



New Hinksey CE Primary School

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30 September 2016

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

We have a good and busy week in school. Please continue to make every effort to get your children to school in time to join the lines leading in at 8.45am prompt. The front gates are locked at 8.55am so parents should have left the school site by then.

We have been exploring the themes of belonging to a community and serving our community in assemblies.

News from Classes:

Foundation Stage – We have been practising forming the letters in our name correctly by painting them, writing them and mark making in the sand. We have also been learning about squirrels, trees and autumn. In the garden we have loved making dens and we have also been pretending to be transformers (dressed in boxes).

Year 1 – Our focus in English has been instructions. We are discovering the importance of using clear voices, bossy words and sequencing the instructions. We followed a recipe to make bread, which linked with our learning about harvest. In maths we are working out 1 more and 2 more (don't forget the online homework!) We enjoyed testing out our senses in science. Can you remember what our senses are?

Year 2 – This week we have been practising our number bonds to 20 and doubling and halving. We have been carrying out writing and editing tasks for our Read, Write, Inc books. We have started learning about the Great Fire of London using books and video clips. We have been learning about the equipment used to fight fires in the 17th century and thinking about what we would save from a fire. Samuel Pepys saved his precious Parmesan cheese!

Year 3 – We have enjoyed researching London landmarks to gather interesting facts for our non-fiction booklets. We have really developed our note-taking skills. In science we have pretended to be personal trainers to advise fictional characters how to lead a healthy, active life. In maths we are working on reading calendars and telling the time.

Year 4 – We have been learning about the most well-known of the many Gods that Hindus worship. We have been 'stepping out' a story of Sir Christopher Wren visiting builders during the construction of St Paul's Cathedral. Our focus in maths has been telling the time, calculating time intervals and reading timetables.

Year 5 – We have been finding out about Vulcanalia – the ancient Roman festival held in honour of Vulcan the God of Fire. In RE we have been looking at holy texts with a focus on Sikhism. We are continuing to work on improving the speed of our mental maths calculations by learning different strategies for example multiplying by 9 and by 25.

Year 6 – Much of the learning this week has centered around the ancient legend of Beowulf and Grendel. The children have read different versions of the story, drawn wild ink and charcoal sketches of Grendel and, having acted out scenes from the story, produced some horribly chilling descriptive writing! They have also done some research into what the Vikings and Anglo Saxons would have worn and eaten to give some context to the story. Many thanks to parents who contributed or bought cakes and biscuits at the sale last week. We made a profit of about £90 to spend on resources for the class.

School Photographs – your children will have brought home a proof of their school photograph as well as an envelope to put the order form and payment in. Please return to school by 14 October so that we can ensure that they are back in time for Christmas. Instructions for ordering are on the forms and envelope. If you are paying cash, please put the correct money inside as we do not open the envelopes to give change.

Flower Tubs in the Small Playground – These always look lovely in the spring. If you buy spring flowering bulbs for your own garden, please consider donating a few for the children to plant in the tubs – thanks.

Internet Safety – we advise all families (parents and children) to have a look at the age relevant parts of the CEOP website (Child Exploitation and Online Protection) at www.thinkuknow.co.uk

Parents are welcome in our school

Hinksey Park Football Club is looking for new girls to join the existing girls' squad. We especially need years 4 and 5 girls. We train and play at Grandpont rec on Saturday mornings.
Please see Caroline (mum of Edie yr 4 / Katie yr 1) or Joe (dad of Iris yr 5 / Olive yr 3).

Request for Donations - Mariam in Yr 5's mum (Beth) and Oxford Refugee Resource Hub are collecting donations for an aid run to the Jungle refugee camp in Calais on the 29th October. **There are currently over 900 unaccompanied children there**, the population is rising and aid is slowing, **please help**. We are collecting rice in 5, 10, 15, 20kg bags, flour, lentils, tins of chickpeas and kidney beans, cooking oil, new winter shoes size 39-43 and socks. You are welcome to hand your contributions in to school and Mrs Haynes will pass on to Beth who will do the drop off at the collection centre. You can also visit the following site to donate:
<http://www.gofundme.com/2qywn9py>

New Hinksey School Association – please come and join us in the Duke of Monmouth on Tuesday 4 October from 8.30pm for drinks. All welcome.
Our AGM will take place in school on Monday 17 October at 6.15pm. All welcome.

Woodlands – a pack containing medical forms and kits lists has been sent home today. Please complete the form and return to school as soon as possible. Please note that the final payment is due on 7 October. There will be an information meeting on **Thursday 13 October at 3.15pm in the Year 6 classroom**.

Request for shoe boxes – if you have any empty shoe boxes please send them in to school as we need to start decorating them ready for harvest festival.

Harvest donations – please start thinking about your harvest donations which we box up and distribute to senior citizens in the local area. If you could start sending things in towards the end of next week and the start of the following week that would be great – tins of fruit, veg, fish; packets of rice, pasta, biscuits, cakes; jars of jam, spreads, marmite, honey and cooking sauces etc; tea and coffee; other items such as chocolates, pickles and chutneys; fresh produce such as fruit and veg and breads (but please don't send in these fresh items until Wednesday 12th October). Our harvest festival will be in St. John's church at 9.15am on Thursday 13th October – all welcome to join us.

Have a lovely weekend.

Yours sincerely,

Charlotte Haynes

Dates for Diaries

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| Friday 7 th October | Year 3 Sharing Assembly at 9.10am |
| Thursday 13 th October | Harvest Festival in church at 9.15am Woodlands Information Meeting at 3.15pm in Year 6 classroom |
| Friday 21 st October | Year 5 Sharing Assembly at 9.10am in hall |
| Friday 21 st October | End of Half Term at 3pm (After School Club as normal) |
| Monday 24th October – Friday 28th October Half Term Holiday (no school) | |
| Monday 31 st October | Back to school |