



# New Hinksey CE Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs Charlotte Haynes

18<sup>th</sup> November 2016

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

I hope you have all noticed the finished playground area over the road now that the tarmac is down. We have greatly enjoyed the extra space at playtimes and lunchtimes.

Father James led an assembly on Thursday about Christ the King – thank you to Kyshia for being a very regal queen!

**Toys and Other Items from Home** – Please could we discourage children from bringing in toys and other items such as stickers, coins, toy cars, knick-knacks from home. This inevitably leads to difficulties especially if friends ‘lend’ or give such items to others and then later decide they want them back or if they get broken. Thank you.

### **News from Classes:**

**Foundation Stage** – The children have been carefully listening this week. The Pandas have been listening to different musical instruments and the Reception children have been listening and dancing to different types of classical music. All of the children have enjoyed very careful cutting round shapes and writing numbers with Sarah.

**Year 1** – The “Storytelling Den” in our role play area is giving us inspiration for our own stories. We are all planning new stories featuring a dragon as our bad character. We are looking forward to presenting them as books, films and puppet shows! In maths we have been measuring length and height. We are also enjoying giving our friendship tokens.

**Year 2** – This week we have been adding and subtracting 10, 20, 30, 11, 12, 21 from 2 digit numbers. We have started investigating different materials in science. We have been practising writing commands, using apostrophes and commas in a list in our English lessons.

**Year 3** – We have enjoyed designing and making clay vases in DT this week. In science we have investigated shadows and experimented with translucent, transparent and opaque. In maths we have been rounding to the nearest 10 and 100.

**Year 4** – In maths we have been estimating the weight of different fruits, then weighing them accurately before showing the results in a bar chart. We have also been exploring how Edward Greig’s ‘In the Hall of the Mountain King’ makes us feel and what it puts us in mind of. We all agree it is a powerful and rousing piece of music. In preparation for our sharing assembly next week we are learning our lines for our ‘Gunpowder Plot’ play. Hope to see you there!

**Year 5** – In maths this week we have been learning various written methods for multiplying and dividing. We have also been improving the speed of our mental calculations. We are keeping a ‘biscuit diary’ this week and have started thinking about designing our own biscuits. In English lessons we have listened to and read lots of poetry around the theme ‘What I want to be’. We will begin writing our own next week.

**Year 6** – This week we have been following up from our Woodlands visit by writing a class ‘manifesto’ about how we can listen and communicate better and be more independent – skills that the children demonstrated very well throughout the week at Woodlands. (Children who did not had go made very useful contributions and will also be expected to demonstrate these skills as we continue the year!) In maths we have been adding and subtracting positive and negative numbers and comparing fractions with different denominators, using < and >. Please support your children with this week’s homework as many of them found it a little tricky. In music we learned how to use “Garage Band” to create backing tracks with Nick Speller, our IT expert and listened to Stravinsky’s ‘Firebird’. This piece will be the main focus of our learning up until Christmas.

**Data Collection Sheets** – These were sent home last week. Please return all of them to school – those with amendments and those with no changes. This is a useful opportunity to check that we have all your correct and up to date contact details. Many thanks.

*Parents are welcome in our school*

**Parents' Evenings** – Thank you to those parents who attended Parents Evening on Tuesday this week. There is another opportunity for parents to meet teachers on Thursday next week. The sign-up sheets are available outside classes. These meetings will also be an opportunity for parents of children with individual education plans for SEN to discuss progress and new targets.

**School Applications for Starting in Reception September 2017** – Please note that the deadline for submitting applications to the County Council Admissions Team is 15<sup>th</sup> January 2017. If you have children who will be 4 years old by 1<sup>st</sup> September 2017 then you will need to apply for a school place here even if your child is already in nursery. We are currently showing new families around. Please let us know if you are an existing family here with younger children who will be applying for a place. Also if you have local friends, neighbours or relatives with children who will need a school place in September 2017 please remind them to phone us to arrange for a school tour and to get their applications submitted in good time.

**Uniform** – We will be sending off an order in the coming weeks so please let us know or collect an order form asap if you require new sweatshirts, t-shirts or polo shirts.

**Reward Box Donations** – Thank you for the wonderful selection of things that you have sent in to keep the reward box stocked up.

**Job Vacancy** – we currently have a lunchtime supervisor job advertised for 7.5 hours per week. If you, or any friends, are interested please look at Oxfordshire County Council School Support Job Vacancies online and apply using the application form there. Many thanks.

**Invitation to St John's Church from Fr James** - All Welcome! Sunday 20th November 2016 at 5pm  
Feast of Christ the King - Ordination Mass of Fr Ben Drury, followed by a hog roast, cake and drinks.

**The "Grow your Tenner" Campaign** is going really well. Thank you so much to those of you who have donated, especially if you have set up a monthly direct debit. It is really appreciated. For each £10 donated the school association receives £20, even more if you can claim gift aid. There's still time to donate and double your donation for free. Please go to <https://localgiving.org/charity/newhinkseyschoolassociation/> to donate, or join our facebook group (search for New Hinksey School Association) and follow the link there. Many thanks.

**Cake Sale** – The school association will be running a cake sale on **Friday 25<sup>th</sup> November** at 3pm in the playground. Please could everyone help by donating cake and cookies and. Of course, remembering your money next Friday to buy some delicious treats.

Yours sincerely,

Charlotte Haynes

### **Dates for Diaries**

Monday 21<sup>st</sup> November – Woodlands Assembly, 2.30pm in hall – Parents of 'Woodlands children' welcome

Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> November – Parents' Evening, 4pm – 7pm

Friday 25<sup>th</sup> November – Year 4 Sharing assembly, 9.10am in hall

Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> December – Starting to Read information session for Reception Parents, 2.30pm with Elaine

Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> December – Year 6 sharing Assembly, 9.10am in hall

Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December – Christingle Service in church (time to be confirmed)

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Bazaar, 3pm – 4.30pm

Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December – Key Stage 1 Christmas Performance, 2pm in hall

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December – Foundation Stage Nativity, 9.30am in hall

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December – Key Stage 1 Christmas Performance, 2pm in hall

Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December – School Christmas Lunch (and special visitor – ho, ho, ho!)

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December – End of Term at 1pm

This year **Grandpont Nursery's Christmas Bazaar** will be held on Friday 2nd December 2.30pm-4.30pm. Do try to go along at the end of the day after school – lots of exciting stalls and activities.