



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

23rd February 2018

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

It is good to have everyone back after a relaxing half term break. In assembly on Monday we continued with our theme 'Is that fair?' and yesterday we had our assembly in church where Father Ben explained to the children about preparing for Easter during Lent.

News from Classes:

Foundation Stage (Ducklings and Robins) – We have all returned to school after the holidays with great enthusiasm. The Duckling Class are now able to listen very carefully during their group time sessions with Elizabeth, and the Robins are making huge strides in their reading and writing skills. We would like to remind parents of the children in the Robin Class to practise reading the small books that they bring home each week as much as possible. Regular practice really does have an enormous impact on your child's progression. We thank you for your co-operation.

Finches – We were introduced to our second 'Amazing Author' this week – Shirley Hughes, who we discovered has held 'our' Alfie in her arms when he was a baby! We are focusing on her "Out and About" poems and have been comparing them with those written by Julia Donaldson. Mrs Wilkins will be exploring "Dogger" over the next few weeks too. Our self-portraits are finished and we look forward to showing them next week in assembly!

Owls – We have been doubling and halving numbers and learning about halves, quarters and thirds of shapes in Maths. We have read and compared traditional versions of "Goldilocks and the Three Bears" with Anthony Browne's "Me and You". Now we are writing our own versions of the story. We also hope to learn how to make porridge and flapjacks in the near future. In Science and PE we have been thinking about why exercise is good for us.

Doves – We have settled back in well after half-term. We have begun to study character and setting in E. B. White's "Charlotte's Web". In Art we have experimented with colour mixing after being inspired by Monet's paintings. In Maths we are continuing to work hard on fractions.

Woodpeckers – We have finished reading and listening to the second Caroline Lawrence story, "The Secrets of Vesuvius". It is a dramatic story about children escaping from an erupting volcano. We have begun learning about the discovery of the buried town of Pompeii and what the findings there have taught us about how the Ancient Romans lived their lives.

Kingfishers – Is it a bird, is it a plane? No, it's a UFO. We have started our investigation of sci-fi stories. Some of us in Year 6 are having special booster sessions in preparation for our SATs. We have all learnt a bit about Pop Art and have started work on an Andy Warhol style 'Campbell's Soup Can'. We have suggested different ways that animals and plants adapt to extreme environments and designed our own plants or animals to survive in a given environment.

Important Reminders

1. After sickness and/or diarrhoea children should not return to school until they have had 24 hours clear of further bouts.
2. Children having paid school meals – lunches should be paid for **in advance** using ParentPay.
3. Children with long hair should have it tied back throughout each day in school.

Headlice

There have been several reports of headlice in different classes. Please could you spend time this weekend checking your child's hair and treating if necessary.

Bollywood Dance Club

There will be no Bollywood dancing on Thursday 8th March as that is the night of the school disco.

Parents are welcome in our school

School Disco – This takes place on Thursday 8th March (save the date) in the school hall and is organised by members of the School Association. There are 2 disco sessions, one for Foundation Stage, Year 1 and Year 2 children from 4.30-5.30pm, and a later disco for Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 from 6-7pm. Please note that children in Foundation stage must be accompanied by an adult during the disco. There will be more information in next week's newsletter and tickets will go on sale from Monday 5th March.

Governor and Parent Grounds Working Party – Could you donate an hour of your time and energy on **Saturday 24th February at 2pm?** Our vice chair of governors, Christine Hill, is rallying some 'troops' to weed, sweep, clear up leaf debris, litter pick and tidy up the playgrounds, bike shed areas and outside spaces around school. Please turn up with some gardening gloves, a broom and some garden refuse bags if you could help out. If you are bringing your children to **help** please be aware that toilet and play facilities will not be available.

World Book Day – this takes place next week on Thursday 1st March. We invite any child and staff member (or parent!) who wants to, to come dressed up as a character from a book. We also ask for children to bring in a favourite book to show and talk about in class. There will be a book sale after school – please see notice below and yellow flier in book bag.

Epic Book Sale

The School Association is organising a massive used book sale on World Book Day, next Thursday 1st March, at 3pm. Please dig through your book shelves and see if there are any books you can donate for any age. Please bring your unwanted books on the morning, and bring money to buy after school. All books will be only 50p, so for £5 you could replenish your bookshelves with 10 books for the whole family. All funds raised go to the school. This is a lovely finish to the day to encourage children to get reading when they get home!

Please get in touch with Claire Aldridge (clairejaldridge@hotmail.co.uk) if you think you can help with sorting setting up or selling on the day. Thank you!

Spring Term SEND Reviews - Thursday 15th March and Thursday 22nd March are days set aside for teachers to be released from their classes to meet parents for Individual Education Plan reviews. Letters have been sent home with individual appointments. Please return the response slip to Mrs Haynes. Thank you.

Year 5 and 6 Children – have received a letter this week about a visit to the Playhouse on Thursday 8th March. Please look out for it and return the response slip as soon as possible and remember to send your child with a packed lunch that day. **Year 6 Children** (only) should have brought home a letter today about the Junior Citizen morning on Friday March 9th. There is a reply slip to return to Mrs Young.

Keeping Children Safe Online – As parents we urge you to take responsibility for finding out the best ways to keep your children safe on line when they are not in school.

Two good websites for parents are: www.thinkuknow.co.uk and www.nspcc.org.uk

Yours sincerely,

Charlotte Haynes

Dates for Diaries

Parents and guests are welcome at our sharing assemblies.

Thursday 1st March – World Book Day

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

Thursday 8th March – School Disco

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)

Monday 19th March and Thursday 22nd March 3.30 - 6.30 Parents' Evenings

Wednesday 21st March – Sports Relief fundraising event

Oxford Children's Hospital

On Sunday 25th March there will be a five mile run at Blenheim Palace to raise funds for the Oxford Children's Hospital. You can sign up at: ox5run.co.uk or call 01865 743444.