



# New Hinksey CE Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs Charlotte Haynes

9<sup>th</sup> March 2018

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

We are glad to have got through this week without inclement weather! Thank you to the majority of families who attended on Thursday and Friday last week and thank you also to the many parents who expressed their gratitude to the staff for keeping the school open, meaning parents could also go to work and there was no adverse knock-on effect.

Yesterday Father Ben led an assembly about Mothering Sunday – I do hope all you mothers are treated to something nice on Sunday. This morning we enjoyed Woodpecker's sharing assembly – thank you for your plays, Powerpoints and for displaying your impressive models of Vesuvius.

## News from Classes:

**Foundation Stage (Ducklings and Robins)** – This week the children have been enjoying more Jez Alborough stories, particularly those focussed on bears. They also enjoyed the story of *Goldilocks and The Three Bears*, and the Robin Class were able to retell the story and write some very good sentences. We would like to say thank you to Chemu in Year 1 for playing the piano so beautifully to us this week.

**Finches** – In English we are working in groups to read, discuss and explore different books by Julia Donaldson. We have written letters to her to explain what we liked about the stories and asked questions to find out more. In maths we have been learning about time, which is always an interesting challenge! We are investigating the weather each day for our homework and are going to report back on it in the next few weeks. We really enjoyed making some Easter coiled pots from clay in art.

**Owls** – This week we have been revising units of time e.g. how many minutes in an hour and how many months in a year etc. and seeing how many times we can write our name or jump in a minute. We have been exploring Anthony Browne's version of *Hansel and Gretel*, creating a class poem based on his powerful illustrations for the story. We helped to make a carrot cake and enjoyed eating it.

**Doves** – We have enjoyed experimenting with changing states in science. We made springtime nests and saw the chocolate changing from solid to liquid and back again. In maths we are working hard on adding to 3 and 4 digit numbers. We have also been developing our design and sewing skills in D.T.

**Woodpeckers** – We have worked hard this week preparing for our sharing assembly. We have put the finishing touches to our 'Bay of Naples' models; written play scripts and practised acting out short plays; made a Powerpoint presentation and a short animation of the Roman Invasions. The year 5 children enjoyed their visit to the Playhouse yesterday. The year 4 children are looking forward to their visit to the Story Museum next Wednesday.

**Kingfishers** – We have been peer-checking our descriptions of a scene from another planet. Also, we have made a wanted poster of Andy Warhol to show biographical information of the artist. We all enjoyed our trip to the Playhouse to watch performances of the plays we had written as part of the Playmaker project. Very well done to Mariam for Rollercoaster Ride and Tessa for The Suffragette Story – the 2 plays from our school which were chosen for performing by professional actors. Year 6 also took part in the Junior Citizen programme on Friday morning at Rewley Road Fire Station, where they learned lots of life saving and citizenship skills.

**Spring Term SEND Reviews** - Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> March and Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> 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.

**After School Club and Wraparound bills** were sent home last week. Please ensure that you have made your payment by Friday 16<sup>th</sup> March. Thank you.

*Parents are welcome in our school*

**After School Club Bookings and Cancellations** – Please can parents **email** the office email ([office.3213@new-hinksey.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:office.3213@new-hinksey.oxon.sch.uk)) with queries about future bookings and cancellation information. There are too many to be able to remember all the different dates and who is doing what by word of mouth! – many thanks.

## **SOAP**

**SOUTH OXFORD ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND (SOAP) would like to invite you to its AGM, Tuesday 20th March 2018, 7pm for 7.30pm, Grandpont Pavilion, Whitehouse Rd, OX1.**

The Agenda will include future plans and design for a new building; upgrading of some of the play equipment; and plans for the coming year. If you have experience in fundraising, website maintenance, or would like to get involved in SOAP, or just learn more, please join us! Everyone is welcome. Drinks and snacks will be served.

## **Booking lunches**

Parentpay offers the facility for parents to book lunches in advance. It is extremely useful when parents do that as it saves teaching time when teachers do not have to book every child's lunch in school. There are occasions when children have to leave school promptly to go on a trip (such as swimming lessons for Years 4 and 5 after Easter) and the teacher will not have time to enter lunches on the computer. Therefore, on those days if children have not been pre-booked for their lunches, they will have to bring packed lunches as it will be too late for the school kitchen to produce extra lunches once the children return from their swimming lessons. A further letter with details of the swimming will be sent home to all Year 4 and 5 children. Thank you.

**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](http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk) and [www.nspcc.org.uk](http://www.nspcc.org.uk)

**Easter Egg Raffle** – From Monday 19<sup>th</sup> March we would like to start receiving donations of Easter chocolate and other Easter gifts for the Easter Raffle which will take place on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> March. Do remember to get a few things when you are out shopping over the next few weeks – many thanks.

Yours sincerely,

Charlotte Haynes

## **Dates for Diaries**

Parents and guests are welcome at our sharing assemblies.

**Friday 16<sup>th</sup> March** – Sharing Assembly 9.10am in the hall for Owl Class (Yr 2)

**Monday 19<sup>th</sup> March** and **Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> March** 3.30 - 6.30 **Parents' Evenings** – **please sign up on the sheets**

Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> March – Sports Relief fundraising event

**Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> March** – **Term Ends after lunch at 1pm** (no After School Club)

**School Holiday Friday 30<sup>th</sup> March – Friday 13<sup>th</sup> April**

**Summer Term starts at 8.45am on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> April**

## **Oxford Children's Hospital**

On Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> 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](http://ox5run.co.uk) or call 01865 743444.