



# New Hinksey CE Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs Charlotte Haynes

21<sup>st</sup> September 2018

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

It has been a busy week in school now that children are used to the routines and expectations of their new classes. We continued our value of cooperation, working together and sharing in assemblies and on Thursday we said a fond farewell to Fr James who is moving to a new post in London after 16 years of weekly assemblies and dedication to New Hinksey. We wish him all the very best and will miss his kindness and humour a great deal. We are pleased that Fr. Ben will guide and lead our weekly assemblies from now on.

We would like to say a HUGE thank you to Deborah, Frank and Eric's mum who spent a morning here doing a wonderful job of weeding around the edges of the playground.

## News From Classes:

**Foundation Stage (Ducklings – nursery; Robins - reception)** – We are continuing to settle into our daily routines. Robin Class are becoming very good at sitting in their 'listening places' for group times, and their behaviour at these times is exceptionally good. We have been painting self-portraits, learning about rhyming words, and counting using our fingers.

**Finches** – This week we have been reading 'The Enormous Turnip'. Children have enjoyed acting out the story, sequencing and writing short sentences. In maths we have been learning to write numbers correctly to 20 and beginning to add numbers within 10. Just a reminder, please encourage your child to change their book bag book in the mornings – thank you.

**Owls** – This week we have been exploring the story 'The Mousehole Cat', particularly thinking about the characters and the storm. In history we found out about Grace Darling who was born 200 years ago and saved nine people's lives in a terrible storm. We have painted amazing stormy sea paintings for ourselves. In maths we have been using our number bonds to 10 to learn the number bonds to 20 and 100. **Mrs Haynes apologises but we need to move the Owls' Sharing Assembly to 2.30pm on THURSDAY 27<sup>th</sup> next week and NOT on Friday 28<sup>th</sup>, so there is no clash with the photographer.** Sorry for any inconvenience.

**Doves** – We have enjoyed using self and peer assessment to improve and develop our stories. We had an informative visit to the Ashmolean where we handled artefacts such as deer sinew, axe heads and flint scrapers. We were able to examine a prehistoric house and compare it to our own. In science we are classifying rocks into metamorphic, igneous and sedimentary.

**Woodpeckers** – We have been using dictionaries and thesauruses to select words for impact when writing poems about the sky. Our art work has been inspired by famous sky artists including Constable and Turner. In maths we have continued to secure our knowledge of place value in Year 4 and to consider best methods to add and subtract numbers in Year 5. Well done to those who completed their homework, continue to bring in a book bag, have a water bottle in school and a full P.E. kit. It makes all the difference!

**Kingfishers** – We are practising column addition with both large numbers and decimal numbers. In English and music we are getting increasingly familiar with The Tempest; we understand the story has different themes such as magic versus evil and that it is a love story. We have also written our own poems about a river. In our computer lesson we have begun designing an animation using 'Scratch'.

**Information for Parents/Carers of Pupils in Year 6** – Between now and the deadline of 31<sup>st</sup> October you will need to apply for a secondary school place for your children. The forms are online at [www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/admissions) and then go to the secondary school section. Please note that this is something parents must do and we cannot submit forms on your behalf. Many of the secondary schools have open evenings and look around mornings coming up so please find out when these are for the schools that you are interested in.

*Parents are welcome in our school*

**ParentPay and Pre Booking Lunches:** - Please can every family try to pre book lunch choices on ParentPay and ensure that meals are paid for in advance. Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are entitled to free school meals.

**Trading Cards and Toys from Home** – Please note that with immediate effect children should NOT bring toys or trading cards from home into school. We have reached this decision due to the number of issues arising such as cards going missing, arguments, having them out in lesson time, toys getting broken etc.

**Pencil Cases** – We have noticed that many Key Stage 2 children have returned after the summer with new pencil cases. Whilst we do provide all stationery items that are needed we appreciate that some children may want their own bits and pieces in school. However we ask that you talk to your children about how to use them sensibly, look after them and not waste time by never-ending fiddling with them and the items inside! We will remind the children about this but should teachers feel that a particular child is not using their own pencil cases sensibly then they will be asked to take it home and keep it there and can use it for homework.

**Year 5 and 6 Residential to Woodlands 10<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> December** - We would like to remind all parents of children going to Woodlands in December that payment 4 (of 6) is due for payment by 28<sup>th</sup> September. There will be a meeting for Parents and pupils of children going to Woodlands on **Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> November at 3.15pm** at school.

**New Hinksey School Association Annual General Meeting** - The School Association will be holding its AGM on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> October, at 6.30pm, in school. Everyone is very welcome to attend: it's a great chance to find out more about how the School Association works, and how you can support the school. Please speak to April (mum of Annie in Doves and Sam in Robins), Ben (dad of Amelia in Owls), or Harmonie (mum of James in Woodpeckers), if you want any more information.

**School Association Social Drinks** -The following evening, Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> October, we'll be meeting much more informally in the Duke of Monmouth on Sunningwell Road from 8pm. Please come along for a chance to catch up with old friends and/or meet some new faces.

**Missing Scooter** - Sam (in Robins) accidentally left his scooter in school over last weekend, and we have not been able to find it since. If anyone has seen a green, three-wheeled microscooter lately, please talk to April, Sam's mum - we would be very glad to get it back!

**Activity Clubs** - These have all started. Please see last week's newsletter (on the school website) for the programme and details. Thank you.

**School Photographs** – The photographer for individual pupil photos (not class groups) will be in school next Friday (28<sup>th</sup>). Please make sure your children are wearing what you want for them to be photographed in. Thank you.

**PLEASE DO NOT DRIVE YOUR CARS UP TO THE SCHOOL GATES AT DROP OFF AND COLLECTION TIME.** If you live too far away to walk, cycle or use the bus then please park a little away from the end of our road and walk the last few minutes.

And finally, please help your child to have the best possible start to the school day by getting them onto the playground in time for them to line up and walk in with their class at 8.45am. Please don't be late.

Have a happy weekend.

Charlotte Haynes

### **Dates for Diaries**

**\*Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> September 2.30pm** in hall – **Owl Class Sharing Assembly.\***

**Friday 28<sup>th</sup> September** – The **school photographer** will be in taking individual pupil and school sibling photographs.

**Monday 1<sup>st</sup> October - Open Afternoon 3 - 4pm** – an opportunity to see the classes and meet the teachers.

**Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> October** – School Association Annual General Meeting – all parents welcome, 6.30pm in school

**Friday 5<sup>th</sup> October 9.10am** in hall – **Dove Class Sharing Assembly.**

**Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> October** – **2pm Harvest Festival in Church.**

**Monday 15<sup>th</sup> October 9.10** in hall - **Kingfisher Sharing Assembly.**

**Friday 19<sup>th</sup> October** – **End of the first half of term.**

**Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> – Friday 26<sup>th</sup> October - HALF TERM HOLIDAY.**

**Monday 29<sup>th</sup> October** - **term starts** again at 8.45am.