



# New Hinksey CE Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs Charlotte Haynes

23<sup>rd</sup> June 2017

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

**Sharing Assembly** – Well done and thank you to Year 5 for their sharing assembly this morning telling us about changes. Each group gave us a fascinating mini presentation on a different aspect of change.

## **News from Classes:**

**Foundation Stage** – On Monday the children were very excited to discover that our caterpillars had started to change into chrysalis's. Due to the hot weather much of our play has centred around water – pouring, tipping, channelling, squirting, splashing and paddling – the children have thoroughly enjoyed it! On Monday 26<sup>th</sup> June all of the children in Foundation Stage will be treated to a puppet show, presented by Emma Boor, called 'Hey Little Bird'. Many thanks to the School Association for funding this event.

Next Wednesday morning (weather permitting) the Pandas and the Reception Class plan to go for a small picnic in Hinksey Park during the morning. In order for this trip to go ahead we need some parent helpers. Please let Elaine or Elizabeth know if you can join us.

**Year 1** – We have begun to research 'pond life' in preparation for a trip in 2 weeks' time to Boundary Brook Nature reserve – parent helpers will be needed for this trip so please task Mrs Nash how you can help. In maths we have been counting in 2s, 5s, and 10s and spotting patterns. We are also learning doubles up to double 10. We have also enjoyed composing sound effects for a life cycle of a butterfly in music!

**Year 2** – This week we have been doubling, halving and finding quarters by halving and halving again. We have been discussing and planning a balanced diet, thinking about the benefits of exercise and hygiene and how to look after our teeth.

**Year 3** – We have completed our maths assessments this week and they have showed how hard we have worked. We have threaded our prehistoric necklaces which we moulded out of clay into the shapes of teeth and shells. Our police visit about bullying and internet safety was very useful. We have begun to learn our songs for the performance of 'The Keymaster'.

**Year 4** – We have used clay to make our Egyptian scarab amulet. In English we have done activities to think about travelling in time and space, and our topic work has been an investigation comparing Ancient Egyptian homes to our own. In maths we have used coordinates to draw polygons, have found the coordinates of various shapes and have drawn as well as interpreted bar charts, pictograms and graphs. We are also working towards understanding that intermediate points have meaning.

**Year 5** – Our classroom reached 31 degrees earlier in the week so we have been doing a few things elsewhere. We learned about water resistance on Monday. Using the same piece of plasticine (i.e. the same mass) we investigated which shape sank to the bottom of the container the fastest and which floated for the longest. We also started investigating the best shape for the hull of a 'boat' made from aluminium foil. In maths we have been learning about area and perimeter and have measured all the rooms and outside areas of the school; we have begun making a scaled diagram of its surface area. We drew around our shadows at lunchtime on Wednesday which was the summer solstice. We looked again at photos we had taken of our shadows throughout the year and reminded ourselves about the tilt of the Earth giving us our seasons. Our shadows were about 1 metre long on Wednesday compared with between 5.5 and 6 metres in December. Please ask us to explain this to you.

**Year 6** – This week has been full of excitement, with Festival of Voices on Tuesday and an Ashmolean visit on Thursday. The singers all did us proud generating many complimentary comments from members of the audience as well as from staff of other participating schools. The children have also been working hard on their independent projects and rehearsals for the end of year performance.

*Parents are welcome in our school*

**Thefts and Stealing** – Sadly, as in any school, children are sometimes tempted to take things which do not belong to them. The objects taken may be lunch box items, pencil cases, trading cards, books, small toys etc. This is very distressing for the child who has something ‘stolen’, makes a most unpleasant atmosphere in school and is worrying that some children in our school community are so dishonest. If parents realise that their child has made an error in judgement and has brought home something that is not theirs, please discreetly let the class teacher know so that the matter can be sensitively dealt with and the taken item/s returned to their rightful owner.

**Oxford Green Week** – we have benefitted from two special assemblies this week: on Monday Farmer George from Sandy Lane Farm in Tiddington gave an interesting presentation about organic farming; and on Thursday Rina led an assembly about fair trade. Thank you to Councillor Bob Price for funding these assemblies from his ward money.

**Sandals and Flip Flops** – Please could children not wear backless, flip flop style shoes to school. Sandals should have a strap that goes around the back of the heel. This is for safety reasons and to reduce the likelihood of tripping.

**Summer Fete** – A huge thank you and well done to everyone involved with organising and helping at the fete (and to those who came along to spend lots of money). A tremendous £3226 was raised and a good time was had by all. It was also lovely to see so many ‘old’ faces from Year 7 and 8 coming to join in and even to help.

**Survey by Thames Valley Police:** We have been asked to encourage parents to help their children take part in a survey by the police to help them understand if children know how and why to contact the police. The link is below.

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/TVPprimaryschool>

Have a lovely weekend.

Yours sincerely

Charlotte Haynes

### **Dates for Diaries**

**Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> June – Question and Answers Session** for Parents in the hall at **6pm**

**Friday 30<sup>th</sup> June – Year 3 Sharing Assembly** 9.10am in hall

**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)

**Friday 7<sup>th</sup> July – Year 2 Sharing Assembly** – 9.10am in hall

**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**

**The Wizard of Oz** runs from Friday 23rd to Sunday 25th June, and is a great show for all the family. There are two matinee performances (Saturday and Sunday at 2pm) which are perfect for families, and the show is not too long for little ones - tickets for Sunday are limited. Taking place at **Kennington Village Centre**, there will be refreshments to buy and a lucky number draw during the interval. Tickets are just £5 for Friday night, then £8.50 adults, £6.50 concessions and £25 for a family of four - children under 5 years old go free on laps. To book tickets call the box office on 01865 739025 or email [boxoffice@kenningtonads.org.uk](mailto:boxoffice@kenningtonads.org.uk)