



# New Hinksey CE Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs Charlotte Haynes

10<sup>th</sup> November 2017

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

**Assemblies** – On Monday we started a new assembly theme for November – Honesty and Trust. We have also had a singing assembly and Father James led a ‘Remembrance’ assembly for Finches, Owls and Doves on Thursday morning (the Woodpeckers and Kingfishers were out on their exciting trip that morning). **Many thanks to Dove class for sharing a play about the rainforest in today’s assembly.**

**Thank You** – To governors Harm-Jan Fricke and Jean Kirkley who did some very useful weeding and leaf sweeping last weekend. We will try to organise another session when hopefully a few more willing helpers will come along – many hands make light work.

### **News from Classes:**

**Foundation Stage (Ducklings and Robins)** – We have enjoyed playing with some new toys this week. From the Sainsbury’s Active Kids voucher scheme we received some balls, drapes, beanbags and a spinning top that is large enough for us to sit in and spin with it! We would like to say a special thank you to Anna Lawrence (Edith and Ernie’s mum) for the contribution of some beautiful wooden toys. The staff would like to clarify they we do not encourage the children to bring in their own toys from home, unless a child is very unsettled and needs a ‘comfort toy’. Other exceptions might be the occasional item of special or relevant interest such as a book, item from a trip or certificates of achievement.

**Finches** – We have been planning and writing an information text about red foxes using scientific words such as omnivore. In maths we have been using number facts to solve missing number problems. We enjoyed listening to ‘Tin Forest’ and using it as an inspiration for making moving paper designs which we will develop in Design Technology over the next few weeks.

**Owls** – We have been having a ‘tree’ week writing about Autumn leaves and trees and drawing and painting trees. In maths we have been adding multiples of 10 and 11, 12, 21, 22, 31 to 2-digit numbers. Many of the class have nasty colds so please dress warmly for school and make sure your children are well practised in blowing their noses and throwing away the tissues.

**Doves** – We have worked hard to prepare our research and our play for sharing assembly this week. Using the ipads, we have had lots of educational fun creating our own rhythms and sounds using ‘Garage Band’. In maths we have added and subtracted multiples of 10, 100, and 1000 and used this knowledge to solve word problems.

**Woodpeckers** – We had a fabulous day at the Cotswold Wildlife Park. The children were very excited about seeing so many different animals. They all behaved very well and the keepers who led our workshops were impressed with their knowledge and their thoughtful questions. In English we have been reading and listening to Baba Yaga stories and have begun planning our own.

**Kingfishers** – This week we have focussed on multiplying and dividing decimal numbers by 10, 100 and 1000. In English we have written a discussion text about whether human robots in the future will be a good or bad thing. We had a fabulous time at Cotswold Wildlife Park on Thursday, learning about rainforest animals and observing how their physical adaptations help them to flourish in their habitat.

**Localgiving ‘Grow Your Tenner Initiative’** – The school and the PTA would like to thank everyone who donated to this during October. An impressive £803.69 was raised plus seven new direct debits were set up meaning an additional £70 per month for the School Association funds. If the direct debits continue for a year then we will also get an extra £420 of match funding, meaning altogether you will have raised £2063 for the school. We know that some of the donations were from grandparents so please pass on our gratitude to them.

*Parents are welcome in our school*

**Nursery Parents Applying for Primary School Place** – You must complete an online application for your child's place at primary school **by 15<sup>th</sup> January 2018 if your child was born between 1.9.13 and 31.8.14**. You can access the forms on the Oxfordshire County Council website (School Admissions – Common Application Form) or you can go onto the school website, use the 'links' tab at top of home page and then click on the link that says 'Oxfordshire LA'. If your child is already in our nursery (ducklings) you still must apply for a primary school place at this school.

### **School Lunch Menu Change**

We have tried the Sticky Barbecue Chicken/Sticky Barbeque Quorn twice but it has not been popular with the children. We have therefore decided to substitute Chicken Curry and Quorn Curry for those meals when they next occur (14 November and 5 December).

**Arriving Late in the Morning** – Please can we remind you that the bell rings at 8.45am each day and classes lead in straight away after that. If you arrive at the school gate after the lines have led into class you are a bit late and we ask that parents say goodbye at the main gate and that children then quickly go into class independently and quietly.

**Picking Up at 3pm** – As it is getting very crowded in the little back playground we ask that only parents picking up children from Finches (Yr 1) or Owls (Yr 2) wait there. All KS 2 children will be asked to go straight through onto the big, main playground where they can be collected after their younger siblings have been picked up.

**After School Club and Wraparound Bills** – The deadline for the October invoices is today Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November. If you have not yet paid your bills please do so over the weekend – thanks.

Have a lovely weekend.

Yours sincerely,

Charlotte Haynes

### **Dates for Diaries (for next half of term)**

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November – Parents Evening – Sign up for a slot on the displayed sheets if you have not yet done so.

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November – Woodpecker Sharing Assembly

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> November – Kingfisher Sharing Assembly

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> November – Cake Sale on playground at 3pm

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Bazaar from 3pm – 4.30pm

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December – 2pm KS1 Nativity Performance

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December – 9.30 am Foundation Stage Nativity to parents

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December – 2pm KS1 Nativity Performance

Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Lunch and festive visitor

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December – 2.15pm – Christingle Service in Church

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December – 1.00pm – Term Ends