



New Hinksey CE Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs Charlotte Haynes

24th November 2017

Dear Parents, Carers, Pupils, Staff, Governors and Friends of New Hinksey,

Thank you to all families who are getting children here on time in each morning to join the lines at the 8.45am bell - it really does help the children to start the day well.

Assemblies – On Monday we continued our assembly theme for November – Honesty and Trust, with a story called ‘Finders Keepers’ which actually explained that if you do find something that has obviously been mislaid by its owner, it is always better to hand it in. We have also had a singing assembly and Father Ben led an assembly about Saint Cecilia using an interesting PowerPoint on Thursday. The Kingfisher sharing assembly that was scheduled for today will now take place on Friday 1st December at 9.10am in the school hall.

News from Classes:

Foundation Stage (Ducklings and Robins) – The children have enjoyed listening to and joining in with the story ‘We’re going on a Bear Hunt’ by Michael Rosen and Helen Oxenbury. They were particularly fascinated by the pop up version donated by Alfie Green’s family. Now the Robin class are moving on to creating their own maps based on the book. Can we please give another plea for someone to revamp our well-love dolls’ house? We can cover the cost of any material used. Please see Elaine. Many thanks in anticipation.

Finches – In English we have been responding to the marking in our have-a-go writing books. This has helped us to think about our next steps. In maths we have been practising adding and taking away 1, 2 and 3 by counting on or back. We are excited by our DT moving model animals and look forward to decorating them next week.

Owls – We have continued our focus on owls – making an Owl Class book and listening to and writing about the Owl who was afraid of the dark. In maths we have been adding and subtracting 2 digit numbers using a hundred square. We have been enthusiastically practising for our nativity play ‘Are we there yet?’ Please help us to learn our words.

Doves – We have enjoyed finding out about the life, legacy and death of Julius Caesar. We have designed our own Roman mosaics. In English we have completed our autobiographies, redrafted them and begun to type them up as booklets. In maths we have worked hard on telling the time by matching analogue and digital clocks and finding differences between times.

Woodpeckers – We have been learning about animal classification and have started our own branching diagrams based on animals that we have invented. We have painted some lovely pictures inspired by Henri Rousseau’s jungles paintings.

Kingfishers – This week we have looked at different units of measurement and converting between them in maths, become TV commentators in English and continued working on our embroidered tree.

Christmas Bazaar - Friday 8th December 3 - 4.30pm - With only 2 weeks to go, we will be selling raffle tickets in the playground from next week. Thanks so much to those of you who have already started selling tickets to friends, family, colleagues and neighbours. You can pick up more books to sell, or return money and stubs, to the ticket sellers in the playground. Thanks to your good work voting on the Swim School of Oxfordshire facebook page we have bagged ourselves another great raffle prize - a YEAR'S worth of free swimming lessons for one child (that's worth over £600!). They'll be news about this year's Bake Off coming your way soon, and don't forget to let us know if you can help coordinate a craft stall in advance or run something on the day. Check out the New Hinksey School Association facebook page for details or email beccabolam@hotmail.com. Thank you.

Christmas Bazaar Poster – Please help us advertise the Bazaar. Every child should have bought home a black and white A4 poster. Please encourage your child to colour it in and to display in a window or on a door that might be seen by local residents walking past your house.

Parents are welcome in our school

Nursery Parents Applying for Primary School Place – You must complete an online application for your child's place at primary school **by 15th January 2018 if your child was born between 1.9.13 and 31.8.14**. You can access the forms on the Oxfordshire County Council website (School Admissions – Common Application Form) or you can go onto the school website, use the 'links' tab at top of home page and then click on the link that says 'Oxfordshire LA'. **If your child is already in our nursery (ducklings) you still must apply for a primary school place at this school.**

Vacancies on Our School Governing Body – One parent has come forward to be a parent governor. We now need one more. The role of a parent governor is to support the school strategically, be a parent voice on the governing body, attend meetings and help the school in its drive for continuous school improvement. Practically it involves attending full governing body meetings (5 or 6 a year, usually 6.30-8pm) and being a member of one of the two committees (meetings approx. 4 a year, usually 4-5.30pm). Please come forward and talk to Mrs Haynes if you are interested or contact our chair of governors, Harm-Jan Fricke, by email: hjfricke@btinternet.com. Thank you.

30 Hours Childcare Eligibility for Nursery Children – Parents who already have an eligibility code are reminded to reconfirm their eligibility for 30 hours every 3 months. Therefore reconfirmation must take place before 31st December to secure the continued funding for the spring term. Parents/carers who think that they might now be eligible for the spring term (January start) are strongly advised to apply as soon as possible, by 30th November, to make sure you get your code in time for the term starting in January. For more information go to: www.gov.uk/help-with-childcare-costs.

Data Collection Sheets – Those families who had not returned the original form received another one this week. Please ensure that you do return this form as it is the only way that we know that we have your current contact information in case we need to communicate with you during the school day.

Christmas Lunch – Please note that **Christmas Lunch will be on Thursday 14th December**, so there will not be a roast on the Wednesday that week (13th Dec). All lunches including the Christmas lunch must be paid for **in advance** using ParentPay – children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 do not have to pay but please do pre book on line. **We will not be providing Christmas lunch for children who have not paid in advance or who have outstanding lunch debts.** When you pre book please just tick the meat option for the turkey meal or the veggie option for the quorn meal as the actual menu for the Christmas meal that day is not shown in ParentPay. So that the kitchen has the numbers to do the orders, all Christmas lunches must be pre booked by Monday 4th December – thank you.

Wishing you all a happy weekend.

Yours sincerely,

Charlotte Haynes

Dates for Diaries (for next half of term)

Friday 1st December – Kingfisher Sharing Assembly
Friday 8th December – Christmas Bazaar from 3pm – 4.30pm
Tuesday 12th December – 2pm KS1 Nativity Performance
Wednesday 13th December – 9.30am Foundation Stage Nativity to parents
Wednesday 13th December – 2pm KS1 Nativity Performance
Thursday 14th December – Christmas Lunch and festive visitor ho, ho, ho!
Monday 18th December – 2.15pm – Christingle Service in Church
Tuesday 19th December – 1.00pm – Term Ends

Christmas Holiday – Wednesday 20th December 2017 – Wednesday 3rd January 2018

Thursday 4th January 2018 – Term 2 starts at 8.45am