



## Reigate Parish Church Primary School

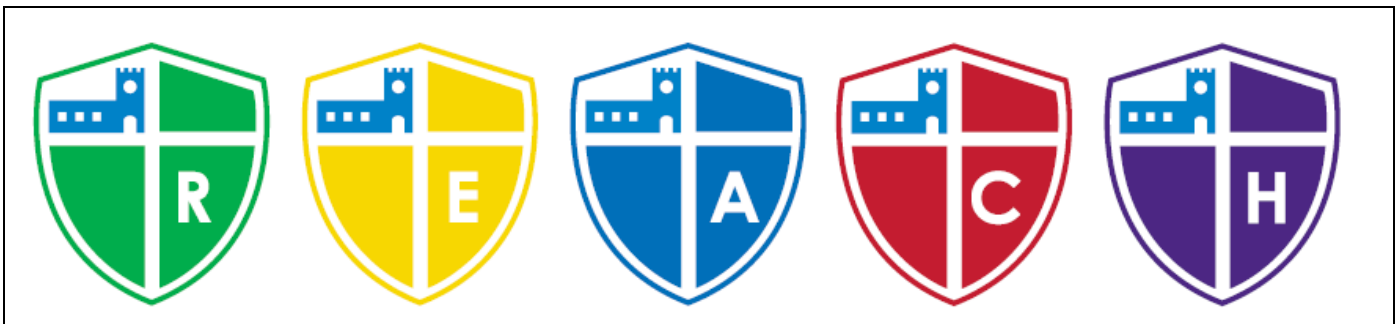
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Friday 14<sup>th</sup> October 2016

Dear Parents and Carers

### Launching The Names of our Five Houses

**Our Vision: Reigate Parish Church Primary School: a trusting, respectful and caring place for children to reach their full potential, with Christian faith and Christian values at our heart.**



#### Why Five Houses?

We launched in July the five new house colours and you are familiar with the shield design used to portray which colour house your child is in. Specifically, five houses were chosen so that quickly in PE lessons children get into their houses and are ready for the competitive element of PE.

#### Linking the Houses to the School's Vision

After extensive discussions, time for reflection and in-depth research the names of the houses have been decided. We have taken the word "**reach**" from our school vision because it's a word that highlights our collective determination for all children to succeed and it links the houses to the school's vision statement.

The word "reach" also resonates to us as staff and governors because as professionals in the learning community at Reigate Parish we strive and reach to be better in our jobs, through a comprehensive programme of training, so that we can always do our best for our children. I hope the word "reach" will resonate with parents.



## Why these Five Historical People?

We have chosen five famous inspirational historical men and women from different periods in time, originating from diverse backgrounds and coming from different countries who all used, practised, developed and honed their unique skills to have influenced, helped and changed society for the better. We deliberately chose some of our famous individuals to be a little less well known in order for our children to gain a wider appreciation of the significant people who have contributed to shaping our world. We feel these historical figures can be understood at a simple level for our youngest children but offer a good level of challenge, year on year to Year 3 as they grow older, where children will understand in increasing depth the importance these figures have had on the lives we live.

They reached, they made a difference, they had an impact.

## Announcing the Five Houses

We are immensely proud to announce these are the names of our new houses:

1. Sir Walter Raleigh (green shield) : Raleigh House
2. Olaudah Equiano (yellow shield) : Equiano House
3. Jane Austen (blue shield) : Austen House
4. Marie Curie (red shield) : Curie House
5. Gustav Holst (purple shield) : Holst House

These images will be used across the school.



## Helping the Children to get to know their House Name

The teachers have planned lots of activities on the afternoons of Friday 14<sup>th</sup> October and Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October, for the children to understand more about their house's famous person. Please be assured, all the activities will be at your child's cognitive level.

Below is a resource that has been created for parents to know more about the five historical people and is not a classroom resource.

We are very excited about our houses and the people we have chosen to be their figurehead.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Frances Davis". The signature is written in a cursive style.

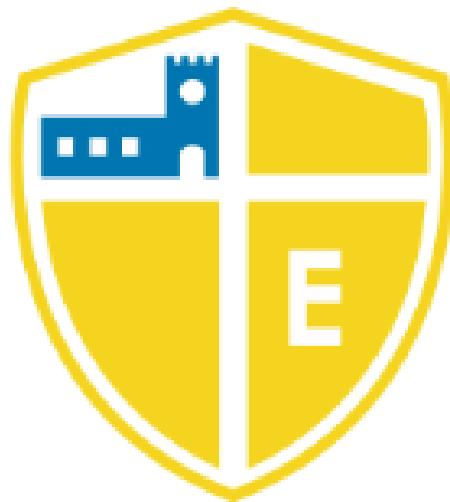
Mrs Frances Davis  
Headteacher

## Raleigh House



	<b>Sir Walter Raleigh</b>
Born	22 January 1552 (or 1554) in Devon, England
Died	29 October 1618 (aged c. 65) in London, England
Occupation	<p>Writer, poet, soldier, courtier, spy, explorer.</p> <p>Raleigh rose rapidly in the favour of Queen Elizabeth I and was knighted in 1585.</p> <p>He was instrumental in the English colonisation of North America and was granted a royal patent to explore Virginia, which paved the way for future English settlements.</p>
Nationality	English

## Equiano House



	<b>Olaudah Equiano, known in his lifetime as Gustavus Vassa</b>
Born	Born around 1745 in Nigeria, Africa
Died	31 March 1797 (aged 51–52), Middlesex, UK
Occupation	<p>Equiano was an African writer whose experiences as a slave in America prompted him to become involved in the British abolition movement. As a slave he became a Christian, learnt to read and write and travelled the oceans with his masters. He was then able to buy his freedom and as a free man continued travelling around the world.</p> <p>In 1786 in London, he became involved in the movement to abolish slavery.</p> <p>He worked and traveled as a seafarer, merchant, and explorer in the Caribbean, the Arctic, the American colonies, South and Central America, and the United Kingdom.</p>
Nationality	African

## Austen House



	<b>Jane Austen</b>
Born	16 December 1775, Hampshire, England
Died	18 July 1817 (aged 41), Winchester, Hampshire, England
Occupation	Romantic fiction novelist.  Her books were set among the English landed gentry.  Her books are enjoyed by many and Austen is one of the most widely read writers in English literature.
Nationality	British

## Curie House



	<b>Marie Curie</b>
Born	Maria Salomea Skłodowska, born 7.11.1867, Warsaw, in the Kingdom of Poland, then part of the Russian Empire
Died	4 July 1934 (aged 66), Passy, Haute-Savoie, France
Occupation	<p>Curie was a physicist and a chemist.</p> <p>She conducted pioneering research on radioactivity and was the first woman to win a Nobel Prize and the first person and only woman to win twice.</p> <p>She named the first chemical element that she discovered—polonium, which she isolated in 1898—after her native country, of Poland.</p>
Nationality	Citizenship: Polish by birth, French by marriage

## Holst House



	<b>Gustav Holst</b>
Born	21 September 1874
Died	25 May 1934, 60 years old
Occupation	<p>Composer of "The Planets", music teacher, arranger of music.</p> <p>There were professional musicians in the previous three generations of Holst's family and it was clear from his early years that he would follow the same calling. He hoped to become a pianist, but was prevented by inflammation of the nerve in his right arm.</p> <p>He played the trombone professionally and later became a teacher—a great one, according to his students.</p>
Nationality	English