



New Hinksey CE Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs Charlotte Haynes

12th January 2018

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

The children have settled back in really well to this first full week of the new term. In assembly on Monday we explored 'new year – fresh start' and the children reflected on what would be a good, personal new year's resolution for them in school. On Wednesday Mrs Tucker led singing assembly with some very lively action songs, and Fr James explained about baptism on Thursday morning. We were all most impressed with the children's listening and responses to his questions – the children were obviously interested and thinking carefully – well done everyone.

Every child is bringing a newsletter home this week as attached to the letter is the topic plan for their class. We hope you will find it interesting to see what fascinating learning is planned for this term's *Amazing Authors* topic.

News from Classes:

Foundation Stage (Ducklings and Robins) – We are concentrating on two authors – John Burningham and Jez Aldborough. We are also going to start taking the Robins out on Outdoor Learning Walks (more information to follow). Lastly, due to high levels of interest from the children, we are having a special focus on listening to and playing music. Last term many of the children said that their parents could play instruments so it would be lovely if any of you would be able to come and play a little to the children. Please see Elaine. Many thanks.

Finches – We are really enjoying getting to know "The Snail and the Whale" story and have already discussed our likes and dislikes as well as quizzing the author and spotting patterns. In Maths we are working hard to understand place value in number. We have all mixed paint and completed a colour wheel in Art and will use this next week to explore hot and cold colours.

Owls – We are really enjoying exploring books written and illustrated by Anthony Browne which are packed with tiny and curious details. We have been revising place value and using number bonds to 10 and 20 to solve number sentences.

Doves – We have begun our Science focus on sound. We have enjoyed lots of practical experiments to see how vibrations happen. We used ping pong balls and tuning forks, rice and drums and slinkies. It was noisy and great fun. We have begun to read "The Hodgeheg" by Dick King Smith. We have used thesauri to extend our adjectives in order to describe the main characters.

Woodpeckers – We are really enjoying listening to the first Roman Mystery story by Caroline Lawrence, our 'amazing author'. We have begun learning about the Roman Empire and will each be focussing on an aspect of the topic that particularly interests us. We shall be doing some individual research, with guidance, and producing a booklet each.

Kingfishers – We have introduced our amazing author, Louis Sachar, by looking at the film version of 'Holes', then looking at the ways the author 'hooks' us into wanting to read the novel. We have started to think about our science work on Evolution and Inheritance by finding out about fossils, how they are formed and what they can tell us about the past. We have learnt about Mary Anning, a famous fossil collector.

Football Competition – We are entering both a girls and a boys 5 aside football team in a competition on 2nd February at the Oxford City ground. This is for Year 5 and Year 6 children and Club Energy coach Stuart is our manager/coach. Thank you to all the children who want to take part. Please all come along for further training sessions on Wednesday after school (17th, 24th and 31st January) as you will be in the team. School will pay for the training sessions, travel to/from the ground and the competition so there is no cost for families.

Players for the team will need packed lunches, water bottles and snacks as well as football boots and shin pads. The final for the tournament will finish by 4pm so we envisage the children will leave Oxford City at about 4.10pm and be back in school for 5pm. Please can parents be here ready to pick up from 4.45pm

Parents are welcome in our school

After School Club and Wraparound Care - The invoices for December should have been paid by today. If you have not already done so please pay over the weekend.

School Lunch Menu – The new menus start from Monday 15th January. The daily choices are shown in ParentPay so please be aware and have a look. Thank you.

Children Having Packed Lunches – please could parents ensure that children have a drink included with their packed lunch and that this is in a sports style bottle or other packaging that the children can manage/handle themselves and that does not spill easily – many thanks.

Clubs (all will be on from week beginning 15th January)

Tuesday Lunchtimes – Coding Club for groups of Doves and Woodpeckers. This is being run by Ms Christensen and 2 Year 6 pupils. The groups have been organised in school through asking the children who would like to take part.

Tuesday 3 – 4.15pm Club Energy Multi-sports Club for Year 1 – 6. £30 for 10 sessions.

Wednesday 3 – 4pm Year 2 Art Club. Please Miss Kilpatrick to sign up. There is a one off cost of £5 to cover the materials.

Wednesday 3 – 4pm Year 1 and 2 Computer Club. Please see Mrs Nash to sign up for this.

Thursday 3 – 4pm Bollywood Dance Club. Please contact Narinder directly (narinder.thapar@tiscali.co.uk) for more details.

If you are collecting from any of the clubs please wait at the playground gates for the adult leading the club to open the gates.

Have a lovely weekend.

Yours sincerely,

Charlotte Haynes

Dates for Diaries

Friday 26th January – Sharing Assembly 9.10am in the hall for Dove Class (Yr 3/4)

Monday 5th February – Sharing Assembly 9.10am in the hall for Kingfisher Class (Yr 5/6)

Friday 2nd March – Sharing Assembly 9.10am in hall for Finch Class (Yr 1)

Friday 9th March – Sharing Assembly 9.10am in the hall for Woodpecker Class (Yr 4/5)

Friday 16th March – Sharing Assembly 9.10am in the hall for Owl Class (Yr 2)

Reminders to take note of:

- Long hair should be tied back all day in school
- Please bring a fruit, veg or cereal bar snack for playtime (Yrs 1 – 6) and a water bottle everyday
- Only one chocolate item is allowed in a packed lunch
- Children should be here every morning in time to line up and lead in to class at 8.45am
- Parents of children having paid school lunches should make sure that there is credit in ParentPay and that debts do not build up.
- School ends at 3pm and children should be collected promptly. Children not collected by 3.15pm when the gates are locked will be put in After School Club and will be charged the part time session cost of £7
- We do not allow chewing gum on the school site (adults too) so please respect this and help us keep our tarmac play areas free of sticky blobs!
- If your child is ill and not able to come to school please phone the school 01865 242169 to let us know (but not between 8.30 – 9am) – thank you

DID YOU KNOW there's a thriving Women's Institute in South Oxford?

We meet at the Community Centre, Lake Street, third Tuesdays, 8pm and we'd be delighted to welcome you to any of our meetings. No charge for your first visit, and no pressure.

Upcoming: January 16th Dr Aarti Jagannath: "How does the body clock tell the time?"; February 20th Crew from NPAS Benson (local police helicopter); following weeks Local History, Pearls, Cartooning and much more.

Further info: <https://wixsy1.wixsite.com/southoxfordwi>