



New Hinksey CE Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs Charlotte Haynes

25th January, 2019

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

Thank you to the Woodlands group for sharing some of their residential exploits and activities with us this morning in Sharing Assembly – it seems they gained a lot from their week away trying out new activities and working together, showing perseverance and, at times, courage. We hope they are continuing to make their beds, tidy and Hoover their rooms back at home?!!!!

Also thank you to the car driving families who are now keeping the area around the school gates and the corner of Vicarage Lane free of cars at drop-off and pick-up times. The safety of our children is paramount and it is now safer for all the families using the school gates. It is also great to see that the vast majority of families walk, scoot or cycle to school. Please keep up the good habits.

A Reminder to Everyone - Please make sure that the morning snack being brought in for playtime is healthy i.e. **fresh fruit or veg**. We are **no longer going to allow cereal bars** as even ones sold as healthy have a very high sugar content and produce unnecessary wrappers. Thank you for your support.

News From Classes:

Foundation Stage (Ducklings – nursery; Robins - reception) – We have been learning about rainbows and the names of colours. The children have enjoyed creating patterns with colours of the rainbow using different techniques. We also received some new rainbow coloured construction toys, bought with the kind donations of the PTA. On Wednesday half of the Robins went for a beautiful snowy and sunny walk while the rest of the children enjoyed taking part in a ‘Cosmic Kids Yoga’ session

Finches – In English we have been looking at the story of *Handa's Surprise*. The children have been tasting a variety of fruits such as mango and papaya and thinking of interesting adjectives and descriptive language to describe them. In maths we have been learning to count in 5s, and learning to add a 1 digit to a 2 digit number.

Owls – This week we have been learning to ‘find the difference’ in maths and working out the change from 20p and 50p. In English we have finished our interesting information books about ‘Insects’ – Mrs Haynes and governors Bob and Kieran looked at these in the week and thought they were excellent and very professional. We have been learning to tell the story of ‘How the Butterflies came to be’ and adapting it to make our own story.

Doves – On Monday we went to the Ashmolean for an educational session about the Hindu sculpture Nandi the Bull. He was bigger than we thought and is beautifully decorated. We also saw Buddhist statues, learned about Hindu gods and looked at interesting artefacts. The class behaved brilliantly and we were lucky enough to have the whole museum to ourselves as it was a Monday. We have continued to research and draw Hindu gods. We have learnt about the features of a recount text and written our own recounts. In maths we have worked hard on improving our expanded and compact addition skills.

Woodpeckers – In English we have been explaining characters and story openings and have had a go at writing with powerful verbs and adverbs to begin a story set in Ancient Egypt. In maths Year 4s have been finding fractions of number and Year 5s have investigated prime and square number using rules of division. Our Ancient Egyptian chant is developing in music and we are experimenting with ‘ostinato’. We enjoyed continuing with our canopic jars and full sized mummy in art. We hope to have them on display soon!

Kingfishers – We have been learning about the health hazards of smoking in PSHE. Year 6 have been focussing on the grammar and punctuation knowledge they need to master (!) over the coming months. We have been using a variety of media to do self-portraits. In maths we have been learning about prime and square numbers and long multiplication. The children have enjoyed writing and practising their assembly about the Woodlands residential trip in December.

Parents are welcome in our school

Headlice

There are several cases of headlice (nits) in school at the moment. Please could every family check and treat, if required, over the weekend so that we can stop the spread of them. Any pharmacy can advise you on treatment options. Thank you.

Bollywood Club – Apologies from Narinder that she has been unable to run the **Bollywood** club last week or this week. We very much hope that it will be on next week but please look out for email messages direct from Narinder as she keeps in touch with you that way.

Choir/Singing Club starts next week on Tuesday 29th 3 – 3.45pm.

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.

The Great New Hinksey Bake Off takes place on Monday 28th. If you have entered the competition, please bring your entries to the Learning Suite/Computer Room on Monday morning, making sure your entry 'ticket' is attached which has your number on it. Please do not name your entries as the judging will be done impartially without knowing who has baked what!

Bake Off Café in the hall **on Monday after school from 3pm**. Everyone welcome to bring some spending money along to buy cakes, cookies and buns and a drink at our café and to hear the prize winners announced.

If you don't want to enter the Bake Off competition but would be happy to make cakes or cookies for selling at the café we would love some donations - thank you.

Missing Scooter – An adult sized red and silver scooter has gone missing from the bike shed. It has the word 'razor' on it. Please could you check to make sure you have not taken it home thinking it was yours as they do all look so alike! Many thanks.

Wishing you all a very happy weekend.

Yours sincerely,

Charlotte Haynes

Dates for Diaries

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 15th March is Comic Relief Day and we will be doing something to fundraise for this.

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