



New Hinksey CE Primary School

Vicarage Road Oxford OX1 4RQ

Tel: 01865 242169 Fax: 01865 242169

Email: office.3213@new-hinksey.oxon.sch.uk

Website: www.new-hinksey.oxon.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mrs Charlotte Haynes

17th November 2017

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

Assemblies – On Monday we continued our assembly theme for November – Honesty and Trust with an assembly led by Mrs Sumser. We have also had a singing assembly and Father Ben led an assembly about Saint Edmund of Abingdon. We all enjoyed the Woodpeckers' sharing assembly which was themed around Baba Yaga who is a ghastly character living in the forest in a house built on three chicken legs!

News from Classes:

Foundation Stage (Ducklings and Robins) – This week the emphasis has been on the technology area of the curriculum and the children have loved observing our new popcorn and bubble machines. Their faces were a picture as they watched the popcorn shoot out, and they were also transfixed as they chased the bubbles around the playground. All of the Ducklings and Robins have demonstrated very good listening skills, and they were able to hold a good beat during our percussion music sessions. The Robins have also been investigating the different types of musical instruments that you can watch being used on the internet. Is there a parent who might be able to take home the old, but much loved, wooden dolls' house and give it a bit of TLC and some redecoration? See Elaine if you can help.

Finches – In English we have looked carefully at information books and noticed that indexes and glossaries are in alphabetical order. We also had a go at sorting and ordering our own glossary. In D.T we have designed an animal with moving parts, which we will begin to make next week. We have started to learn some of the songs for our Key Stage 1 Christmas play (- ask us if we can remember them). We enjoyed programming the beebots and thinking about left and right turns.

Owls – This week we have started to learn some of the songs for our Christmas nativity, worked hard on our phonics and maths skills, and also started the story 'The Owl who was Afraid of the Dark'. We have written descriptions of the characters and thought about the setting which is linked to our topic as it is set in a forest.

Doves – We have enjoyed beginning to learn about the Romans. We have found out about the order of the main historical periods and which countries were in the Roman Empire. We have enjoyed cooking pineapple sponges using fair trade ingredients, and reviewing the recipes. In maths we have worked hard to add and subtract near multiples.

Woodpeckers – This week we have finished our Baba Yaga stories. We have been multiplying and dividing by 10 and 100 and by multiples of 10 and 100. We have been preparing for our sharing assembly and hope you enjoyed it.

Kingfishers – We have been writing a spooky story! We have been increasing our confidence working with decimal numbers. In P.E. we have been playing football. Following our trip to Cotswold Wildlife Park last week, we have all selected an animal to research and will be producing an in-depth study of our chosen animal over the next few weeks.

Cake Sale – Many thanks indeed to everyone who helped organise, run, bake and buy at the cake sale last Friday. An impressive £137 was raised for School Association funds.

Christmas Bazaar - Friday 8th December 3 - 4.30pm - Just 3 weeks to go until the Christmas bazaar! As usual there will be fun games, craft stalls, mulled wine, carol singers plus an awesome raffle. We will also be running the popular "Make Off" this year as a Christmas themed "Bake Off" so get practising those signature bakes & showstoppers. As always, we need your help to ensure the event runs smoothly. Please see enclosed flyer. Also, for the first time, you will find 2 books of raffle tickets in book bags. We are asking that parents try to sell these tickets to neighbours, colleagues, family and friends. Stubs and money can be returned to the raffle ticket sellers in the playground from w/b 27th November. Many thanks.

Festival Of Light – This weekend in Oxford there are many events including a procession of light on Friday 6.30 – 7.30pm. For full details and information about other events see the website oxfordchristmas.com.

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 – Following the end of term of office for Jasper Smith in September, and the resignation of Ollie Raikes as parent governor, we now have two vacancies which we would like to fill. 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.

Christmas Card Orders - Each child should have produced their own Christmas card design and brought it home with an order form. If you would like to submit an order to have it printed professionally as a pack of Christmas cards please fill out the form, attach payment and bring to school by this Monday 20th November. Cheques made payable to New Hinksey School Association please, or the correct cash labelled clearly. £1 from every pack comes straight to the school raising valuable funds for our children. 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.

Wishing you all a great weekend.

Yours sincerely,

Charlotte Haynes

Dates for Diaries (for next half of term)

Friday 24th November – Kingfisher Sharing Assembly at 9.10am in the school hall
Friday 24th November – Cake Sale on playground at 3pm
Friday 8th December – Christmas Bazaar from 3pm – 4.30pm
Tuesday 12th December – 2pm KS1 Nativity Performance
Wednesday 13th December – 9.30 am Foundation Stage Nativity to parents
Wednesday 13th December – 2pm KS1 Nativity Performance
Thursday 15th 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