



New Hinksey CE Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs Charlotte Haynes

1st March 2019

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

Welcome back to the second half of the spring term and what glorious weather we had for most of the week! The older children were able to use the outside dining area for their packed lunches which they really enjoyed.

We have got straight back down to lots of interesting learning which you can read about below.

News From Classes:

Foundation Stage (Ducklings – nursery; Robins - reception) – The children in Foundation Stage have been thinking deeply and working hard this week. For example, Robins have been very involved in creating and drawing maps as well as ‘doubling’ the numbers on each side of dice to find a ‘total’. Ducklings have been thinking very hard about the models they are making. They even made a model of Tower Bridge and they were very careful not to let the cars fall into the water! We have also been learning about the concept of size, and as part of this learning we would like the children to bring in a baby photo of themselves (named on the back) so that we can create a display – many thanks.

Finches – We have been looking at poetry this week. We have learnt poems by heart, performed in groups and had a go at writing our own poems about food. In maths we have been looking at half and quarter of a shape. Just a reminder that each week Miss Haig puts up maths games on Abacus to help consolidate maths learning and it would greatly benefit every child to play these games. Please see Miss Haig if you need reminding of your child’s log in details.

Owls – In maths we have been practising doubling and halving and learning more about fractions. In English we have been working on our fact books about owls. In science we have been learning about the benefits of exercise and brushing our teeth! In art we have been illustrating our owl books, painting our own plaster sculptures and painting owl pictures.

Doves – We have settled back so well after half term. We have begun our new topic ‘The Secret Garden’. We have looked at the parts and functions of flowers and dissected some of them. In art we have experimented with tie dying by wrapping string and stones into t-shirts with colourful results.

Woodpeckers – We all enjoyed a fascinating trip to the Ashmolean for an Egyptian detectives session. Thanks to all parents who helped. In English we have been finding out about important Egyptologists, including Howard Carter, who discovered Tutankhamun’s tomb. Some of us have written diary extracts and others have chosen to write short playscripts to ‘capture’ the events and emotions of the discovery back in 1922. Decimals have been the focus for Year 4s and written methods of multiplication and division has been the maths learning for Year 5s. We have begun to research our D.T. project making Egyptian instruments. Please can you bring in any suitable junk modelling materials for this project.

Kingfishers – As a treat after working so hard on our Victorian adventure stories, we have watched ‘The Railway Children’ which we all enjoyed. Year 6s have started an independent project about Victorian children, whilst Year 5s are busy answering questions about the Victorians based on internet and book research. In art we have been printing our Lowry style figures.

Animation Club – Please note that this club formerly known as ‘computer club’ is now **Animation Club** and will be specifically for making short animations and **not for playing online games**. Thank you.

Lunch Debts – There have been changes to the way Parentpay operates. It is now essential that you have credit before booking your child’s lunch. If there is no credit then your child will not be given a school lunch as Parentpay will automatically cancel the booking.

After School Club Bills – The invoices for February are in ParentPay and paper copies of invoices were sent home today via book bags. The deadline for payment is Friday 15th March.

Parents are welcome in our school

Plea for Donations – We will gratefully receive parent donations of any of the following items to support our resources. Many thanks to those who have sent in items: - Glue sticks, boxes of tissues, A4 photocopying paper, packs of A4 coloured card for art and craft, small presents, bouncy balls, toys or fun stationery items for Mrs Haynes' reward box (suitable for the children not Mrs Haynes!)

World Book Day - Thursday 7th March, next week. On Thursday children, staff and any parents who feel inclined are welcome to dress up as a character from a book, and also bring their favourite or a special book to school. We shall be celebrating books and reading in classes and making displays to tell others about why the books are our favourites. In Thursday assembly we will have a parade of our book character costumes. At the end of the day there will be a book sale – please see message below.

Book sale - To celebrate our school's love of books, the School Association would like to hold a book sale after school on World Book Day, which is this Thursday 7th March. This is a lovely event where families can donate books they've grown out of for another family to enjoy at low prices. Please have a look over the weekend to see if you have some books to donate (adult books too) and bring them in next week to the Learning Suite/Computer Room. Don't forget your money on Thursday to grab some bargains; all books 50p. Please contact Claire Aldridge if you might be able to help on the day with set up or the sale itself. Thank you!

School Disco Save the Date - **Wednesday 20th March**, 4.30-5.30pm for Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1, 6-7pm for Key Stage 2. Entry via wristbands, available closer to the date.

Disco Planning Meeting, Tuesday 5th March, 8pm, Home pub. The school disco (Wednesday 20th March) is fast approaching, and we need to start looking at how we're going to run it. If you can, please come to a short informal meeting next Tuesday 5th March, 8pm at Home pub, where we can look at what needs doing and start to sketch in who will do it. Those who fancy it can even hang around for bit of a drink and a chat afterwards. Hope to see you there! April and Ben (Co-chairs of New Hinksey School association).

Unwanted Visitors aka Headlice! – There have been some cases of headlice – to help us get rid of these and stop the spread from head to head it would be great if every family checked heads this weekend and treated as appropriate. There are many brands of shampoo, combs and lotions available, as well as advice, from any shop with a pharmacy counter.

Talent Show - A separate note on bright pink paper came home this week to all children from Year 1 to Year 6 about the Comic Relief Talent Show. Please look out for that as it has all the details.

Self Harm Apps and Other Inappropriate Online Material – There is much conflicting media coverage of possible apps and materials which may or may not be encouraging reckless, dangerous and self-harming behaviours in young children, and also some frightening and distressing images and threats. Whilst it is not actually clear whether MOMO is real or fake, or to what extent other sites are being accessed by primary age children, we would urge every parent of a child who has access to the internet **to increase their supervision** and to be aware of every site your child is visiting. It is a good idea for primary aged children **not to be allowed to use online gadgets, devices and phones in their bedrooms** but to encourage use in rooms alongside the rest of the family such as the lounge or kitchen.

Wishing you all a relaxing weekend.

Yours sincerely,

Charlotte Haynes

Dates for Diaries

Thursday 7th March – World Book Day (dress as a book character, bring a favourite book to school)

Thursday 7th March – World Book Day Second Hand Book Sale after school – please donate books

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

Monday 11th March is Comic Relief Talent Show Finals and dress up day – onesies or wacky clothes!

Friday 15th March Comic Relief Cake Sale – please donate cupcakes and cookies

Wednesday 20th March – School Disco 4.30-5.30pm (FS and KS1) 6 – 7pm (KS2)

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