



New Hinksey CE Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs Charlotte Haynes

8th March 2019

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

Thank you to Dove Class for their informative and enthusiastic sharing assembly today. They have certainly been inspired by their topic work and it was delightful to see and hear about their learning this term.

News From Classes:

Foundation Stage (Ducklings – nursery; Robins - reception) – The children have enjoyed playing in the ‘brick’ corner. They have made many creations including houses, castles, giant towers and cars. They have also enjoyed playing with our dolls and dolls toys. However, we have noticed that some of the dolls’ clothes are very ‘well loved’ so if you have any items of dolls’ clothing and accessories to donate to our collection we would be happy to receive them. Lastly we have a shortage of boys’ trousers/jogging bottoms in our spare clothes box so would also be grateful for some of these. Thanks.

Finches – We have been continuing with poetry this week. We have written poems using similes and written acrostic poems. In maths we have started to learn how to tell the time; learning o’clock and half past. The children thoroughly enjoyed World Book Day and it was great to see them in their costumes and hear them talking about their favourite books.

Owls – This week we have finished our owl fact books and shared them with finch class. We have been doing multiplying (2, 5, 10 and 3 times tables) in maths. We have started the 3rd part of our ‘Winged Wonders’ topic on Dragons with a powerful version of ‘George and the Dragon’ by Geraldine McCaughrean, and then a retelling with a twist by Chris Wormell. We have been inventing our own heroes and heroines and devising how they might defeat or engage a dragon, inspired by these stories and others by Anna Kemp and Sarah Ogilvie.

Doves – We have been using extracts from ‘The Secret Garden’ by Frances Hodgson Burnett, to analyse character, setting and vocabulary. We have used dictionaries and thesauri to find out meanings, find synonyms and expand our vocabularies. We have practised hard for our sharing assembly and have enjoyed completing our papier mâché bowls by decorating them with rangoli patterns. We will bring our fabulous tie dye t-shirts home today. They need to be washed separately in cold water!

Woodpeckers – We have looked at ‘Egyptian News’ reports and identified features to help us understand the text. We used role-play to explore the role of reporter and interviewee and will use our notes for our own newspaper report writing. In maths Year 4 have focused on addition and subtraction and Year 5 have been learning how to do short multiplication. We have begun to design our Egyptian instruments and have a careful think about what materials we will need and how we are going to construct them.

Kingfishers – After our fabulous train trip with the ‘Famous Five’ all the way to Reading; we have been writing a recount. Our clay figures based on L.S. Lowry’s work are now finished and on display. Well done our two winning class acts – Freya (joke telling) and Edie, Eleanor and Chloe (magic show) – we wish you well for the finals on Monday.

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. The deadline for payment is Friday 15th March.

World Book Day – We had an excellent day on Thursday showing a passion for books and reading and enjoying being in role as various book characters.

Parents are welcome in our school

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.

Talent Show – The Talent Show heats took place this week and we have 2 finalist acts from each class ready to perform in front of the whole school on Monday afternoon. Thank you everyone for entering into the spirit of this charity fundraiser for Comic Relief.

Comic Relief Day – Friday 15th March – Children are invited to pay £1 and dress up in onesies or other wacky clothes on Friday.

Cake Sale – Please bake and donate cupcakes, fairy cakes, cookies and other delicious items to the Comic Relief cake sale which will take place at 3pm on Friday. Don't forget to bring some money along to buy cakes – all items 50p. Please see Steph (mother of Noam and Iris in Owls) if you are able to help set up and sell on Friday. Thank you.

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.

Pollution Monitoring – The results of the pollution monitoring that Kingfisher class undertook with Jo's (parent) help came back. The EU set the legal limit for NO₂ pollution at an annual mean (average) of 40µg/m³ and the reading from the monitoring tube attached to the playground railings was 25.3µg/m³, well under the legal limit.

How to Keep Children Safe on Tablets – If you are interested in taking part in University research project to learn about how to keep young children safe during their use of Ipads or Android tablets, and you have at least one child aged 6 – 10 years, please email koala.project.ox@gmail.com and a researcher will be in touch to answer any queries.

Wishing you all a happy weekend.

Yours sincerely,

Charlotte Haynes

Dates for Diaries

Monday 11th March is Comic Relief Talent Show Finals

Friday 15th March Comic Relief Dress Up Day for £1 donation – onesies, wacky clothes etc.....

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