



New Hinksey CE Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs Charlotte Haynes

13th January 2017

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

I am very pleased to say that the lost scooter turned up – a case of mistaken identity in the scooter world as they do all look very similar! It has prompted me to remind you all that it is best if somehow scooters and bikes are named or have some distinguishing feature put on them such as a sticker, ribbon or identifiable bike bell!

This week all classes are really getting stuck in to their Wonderful World topic and there is a sense of enthusiasm throughout the school with some classrooms starting to be transformed into far away places.

News from Classes:

Foundation Stage – We have started to learn about pet animals by drawing them with stencils, painting them, reading books about them and treating them in the ‘Hinksey Vets’ role play corner. On most Wednesday mornings the Reception children will be embarking on their outdoor learning trips around the local area. Elizabeth and Sandra will be taking half a class at a time so please make sure that your children have appropriate clothes, especially coat and footwear, for the weather each week. If there are any parent volunteers who would like to accompany the outdoor learning trips it would be lovely so please speak to Elizabeth or Elaine, but please note that we cannot accommodate younger brother and sisters and buggies – sorry.

Year 1 – This week we have focussed on the ‘wonderful world’ near to us. We have brainstormed ideas about where we live, what we can see and do and the best thing about our city of Oxford. Our writing will be the start of ‘Wonderful World’ topic information books. We are enjoying asking some BIG questions in our explorers’ den e.g. how tall is the biggest mountain? Why does it snow? We plan to take off and visit some far-away places next week! We had fun making Van Gogh inspired pictures and we are enjoying finding out more about ‘Vincent’ including what his favourite colour was – can you guess?

Year 2 – We have been learning, writing and making examples of the fish and coral found on the Great Barrier Reef in Australia. We are creating a class book, a wall display and our own aquariums. In maths we have been practising using our number bonds to solve additions and subtractions.

Year 3 – We have been working hard to add 2, 3 and 4 digit numbers using partitioning in maths. In English we have enjoyed competing against each other to find words with prefixes such as anti- and sub-. In art we have painted Chinese numbers and in R.E. we are learning about Sikhism. Please note that the Chinese Art session at the Ashmolean is **Thursday 26th January**.

Year 4 – We have been studying Kensuke’s Kingdom and discussing whether or not it is a good idea to sail around the world with your family! In maths we are getting confident using column methods to subtract 3-digit numbers. In art we are using watercolour and crayons to produce a Japanese style picture. Miss Mzizi says that it has been a pleasure to start working with this class as they have begun 2017 with a positive mental attitude and have greeted her with enthusiasm and focus which she has no doubt will lead to the production of great work.

Year 3 and 4 – a reminder that all children need a packed lunch on Monday (16th Jan) as they will return from Oxford Castle too late for the school kitchen.

Year 5 – We have enjoyed finding out about Brazil. We have been doing our own research and making notes for a piece of extended non-fiction writing. In science we have begun our new topic on Forces; we have learnt a little about Sir Isaac Newton and have annotated photos depicting various forces at work.

Year 6 – In English we have been acting out scenes from Mufaro’s Beautiful Daughters – a ‘Cinderella’ story from Zimbabwe. The children are beginning to gather ideas for writing a diary from one character’s point of view. Ethiopian icons have been the focus of our art work this week. We have learned about the fascinating churches of Lalibela that were carved from rock in the 12th Century, and began making our own icons based on even more ancient Ethiopian designs. In maths we have been revisiting rounding numbers to the nearest 10, 100, 1000 and 10000 and are feeling much more confident now!

Parents are welcome in our school

School Lunches Next Week (please note change) – for next week only the Fish and Chips day will be Thursday 19th and the usual Thursday meal of sausage/veggie sausage and mash will be served on Friday 20th. Many children really enjoy the fish and chips so please make sure you remember this change for next week so they can still have their fish and chips on Thursday. If you book on parent pay ignore what it says will be on the menu next week on Thursday and Friday – just remember they have switched around! We will check with the children on the day anyway. **Please do make an effort to ensure that children in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 always have credit in their account before booking lunches. If there is no credit you will be asked to bring a packed lunch.** Thanks.

After School Club and Wraparound Care Bills – The deadline for paying the December invoices is today Friday 13th January. If you still have an outstanding debt please pay at once over the weekend (using ParentPay) so that use of these facilities is not withdrawn. Many thanks.

National Childhood Measuring Programme

Parents of children in Reception and Year 6 should have received a letter and flyer about this taking place in school on Thursday 19th January. Please read carefully and contact the School Health Team if you have any queries.

School Association Meeting - Monday 16th Jan 8.15 pm venue tbc. We will be meeting to discuss the format of the school disco. If you are interested in helping us improve this event, please email feedback on previous years to annajanelawrence@gmail.com or email to find out the meeting venue if you'd like to join us. Many thanks

Christingle Collection – I am pleased to say we raised £287.43 for The Children's Society charity.

I hope everyone has a happy weekend and keeps nice and warm.

Yours sincerely,

Charlotte Haynes

Dates for Diaries

Friday 20th January – Sharing Assembly for Year 5 in hall at 9.10am – Year 5 parents welcome

Friday 27th January – Sharing Assembly for Year 1 in hall at 9.10am – Year 1 parents welcome

Wednesday 1st February – Peter Pan pantomime performance to the school (Years 1 to 6)

Friday 10th February – Sharing Assembly for Year 6 in hall at 9.10am – Year 6 parents welcome

Monday 13th – Friday 17th February – Half Term holiday – school closed this week

Monday 20th February - Children return to school after the half term holiday

Friday 3rd March – School Class Photos

Thursday 16th March – International Evening in school – more details to follow

Friday 17th March – Inset day – School closed to all children for staff training

Friday 7th April – End of Term at 1pm

Monday 10th April – Friday 21st April School closed for Easter holiday

Monday 24th April – start of Summer Term

The Sainsbury's Active Kids voucher scheme starts again on 25 th January so please be ready to start collecting again for us – thank you.
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