



New Hinksey CE Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs Charlotte Haynes

5th January 2018

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

Welcome back to school and a very happy new year to you all. We hope you have had happy holidays and that the children are now refreshed and ready for learning. Our whole school topic this term is 'Amazing Authors' and each class will be focussing their learning around one or two specific authors. Please see the brief class news below for which authors. Next week a more detailed topic plan will be sent home with each child, giving an overview of the learning taking place in each subject of the curriculum.

Welcome – We extend a warm welcome to Mrs Janet Young who is teaching in Kingfisher class on Thursdays and Fridays, and to Gemma who is a new lunchtime supervisor.

Thank you – From all the staff for the many Christmas gifts and good wishes from families. It is very kind and thoughtful of you to show your appreciation in this way.

News from Classes:

Foundation Stage (Ducklings and Robins) – The books of John Burningham will be explored this term.

Finches – We will be focusing on Julia Donaldson books to start with, moving on to Shirley Hughes later in the term.

Owls – We are looking forward to our learning based around the books of Anthony Browne.

Doves – Our author is Dick King Smith to start the term and, after half term, E.B. White who wrote *Charlotte's Web*.

Woodpeckers – The Roman Mysteries by author Caroline Lawrence are our focus this term.

Kingfishers – Louis Sachar's book *Holes* will be studied by us with Miss Potier and with Mrs Young we will be exploring a range of poetry starting with *The Listeners* by Walter de la Mare.

Year 5 and 6 Children – please see important information below about a football competition that we would like to enter.

Football Competition – We are hoping to enter both a girls and a boys 5 aside football team in a competition on 2nd February at the Oxford City ground. This is for Year 5 and Year 6 children and Club Energy coach Stuart will be our manager/coach. Any child in year 5 or 6 who wishes to be considered for the teams is strongly encouraged to come to a **free training/trial session from 3 - 4.15pm on Wednesday 10th next week** here at school. Please let Mrs Haynes or Tracey know if you intend to come along and bring PE kit and trainers on Wednesday. Stuart will pick a squad from the trial session and the squad will have further training sessions on Wednesday after school (17th, 24th and 31st January). School will pay for the training sessions, travel to/from the ground and the competition so there is no cost for families. Children picked for the competition will need shin pads and football boots for the competition day.

After School Club and Wraparound Care - The invoices for December should have come home this week via book bags and are also in ParentPay. Please note that the deadline for payment is Friday 12th January.

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). **If your child is already in our nursery (ducklings) you still must apply for a primary school place at this school. Please make sure you do not miss the deadline which is only 10 days away.**

School Lunch Menu – The existing menu continues until the end of next week and then the new menus start from Monday 15th January. The daily choices are shown in ParentPay so please be aware and have a look. Thank you.

Parents are welcome in our school

Bike Sheds – You may have noticed that the weight of snow on the bikes sheds has broken the roofing and so the main bike shed is currently out of action. Please help us for now by only bringing a bike or scooter to school if absolutely necessary as we only have the small bike shed to store them in. We hope to have the perspex removed and replaced with new in due course.

Children Having Packed Lunches – please could parents ensure that children have a drink included with their packed lunch and that this is in a sports style bottle or other packaging that the children can manage/handle themselves and that does not spill easily – many thanks.

Club Energy – The after school sports club will start again on Tuesday 9th January 3 - 4.15pm with the sports coaches. The charge is £30 for 10 sessions. Please note that this will be a multi-sports club and will no longer be football. Sports such as hockey, netball, basketball and dodgeball will be covered. Please fill in and return a slip with payment as soon as possible, ignoring that the slip says ‘football’!

Have a good weekend.

Yours sincerely,

Charlotte Haynes

Dates for Diaries

Friday 26th January – Sharing Assembly 9.10am in the hall for Dove Class (Yr 3/4)

Monday 5th February – Sharing Assembly 9.10am in the hall for Kingfisher Class (Yr 5/6)

Friday 2nd March – Sharing Assembly 9.10am in hall for Finch Class (Yr 1)

Friday 9th March – Sharing Assembly 9.10am in the hall for Woodpecker Class (Yr 4/5)

Friday 16th March – Sharing Assembly 9.10am in the hall for Owl Class (Yr 2)

Reminders to take note of:

- Long hair should be tied back all day in school
- Please bring a fruit, veg or cereal bar snack for playtime (Yrs 1 – 6) and a water bottle everyday
- Only one chocolate item is allowed in a packed lunch
- Children should be here every morning in time to line up and lead in to class at 8.45am
- Parents of children having paid school lunches should make sure that there is credit in ParentPay and that debts do not build up.
- School ends at 3pm and children should be collected promptly. Children not collected by 3.15pm when the gates are locked will be put in After School Club and will be charged the part time session cost of £7
- We do not allow chewing gum on the school site (adults too) so please respect this and help us keep our tarmac play areas free of sticky blobs!
- If your child is ill and not able to come to school please phone the school 01865 242169 to let us know (but not between 8.30 – 9am) – thank you