



New Hinksey CE Primary School

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11th January, 2019

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

Welcome back to the new term and a happy 2019 to you all.

Attached to this newsletter is a topic plan for your child's class which we hope you will find interesting as well as useful in keeping you informed of the areas of learning taking place.

IMPORTANT – please help us secure as much funding as possible by having fish and chips on Thursday next week. There is a school census being taken and the numbers taking up the universal free school meal for Reception and Years 1 and 2, plus the number of children who are entitled to have a free school meal in older classes and who actually take it up on Thursday, determines the size of some of our funding streams. Therefore we will be having our most popular **fish and chip meal on Thursday next week and not Friday.** We will swap the menu choices for Thursday and Friday. So if you are using parent pay.....

On Thursday 17th for Fish and Chips tick/book Macaroni Cheese; for Cheese Whirl tick/book Chicken Wrap
On Friday 18th for Macaroni Cheese tick/book fish and chips; for Chicken Wrap tick/book Cheese Whirl

News From Classes:

Foundation Stage (Ducklings – nursery; Robins - reception) – This week the children have settled back into school routines. In the Robin Class we have been learning to count in 10s up to 100. We have also started to read some poems by Shirley Hughes which relate to the different seasons of the year. This term we will be thinking in depth about seasonal changes as we move towards spring.

Finches – We have had a great first week back and we are very excited to be starting our new topic 'Food'. In English we are reading *The Tiger Who Came to Tea* and we are writing shopping lists and sending invitations for our own tea party. Food from around the world is our focus for geography so we have been looking at traditional dishes for the U.K. and the U.S.A.

Owls – We have started the new year, new term and new topic 'Winged Wonders' with great enthusiasm. During January we are concentrating on insects in science, English, art and D.T. We had a brilliant and inspiring trip to Oxford's Natural History Museum where we learnt lots more about the importance of insects in the world and saw lots of specimens of arthropods, both dead and alive. Most of us bravely handled the Madagascan Hissing Cockroaches and we all admired Dolores the beautifully stripy tarantula from Mexico. Ask your child to explain how she defends herself from attack.

Doves – We have settled well into the new term. We have begun our 'Take One' topic on *Nandi the Bull* by reading, acting out and retelling stories from India. We have learnt about the ten aspects of Hinduism and designed our own mehndi patterns. In maths we are developing our ordering and rounding skills. In science we are keeping food diaries, finding out about the main food groups and designing balanced meals.

Woodpeckers – We started our new and exciting Ancient Egypt topic at the beginning when there was only Nun (a dark and swirling mass of water). Why not ask your child to tell you the rest?! This creation story has enabled us to learn more about using adverbials and brackets to make our writing of short stories more interesting. The maths focus has been place value of larger numbers and we have also enjoyed topic related music, art and computer research. If you have any interesting books or Egyptian artefacts to share then we would be interested to see them.

Kingfishers – We have immersed ourselves into Victorian London; we have watched *Oliver Twist*, have listened to some accounts of jobs poor, street children might have done (disgusting!) and learnt a few facts about society during the reign of Queen Victoria (1837 – 1901). We have also begun to look at the paintings of L.S. Lowry.

After School Club Invoices – The bills for December went home this week and are due for payment by 18th January.

Parents are welcome in our school

Clubs – All pick-ups should be from the playground gates. Please wait outside the gates and the staff running the clubs will bring the children out to you. Thank you.

Day	Time	Club	Who for?	Information
Tuesday	3 – 4.15	Club Energy Multi-sports	Year 1 – 6	10 sessions for £30. Please enrol and pay online by visiting: www.clubenergysports.com , choosing our school and pay by adding to cart.
Tuesday	3 – 3.45	Choir	Year 3 - 6	Please see message below. Starts Tuesday 29 th January. Working toward Festival of Voices concert.
Wednesday	3 – 4pm	Art Club	Year 2	16 th January to 27 th March. 10 places available. Sign up with Miss Kilpatrick and hand in £5 cash in named envelope to cover cost of materials.
Wednesday	3 – 4.15	Science Club	Year 3 - 6	Free club run by Dr Helen Johnson (parent and STEM ambassador) and post graduate university students. 15 places only. 5 sessions on Wed 23 rd Jan, Wed 30 th Jan, Wed 6 th Feb, Wed 11 th Feb and Wed 27 th Feb. Please see Mrs Haynes to sign up.
Thursday	3 – 4pm	Computer Club	Year 3 – 6	Please sign up with Mrs Nash. 8 places only. Starts next week on Thursday 17 th January.
Thursday	3 – 4pm	Bollywood	Year 1 - 6	Starts Thursday 17 th January. For information, booking and payments please contact narinder.thapar@tiscali.co.uk directly.

New Hinksey Choir - After last term's successful trial run, Jo (Hannah's mum) will be continuing to run an after-school choir 3-3.45pm on Tuesdays, starting on 29th January. The children will be working towards taking part in this year's Festival of Voices in Dorchester Abbey in June. This is a lovely event where they will come together with children from a number of Oxfordshire schools to put on an evening concert in the Abbey. The songs for the Festival are always a great mixture of songs from shows, songs from around the world and more and singing them as part of a much bigger choir is a fantastic experience. We hope that everyone who came to choir last term will want to continue, and there will also be space for a few new members. Priority will be given to children in year 6 as this will be their last chance to take part in the Festival of Voices. Please let Mrs Haynes know if your child would like to take part.

Vision Tests – Vision Tests for Reception children will be taking place next week on Wednesday afternoon.

The Great New Hinksey Bake Off is back! The challenge: to bake a batch of your signature bake - cupcakes, cookies, biscuits or buns - select the best six, and submit them for judging on **Monday 28th January**. Winners will be announced, and entries sold, at an after-school cafe in the hall. Entry tickets (£1) will be available at drop-off and pick-up from 21st January from members of the School Association who are organising this event.

Yours sincerely,

Charlotte Haynes

Dates for Diaries

Friday 25th January 9.10am in hall – Sharing Assembly by the Woodlands Group

Monday 28th January Bake Off Competition and Café in hall 3 – 4pm

Friday 1st February 9.10am in hall – Sharing Assembly by Owl Class

Half Term Holiday Monday 18th – Friday 22nd February 2019

Thursday 7th March – World Book Day (details of how we are celebrating books nearer the time)

Friday 8th March 9.10 in hall – Sharing assembly by Dove Class

Friday 22nd March 9.10 in hall – Sharing Assembly for Woodpecker Class

Wednesday 27th March 9.10 in hall – Sharing Assembly for Kingfisher Class

Thursday 28th March and Tuesday 2nd April – 4 – 7pm Parents' Evenings

Term Ends at 1pm on Friday 5th April for Easter Holiday

Summer term starts at 8.45pm on TUESDAY 23rd April