



# New Hinksey CE Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs Charlotte Haynes

26<sup>th</sup> May 2017

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

A big thank you to Year 4 for their interesting sharing assembly this morning. Their plays were a very creative way to learn about the discovery of Tutankhamun's tomb.

This week has been science and engineering week in school and there have been many stimulating activities going on in the classes, at the park and allotment.

## News from Classes:

**Foundation Stage** – This week the children have enjoyed using the new climbing equipment in our outdoor classroom. We have been focussing our attention on the story of *The Gingerbread Man*. Many thanks to those who returned sponsored reading money – we look forward to having some lovely new books soon. We have a well-loved dolls' house in need of some renovation. If you think this is something you can help with please let Elaine know. Lastly, whilst we appreciate the generosity of parents' who bring in treats for their children's birthdays, can we ask that these are **only cakes or cookies**. Please do not send in sweets or lollipops. Thank you.

**Year 1** – We have been busy investigating what cress seed need in order to grow. We asked 'What if ....?' questions to find out the effect of missing out one of the factors such as light. We made close observations and recorded the results of our experiments each day. We also measured and recorded the warm weather this week. In maths we have been learning to half and quarter shapes and amounts. We enjoyed our nature detective trip out on Wednesday. Thank you to the parents of Freddie, Luke and Josh who helped.

**Year 2** – We have been making willow structures to support our growing 'mummy' peas – ask your child why they are called 'mummy' peas! Let's hope the snails and pigeons leave them alone. Also in science we have been recording the life cycle of a butterfly. We have been thinking of questions to ask an older person about their childhood and practising on Sonia, Miss K and Mrs Haynes. We will be interviewing our relatives or family friends over half term (please!). We have tried really hard in our tests and deserve a lovely half-term holiday.

**Year 3** – We have worked hard on our writing assessment in the form of a newspaper report on Skara Brae – the Stone Age settlement. As part of science week we have written messages with invisible ink, learnt about and created collages of the parts of a flower. We have used food colouring to see how water is transported through celery. In maths we have had fun collecting and interpreting data.

**Year 4** – Whilst Malik, Freya and Edie re-visited the Story Museum to present our class poem there during Maggie's Day, Chloe and Joe have been back to the Ashmolean to share our 'Curious Curator' experience with museum staff. They all did themselves and the school proud. Well done, and as a thanks from the Story Museum, Joseph Coelho presented us with a signed copy of his collection of poems 'Werewolf Club Rules'. We combined our English and computing objectives by beginning our research into global warming, using the information to create PowerPoint presentations.

**Year 5** – We enjoyed our hustings – answering questions posed by Years 3, 4 and 6, based on our manifesto pledges. We are looking forward to our election on June 8<sup>th</sup>. We have been doing some extra science for science week. We have been looking at and discussing our favourite optical illusions and how they work. Also we have been making bubble machines and doing some simple experiments to test whether the hotter the water the faster a substance such as salt or sugar will dissolve.

**Year 6** – On Monday we became engineers for the day, making 'vacuum' cleaners using motors and propellers. The children used their problem solving powers to design, build and adapt their machines, adding switches and bags to improve their models. We have also used our observational skills to draw detailed botanical drawings, which we developed into paintings later in the week.

*Parents are welcome in our school*

**Ready, Steady, Read** – An enormous thank you for your tremendous support for our sponsored reading initiative. At the time of writing this, well over £1400 has been handed in, and more is still coming in so we will be able to buy lots of lovely modern fiction books for the children to read at school.

**Cake Sale** – Last Friday's cake sale coordinated by some Reception class parents raised £112.85 for PTA funds. Thank you for your cakes and spending!

**Headlice** – It seems that there are quite a few cases of these itchy little creatures infesting your children's heads. Please help us to get rid of them by EVERY family checking and treating over the half term break. Any chemist or pharmacy can advise on treatments or there is a wealth of information on the internet.

**Please have a very relaxing holiday next week and children should return to school on TUESDAY 6<sup>th</sup> JUNE as Monday is an inset day and the school is closed to children.**

Yours sincerely,

Charlotte Haynes

**Dates for Diaries**

**Monday 29<sup>th</sup> May – Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> June – School Holiday**

**Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June – School closed for Staff Inset**

**Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> June – Summer term starts again at 8.45am**

**Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> June – New Hinksey School Fete**

**Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> June – Group of Year 6s to Festival of Voices concert**

**Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> July – Art Exhibition in classes from 3pm – 4pm** (please come along to tour all the classes and encourage relatives and neighbours too)

**Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> July – Sports day in Hinksey Park (morning)**

**Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> July – Key Stage 2 performance at 2pm in the school hall**

**Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> July – Key Stage 2 performance at 2pm in the school hall**

**Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> July – Year 6 Leavers Assembly at 9.15am** (parents please try to ensure every child has a guest in the audience to hear their speeches)

**Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July – End of Term at 1pm**

**Summer Fete Saturday 17th June 12-2.30pm**

Our British seaside themed summer fete hopes to be our biggest fundraiser to date. We have loads of great stalls, Punch & Judy, magic show, bouncy castle, bar, BBQ, music and an awesome raffle that is our biggest and best yet! Raffle tickets go on sale after half term and prizes include: £100 voucher for Brittany ferries, tickets to Oxford United FC home game, a Northants cricket match, and Creation Theatre's Alice in Wonderland. Also up for grabs: a £50 Boden voucher, a month long family gym membership at David Lloyd, a weekend family pass on Chiltern Railway, plus free entry to Farmer Gow's, Didcot Railway Museum, Blenheim Palace, Ultimate Picture Palace, open top bus tour and much, much more! Please keep the date free & come on the day. You can also help us by selling raffle tickets to friends, family and colleagues or offering to help run a stall for an hour. Many thanks.

**STORY MUSEUM** - Looking for a great family day out? Visit The Story Museum in Oxford for immersive exhibitions, interactive exhibits, a packed events programme and lots of story-filled fun for all ages. Open daily during school holidays find out more at [www.storymuseum.org.uk](http://www.storymuseum.org.uk). And don't miss Alice's Day on 1 July with plenty of FREE fun activities around the city including acrobats, street theatre, craft and face-painting.

**South Oxford Adventure Playground:** Open throughout half-term 30 May-2 June. Closed on bank holiday Monday. Free outdoor play and activities. Children over 7 years can stay without a parent/carer but must be registered with SOAP to do so. See website for more details <http://www.soapoxford.org.uk/>

SOAP is seeking a treasurer. Please get in touch if you would like to know more and help support this unique local charity. We are a friendly group of local volunteers who meet once a month to ensure SOAP remains inclusive and open as much as possible. Contact: [soap@soapoxford.co.uk](mailto:soap@soapoxford.co.uk)

