



New Hinksey CE Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs Charlotte Haynes

20th April 2018

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

Welcome back to the Summer Term and isn't it lovely to see the sun shining this week? Please note that children must have their shoulders covered on the playground so no strappy or vest type of tops please, unless worn with a light cardigan. Please apply day long sun cream at home before school and not send children in with tubes and bottles of sun cream – thank you.

Each class has got straight on with their learning and our topics this term are:

Foundation Stage (Ducklings and Robins) – **Fantasy**

Key Stage 1 (Finches and Owls) – **Circuses and Fairgrounds**

Key Stage 2 (Doves, Woodpeckers and Kingfishers) – **Heroes and Villains**

Your child will have brought home a Topic Plan for their class which we hope you find useful. They are also available to view on our school website: www.new-hinksey.oxon.sch.uk, as is each weekly newsletter.

News from Classes:

Foundation Stage (Ducklings and Robins) – All of the children have settled back into school very happily after the holidays. The children in Robins have been demonstrating remarkable progress in their literacy skills, and the Ducklings have now become more confident in coming to play in the Robin area of the class – some have even been upset when they couldn't stay for phonics! The children also enjoyed participating in the circus skills workshop. Many thanks to all of the parents for their voluntary contributions.

Finches – We have started our circus topic with fun and games. The circus skills workshop was a great success and we have all been inspired to learn new tricks! In English we have been storytelling Big Top Benn and each day a group of us have gone to our clown school to follow instructions, dress up and perform a funny song. In science we have been investigating living things in our garden and looking closely at parts of a plant.

Owls – We have enthusiastically started our Circuses and Fairgrounds topic by exploring books and pictures and taking part in the wonderful circus skills workshop on Wednesday. We all tried some new skills and learnt that with lots of practice we can improve. If you have any circus books at home we would love to borrow them to show in class. Please share your own memories of going to the circus with your children over the next couple of weeks as we explore how the circus has changed within living memory.

Doves – Doves have settled back into the summer term well. We have enjoyed using interesting adjectives to create their own maps. In maths we have developed our multiplication and division skills.

Woodpeckers – We have been enjoying listening to and reading *Harry Potter and The Philosopher's Stone* by JK Rowling. We have been finding out about the author and doing some descriptive writing connected with the story. We have invented and drawn our own superheroes or villains and will go on to do some more work around these characters. Our first swimming session went very well. Please ensure your child is here early on Tuesdays (8.40am) because the coach leaves the end of the road at 9am.

Kingfishers – We have kicked off our term looking at Roger Bannister, a local sporting hero. We have found out how long it takes us to run 1 mile (1.6km) and how far we can run in 4 minutes (which was the record he broke in 1954). Some of us have plotted this data on a graph and some of us have written running and sports themed haikus.

Booking lunches on swimming days – Please remember that as the children leave early for swimming on Tuesdays, if you want your Year 4 or Year 5 child to have a school lunch on Tuesday **you must pre book them in on ParentPay or if you are unable to do that, send them in with a packed lunch** – Many thanks.

After School Club and Wraparound – deadline for March bills is today. Please clear any debts over the weekend.

Parents are welcome in our school

Clubs: These will start next week as follows:

Tuesdays (start 24th April) Club Energy Multisports, 3 – 4.15pm. Please sign up and pay online by visiting www.clubenergysports.com (choose tabs: Clubs....After School Clubs....find New Hinksey.....Add to cart etc. You can also collect a form from us and return it with payment in an envelope that we will pass on to the sports coaches.

Wednesdays (starting 25th April) Computer Club for Year 1 and 2, 3-4pm. 10 places – see Mrs Nash to sign up.

Thursdays (starting 26th April) Bollywood Dance with Narinder, 3-4pm. Please contact Narinder directly by emailing her at narinder.thapar@tiscali.co.uk for details.

New Hinksey Summer Fete - this year's fete will be on Saturday 9th June 12-2.30pm. With the upcoming changes to the School Association (see accompanying letter) we really need lots of new volunteers to step forward this year and get involved in the planning stages to see how things are run and organised. If you would like to take a leading role in coordinating the fete this year, do let us know. Alternatively, please come to the planning meeting (details to be announced next week) and find out what's involved.

2018 – 2019 School Term and Holiday Dates – These dates for next school year are printed on the back of the letter from the School Association and are also available on the school website.

September 2018 Nursery Places: Please can you help us? If you have children born between 1st September 2014 and 31st August 2015 or know of neighbours and other local families with children this age, please contact us or encourage their parents to phone us (01865 242169) as soon as possible if they would like a nursery place for September. This is for the 3 year old part time places (every morning). Thank you for your help.

Making Useful Donations to School: We will be very grateful to receive any kind donations of the following items to help replenish resources:

Pritt Glue Sticks; Packs of A4 photocopying paper; Art paper for sketching or painting; Coloured card for art and D.T. Packs of black or coloured whiteboard pens (the dry wipe sort i.e. wipe off without water or spray)

Yours sincerely,

Charlotte Haynes

Dates for Diaries

Tuesday 1st May at 2pm – May Dancing on the school playground (fingers crossed for good weather)

Monday 7th May – School Closed/No School as it is May Bank Holiday

Wednesday 23rd May – the class group PHOTOS will be taken (school sweatshirts/tops should be worn please)

Friday 25th May – 9.10am Dove Class Sharing Assembly

Friday 25th May – Break up at 3pm for start of half-term holiday (after school club as normal)

School Holiday Monday 28th May – Friday 1st June

Monday 4th June – School Closed for INSET (no school for all children)

Tuesday 5th June 8.45am Children return for start of term (swimming for Years 4 and 5)

Saturday 9th June - SCHOOL FETE

Friday 15th June 9.10am – Woodpecker Class Sharing Assembly

Friday 22nd June 9.10am – Kingfisher Class Singing Sharing Assembly

Friday 6th July 9.10am – Owl Class Sharing Assembly

Wednesday 11th July (morning) – Sports Day

Friday 20th July (morning) Year 1 and 2 hope to put on a Circus Show for parents!

Tuesday 17th and Wednesday 18th July – 2pm – Key Stage 2 performances to parents 'Robin Hood'

Tuesday 24th July in afternoon – Year 6 Leaver's Assembly (Year 6 parents please save the date!)

Wednesday 25th July END OF TERM at 1pm after Lunch

South Oxford Adventure Playground (SOAP): Get out and play everyday. Open Monday-Friday after school; 3.15-5.15pm.

Everyone welcome. It's fun and it's free. All 7+ year olds staying without a parent/carer must have a new registration form for 2018. Forms available at SOAP. See website for more detail: <http://www.soapoxford.org.uk/>

Please be aware that because SOAP is a busy playground and children visit SOAP without a parent/carer, dogs should not be left unattended at the gate. Also, please do not hold birthday parties for your children at SOAP during public opening times. SOAP is an inclusive playground where all children are welcome, regardless of a party invite. SOAP is available to hire at the weekends and in the evenings for private parties.

Vacancy at SOAP: SOAP is looking for a Party Bookings Manager. This is a part-time, flexible position and would suit someone who lives locally. Please email hiresoapoxford@gmail.com for more information.