



New Hinksey CE Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs Charlotte Haynes

16th November 2018

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

We are really 'stuck into' The Elements topic with creative work going on in all classes and very enthusiastic children. The sharing assembly this morning led by Finch class was delightful and we congratulate the children on their brilliant re telling of *Jack and the Beanstalk*.

Thank you to the many parents who came to parents evening appointments with the class teachers this week. We hope you found them useful in understanding your children's learning and progress. **Important:** I think a number of parents, in an effort to be helpful, took photos of the sign-up sheets and shared with other parents so that people could see what slots were left available. **Please do not do that.** School Association WhatsApp groups should ONLY be used for information about fundraising and School Association (PTA) events. Thank you.

News From Classes:

Foundation Stage (Ducklings – nursery; Robins - reception) – We have started to focus on repeating patterns using equipment such as the compare bears and the coloured pegs. We have also begun to read the *Elmer* stories which focus on a variety of patterns, and lastly Sarah has been creating environmental rubbing patterns in the garden. We would like to confirm that we do not encourage children to bring in their own toys from home as it is easy for them to get lost or broken. However, if your child has something special that they wish to share with the class, for example a book or object of special interest, then they may bring it in.

Finches – In English we have been learning about the story of *Jack and the Beanstalk*. We have been writing character and setting descriptions. In maths children have started to focus on subtraction within 20. We have also been finding pairs of numbers up to 10. In science we are growing a tomato plant – the children are very excited to be watching it grow each day.

Owls – This week we have been focussing on the air or wind part of our topic, reading some Dutch stories set in the Netherlands and featuring windmills. We have found out what windmills were used for in the past and how they produce electricity now. We have written wind poems. We have had a go at making a wind powered toy. In science we investigated the strength of different types of paper. In maths we have practised measuring in centimetres and metres.

Doves – We have worked hard on developing our understanding of inverted commas (speech marks). We have used role play to interview characters from *Stig of the Dump* and recorded these conversations. In French we have learnt the names of places to be found in a French town and created our own labelled town maps. In D.T. we are continuing to investigate which shapes of boat can contain the most and which are the best hull and sail designs.

Woodpeckers – We have explored autobiographies this week and had a go at writing our own in 50 words! In maths measurement has been the theme. Year 4s have been exploring weight and capacity and Year 5s have been measuring angles using protractors. Our D.T. kite project is underway and the designs for our cotton carp streamer kites are looking great!

Kingfishers – We have been baking biscuits with added ingredients and choosing which we like best. Some of us have made Diwali sweets. In maths Year 5s have been practising measuring angles accurately and Year 6s have been calculating areas, perimeters and volumes. Our indoor P.E. lessons have focussed on dancing recently which we are enjoying

Cake Sales – Well done to Qasem and friends who raised £92.32 by selling cakes and cookies last Friday for Children in Need. Thank you to Claire and other parents for this week's cake sale which raised funds for the School Association.

Parents are welcome in our school

Flu Immunisations – All children **from Reception to Year 5** will be offered the flu immunisation in school (via a nasal spray administered by nurses) on Wednesday 5th December. Please return the consent forms to school as soon as possible as they will be collected on 26th November.

After School Club and Wraparound Care Bills – The deadline for payment of October invoices is today, 16th November.

Children Starting School in Reception in September 2019 – Parents of children born between 1st September 2014 and 31st August 2015 will need to apply for a school place online at www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/admissions. This can be done between 25th October 2018 and 15th January 2019. If you know of friends, neighbours or family members in the area to whom this applies do encourage them to phone the school (01865 242169) to arrange to come and look around.

Christmas Bazaar – **This year's Christmas fete is due to take place on Friday 7th December after school.** If you are interested in helping out, please let Louisa Brossler know on lbrossler@gmail.com. Any support would be welcomed greatly to ensure that this is a successful event!

St John's Church open on Thursdays till the end of term, 2.30-3.30pm - Fr Ben and the people of St John's welcome you to visit, explore, or take a quiet moment in the Church: a hot or cold drink will be available at the back of Church. All welcome.

EasyFundraising App - Thank you so much to all the parents using the EasyFundraising app. In just one month 22 supporters have raised £29 for the school through shopping online. Visit <http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/newhinkseysa> to download the app or speak to Ben Armstrong before you do your online Christmas shopping or arrange your holiday travel plans.

Yours sincerely,

Charlotte Haynes

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Dates for Diaries

Next Week: Friday 23rd November - International Evening 6.30pm – 8pm in the hall

Please come along to this social event to celebrate the diversity of our international school. Bring a plate of food from whatever part of the world you want to as a contribution to the shared buffet table. The School Association will be running a cash bar this year. There is a sign-up sheet in the glasshouse/cloakroom to help us with an idea of numbers. Please note that on the night we are asking families coming to the event to use the great big wooden door in Vicarage Lane for entry and exit and there will not be access to the playground or other outside areas.

Friday 30th November – Woodpecker Class Sharing Assembly 9.10 in school hall

Wednesday 5th December – Reception to Year 5 Flu immunisations

Friday 7th December 3 - 4.30pm Christmas Bazaar

Monday 10th – Friday 14th December – Year 5 and 6 Residential at Woodlands

Wednesday 12th December – Foundation Stage Nativity performance to parents 9.30am in hall

Wednesday 12th December – Key Stage 1 Christmas Performance to parents 2pm in hall

Thursday 13th December – Key Stage 1 Christmas Performance to parents 2pm in hall

Wednesday 19th December – School Christmas Lunch and festive visitor ho, ho ,ho

Wednesday 19th December – School Christingle Service in church at 2pm

Thursday 20th December – TERM ENDS at 1pm

Friday 21st December 2018 – Friday 4th January 2019 - School Holiday

Monday 7th January – Start of Term at 8.45am