gifts you can't wrap up and to see the excitement and joy on the faces of children whether they are performing, eating Christmas dinner with their friends, or being at the panto, can't be matched.

This week has been especially magical with the whole school trip to the panto. Thank you to the Houghton School helpers for purchasing the tickets. You will be delighted to hear that their bank account has been topped up again after an extremely successful Tree Festival and raffle which raised just under £2,000!! This is an amazing amount, and we look forward to spending it in 2025!



Finally, I would like to thank the staff, families and governors for all their support this term and I wish you all a healthy, happy Christmas and new year.

Best wishes
Ali Woollerson
Headteacher.



Learn-AT
Learning - Fellowship

NEW STARTER APPLICATIONS FOR 2025

The deadline for applications for new starters for Autumn 2025 is January 15th. If you or someone you know, has a child who is starting school next year and they are still undecided about which school to choose, please let them know about our final open morning on Friday 10th January between 9.30 and 11.30. Visitors often comment that they are worried that their child will not have a place because they don't live in Houghton on the Hill but is worth sharing that about 50% of our pupils come from out of catchment, travelling from surrounding villages and the city.

[Apply for a school place | Leicestershire County Council](#)



Thank you to our school cooks who prepared and served 173 Christmas dinners! It was delicious!

ZONES OF REGULATION

We have previously shared some information with you about the Zones of Regulation, which we use in school. We have been working with the children to identify the zone they are in but also the strategies that can be used to move between the zones to help them regulate their emotions and behaviours. We will be adding this information to our school website in the new year but for now, here is a short video that Mr Taylor has recorded to tell you a little bit more about the zones. This may be worth watching over Christmas when adults and children will all be moving between the zones!

https://youtu.be/vDrcYCpxW_4

Class Assembly A reminder of dates for 2025

These will start at 9am and will finish by 9.30.

YEAR 2: Friday 17th January
YEAR 1: Friday 31st January
YEAR 4: Friday 28th February
YEAR 5: Friday 21st March
YEAR 3: Friday 4th April
FOUNDATION STAGE: Friday 23rd May

Remember that you can access term dates for 2024-2026 on our new website

[Houghton-on-the-Hill Primary School - Term Dates](#)

As well as Christmas Jumper and dinner day, we were part of an assembly with 18 other LearnAt schools. We found out some interesting facts about the schools in the trust and they heard about our Circle of Life garden.



General Dates for the Diary

Monday 6th Jan

Return to school

Friday 10th January

Open Morning for new starters 2025
9.30am-11.30am

Friday 17th January

Year 2 Class Assembly 9am

Tuesday 28th January

Weights and measures
for FS and
Yr 6

17th – 21st February

Half term Holiday

Monday 24th February

Wednesday 26th February

Parents' Meetings

Friday 28th February

Year 4 Class Assembly 9am

