



Houghton Conquest
Lower School
Growing together

**Welcome to
Houghton
Conquest
Lower School**



Who are we?

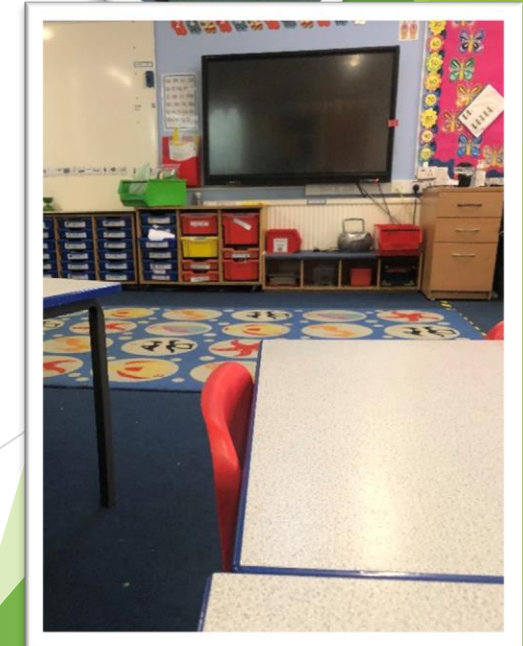
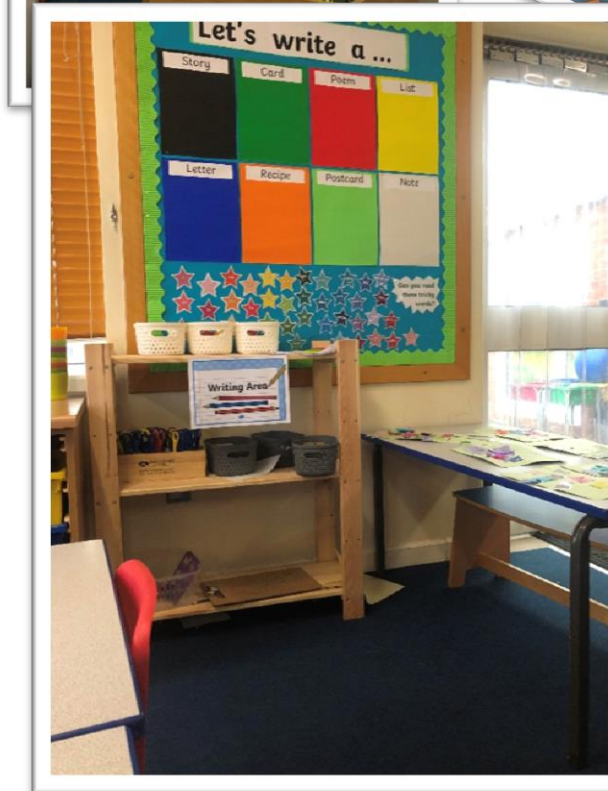
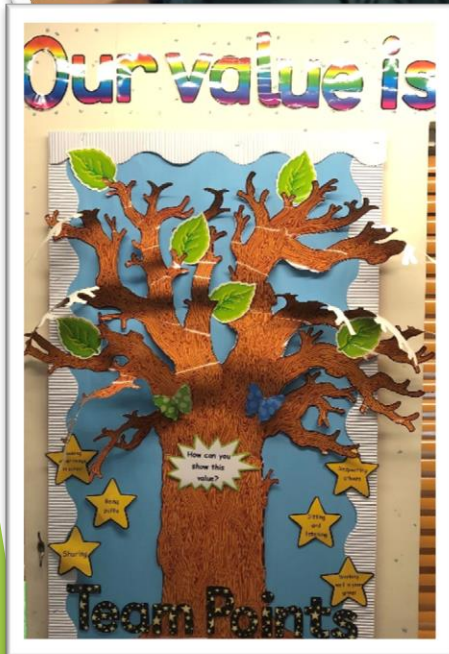
- ▶ We are a small village school at the heart of the community.
- ▶ At our Lower School and Pre-school we aim to provide a welcoming atmosphere where staff and children work together to create a happy, calm, caring and purposeful environment.
- ▶ We currently operate as a one form entry school meaning we have one class per year group.
- ▶ ***“Our vision is to be an outstanding school in all that we do. We will inspire and nurture a love of learning through a challenging and creative curriculum. Every individual will be recognised for their achievement and feel safe, secure and valued within our school family”***
- ▶ We are a values school and these values form part of everything we do. They are taught explicitly through assemblies, modelled consistently by our staff and are embedded into every lesson we teach.
- ▶ All children at Houghton Conquest Lower School will be given the opportunity to achieve their full potential and to develop into confident, caring, honest and responsible young people, capable of making a positive contribution to their community.
- ▶ Staff work together with passion, enthusiasm and commitment to provide a well rounded curriculum, full of opportunities for fun, creativity and excitement. We believe happy and engaged children make the best learners and we couldn't be more proud of our staff and students.

We are a friendly school

- ▶ We are very proud of our school, the pupils and all they achieve.
- ▶ We are a fully inclusive school – we believe no child should ever be left behind and all children's successes should be celebrated.
- ▶ We are a very happy school that achieves extremely high standards and believe that above all children and their development are paramount.
- ▶ We are passionate about enhancing each child's knowledge, skills and understanding whilst enabling them to become more confident, successful, independent, active and responsible.
- ▶ We believe that it is imperative that you are involved in every aspect of your child's education and that we form a 'team around the child'
- ▶ We have a strong, caring ethos, where children and their successes really matter.



Let's have a look at the classrooms



Let's have a look around the school

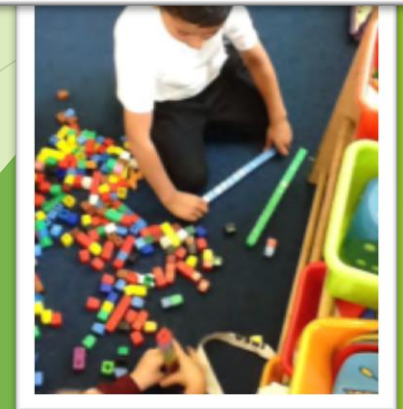
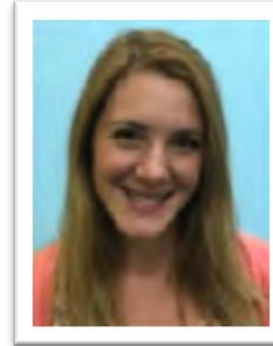


Let's have a look outside



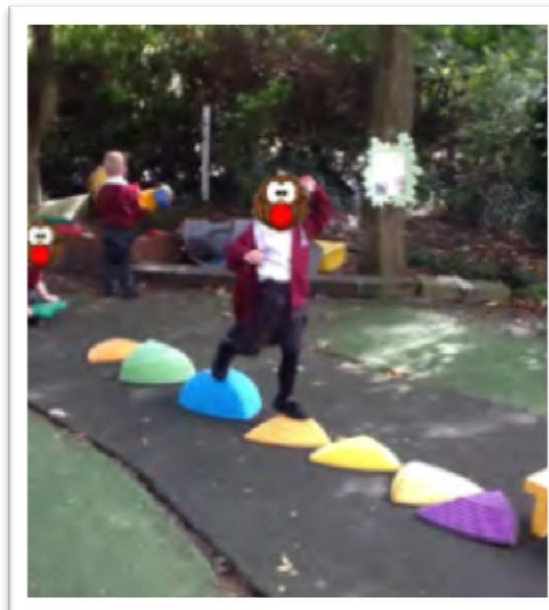
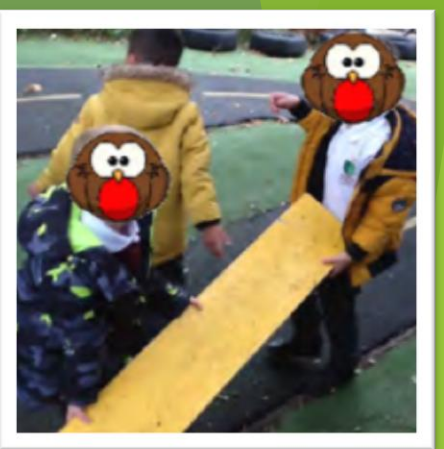
Meet our Foundation Stage Team

- ▶ In our foundation class we operate a more structured timetable in the mornings and a free-flow, learning through play environment in the afternoons.
- ▶ Our EY lead and Class Teacher is Miss Crowhurst
- ▶ In the afternoons Miss Meech who is our Pre-School room leader comes across to lead the continuous provision in Robins class.



Foundation Garden

- ▶ Our foundation children are very lucky to have a large outdoor area to themselves. We call this area 'The Garden'.
- ▶ The Garden houses a writing, reading and maths area for outdoor learning opportunities. We also have a large construction area, sand tray, role play area, water area, junk modelling station and a fantastic track which can be used for obstacle courses, races and balance bikes.



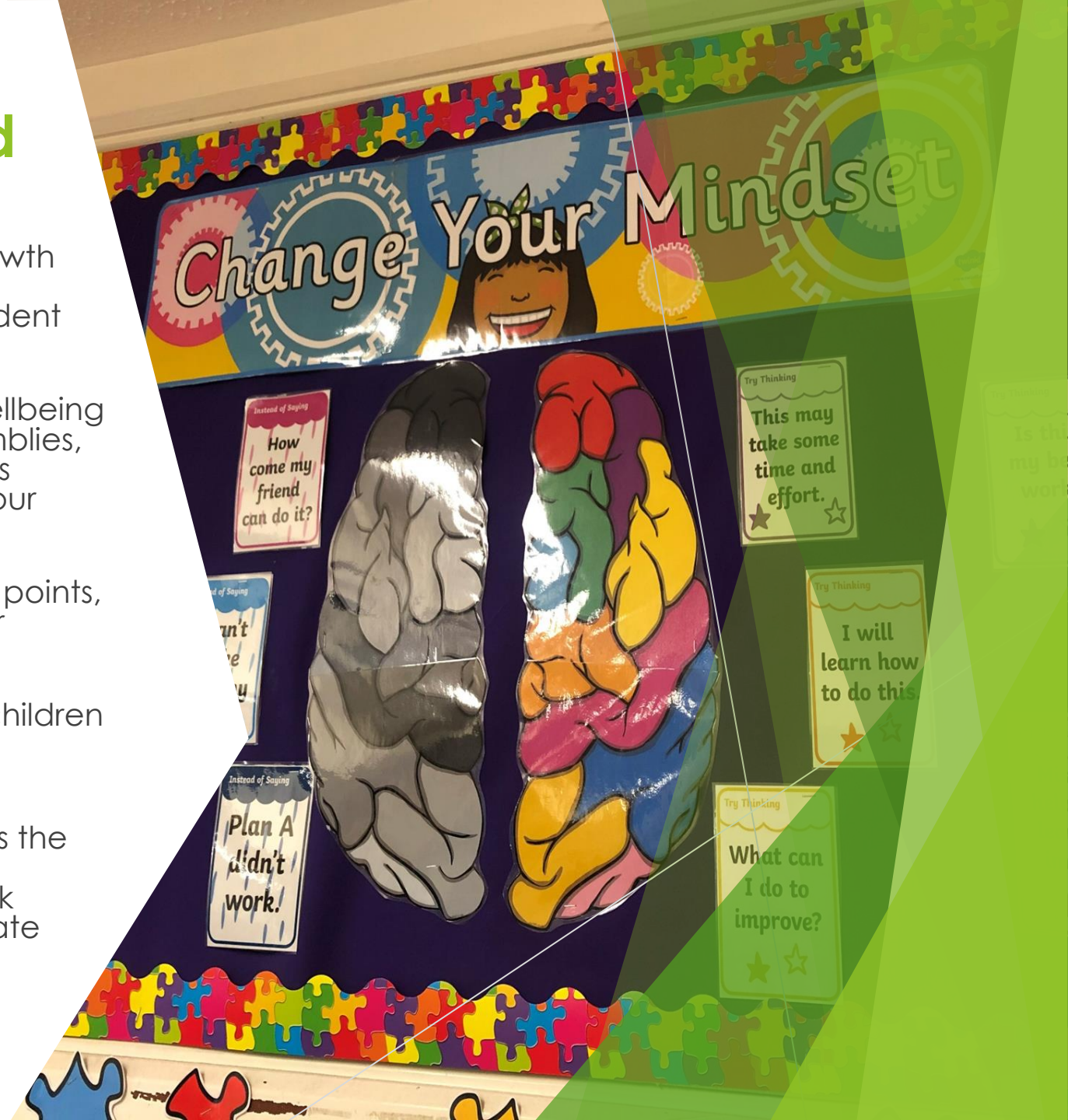
Our Learning Journey

- ▶ Throughout the whole school we follow a topic based creative curriculum where each class can immerse themselves within a topic for a term.
- ▶ Children are encouraged to explore, question, discuss and take ownership of their learning journey, striving to do better and to understand what they need to learn next in order to achieve their full potential.
- ▶ Wherever possible we will also strive to use our local community to strengthen our curriculum learning, and allowing visitors into school to inspire our pupils.



Children's Mental Health and Wellbeing

- ▶ At Houghton Conquest Lower School we follow a Growth Mindset approach to teaching and learning which promotes resilience, perseverance and creates confident and independent problem solvers.
- ▶ We promote children's positive mental health and wellbeing through a variety of ways including mindfulness assemblies, active assemblies, regular brain breaks / active breaks scheduled into the school day and a positive behaviour policy.
- ▶ We celebrate individual achievements through team points, golden tickets and weekly certificates awarded in our Celebration Assembly.
- ▶ We also offer intervention groups and 1:1 sessions to children who we feel would benefit from additional emotional support.
- ▶ We have implemented our Zones of Regulation across the school. We are very proud that our children feel comfortable and confident in using these zones to talk about how they are feeling and to find ways to regulate their emotions.



Golden

Rules

We are respectful and polite

We are kind and helpful

We listen to everyone

We are always honest

We always work hard

We look after property

'Staying on Green but Going for Gold!'



Extra Curricular Activities

- ▶ We provide wrap around care in the form of Home from Home club which operates between 8am – 8:50am and from 3:15pm – 5:30pm daily. They run activities including art and crafts, games activities, done and dusted homework support, cinema mornings and many more.
- ▶ We provide a range of enhanced curricular activities that will enrich your child's experience. These vary from year to year but can include Choir, Musical Instruments including Guitar, Piano & Cello, Football, Lace Club, Music, Dance & Drama, and Netball. Some of these groups run at lunchtimes and some are after school.



Our Wonderful 'Friends'

- ▶ 'Friends of Houghton Conquest Lower School' are our PTA (Parent Teacher Association) and are an incredible group!
- ▶ Fundraising events have included: The Christmas Fayre, World Book Day events, school discos, Movie Night, bake sales, Mother's Day and Father's Day gift making, Easter egg hunt and creating Harvest Festival boxes for the local community.
- ▶ In recent years funds have provided:
 - A wooden pirate ship for the playground
 - iPads for each class and Pre-School
 - A new pond and welly rack in the Lower School
 - A sunshade and chalkboard wall in Pre-School
 - In school workshops
 - The annual Christmas pantomime



What did Ofsted say?

Ofsted highlights:

- ▶ “The leadership team has maintained the good quality of education in the school.”
- ▶ “The pre-school room leader provides high-quality leadership, and the setting is rightly highly regarded by parents.”
- ▶ “Learning is very well organised, with a strong focus on social development.”
- ▶ “Reading is a strength of the school, and outcomes in formal assessments show that pupils reach standards which are above, and often well above, those achieved nationally by the end of Year 2.”
- ▶ “Teachers use these texts skillfully to plan learning which further enriches pupils’ language skills.”
- ▶ “All pupils are well supported, through timely intervention activities which help them make good progress. The good range of additional help provided for disadvantaged pupils includes social and emotional support and structured opportunities to build confidence.”
- ▶ “Many parents and carers are hugely supportive of the school, appreciating the high priority that staff and leaders give to the welfare and personal development of pupils.”
- ▶ Comments included: ‘the teachers are amazing’, ‘my child loves coming to school’, and ‘my child has made fantastic progress’.



Application Process

- ▶ The deadline for admissions is 15th January 2021
- ▶ Make your application to CBC Admissions
- ▶ You will be offered a place via CBC
- ▶ You accept/ decline your place
- ▶ You will be invited to our 'New Intake Meeting' in June/July which begins the transition process from your current nursery/ pre-school.
- ▶ Miss Crowhurst our EY lead will talk to you more about the transition process.

Need more information?

- ▶ If you have any questions please feel free to contact our school office - office@hcschool.org.uk
- ▶ More information about our school can be found on our school website - <http://hcschool.org.uk/>



High Street
Houghton Conquest
Bedfordshire
MK45 3LL
01234 740202
hconquest@hcschool.org.uk

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Thank you!

- ▶ Thank you very much for taking the time to watch our video presentation. We are very sorry this couldn't take place in the usual way, however we hope we have been able to provide you with a good insight into life at Houghton Conquest Lower School.
- ▶ Miss Crowhurst, who is our foundation class teacher and early years lead will talk you through how our Foundation Stage works and what you can expect to find when your child starts with us in a separate video presentation called "Welcome to Foundation."
- ▶ If we can assist you further please do not hesitate to contact us.
- ▶ We look forward to meeting you at our 'New Intake Meeting' in the summer term.

