



# New Hinksey CE Primary School

Vicarage Road Oxford OX1 4RQ

Tel: 01865 242169 Fax: 01865 242169

Email: [office.3213@new-hinksey.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:office.3213@new-hinksey.oxon.sch.uk)

Website: [www.new-hinksey.oxon.sch.uk](http://www.new-hinksey.oxon.sch.uk)

Headteacher: Mrs Charlotte Haynes

4<sup>th</sup> April 2019

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

Thank you everyone for your donations for the Easter raffle – there will be great excitement tomorrow as the tickets are drawn!

In assembly this morning Father Ben used a plethora of props, artefacts and children to ‘act’ out the Easter Week story. It was lively and engaging. He gave out palm crosses and explained to the children how the arms of the cross are a reminder of God’s arms reaching out surrounding us with His love.

**PLEASE REMEMBER THAT SCHOOL FINISHES AFTER LUNCH AT 1PM TOMORROW AND WE WOULD BE GRATEFUL IF CHILDREN WERE COLLECTED PROMPTLY – THANK YOU.**

**Ofsted Inspection Report** – We hope that every family has now seen our **good** report which we sent home this week and also have posted on our school website. We are very pleased that the findings summed up the school well and really gave a flavour of the rich curriculum, good teaching and nurturing ethos that New Hinksey is proud of. Thank you also to the many parents and friends of the school who have congratulated the staff on the good outcome and thanked them. The report will be published on the Ofsted website just after the Easter holiday.

## **News From Classes:**

**Foundation Stage (Ducklings – nursery; Robins - reception)** – The children have been learning about Easter and we have been focussing our attention on ‘new life’ in the form of chicks, lambs and bunny rabbits. The exciting news is that for the last two weeks lambs have been spotted during the children’s outdoor learning walk. Last week we had a good sort through some of our resources and we were delighted to find that so many books and beautiful dressing up clothes had been donated by parents. Thank you very much – the children have loved them.

**Finches** – We have continued to look at ‘Supertato’; children are now creating their own version of the story, focussing on conjunctions, adjectives and punctuation such as exclamation marks. In maths we have been adding money within 100 pence and finding the tens and ones within a 2 digit number. I hope the children enjoy a well-deserved break.

**Owls** – Miss K celebrated April Fools’ Day by challenging Owls to make kilts from sheets of newspaper! Reluctantly and then enthusiastically Owls took up the challenge. Wearing them, we practised our May dance ‘Strip the Willow’ in the playground. We have completed maths assessments this week and gone over fractions and adding money again. We have drawn, read and written about ‘Baku the Dream Eater’ – a story from Japan. We have modelled edible Easter lambs inspired by the displays in cake shops in Sicily at this time of year. Happy Holiday!

**Doves** – We have been learning all about different methods of seed dispersal in science. We found out that only blue honeysuckle produces fruit! We have completed the story of ‘The Secret Garden’ and we have enjoyed seeing how the characters have changed from the beginning of the book and writing our own alternative endings. In maths we have worked hard on our assessments.

**Woodpeckers** – It has been a busy week of finishing off and assessment of our maths unit. In English we have enjoyed getting to know T.S. Eliot’s ‘Old Possum’s Book of Practical Cats’ and using descriptive language to describe our own pet cats! We have all been captivated by our class book, ‘Varjak Paw’ by S.F. Said, which has now come to an end. Please do encourage your child to read the second book. Our Easter nests were fun to make in D.T. and we enjoyed the final sound investigation work in science.

**Kingfishers** – To round off our Victorian topic we have watched ‘Mary Poppins’, played a selection of Victorian games and finished our class Lowry painting. We have also each written a multiple-choice quiz question about an aspect of the topic. The questions were then compiled and a class quiz held which was enjoyed by all. We worked hard for our end of term maths assessments and have learned from any mistakes we may have made. In computing lessons we have used our knowledge of angle to programme a ‘turtle’ to draw beautiful geometric shapes.

***Parents are welcome in our school***

**Clubs Next Term** – Choir will start again on the first day back – Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April, 3 – 3.45pm.  
Bollywood will start in the first week back – Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> April, 3 – 4pm.  
Club Energy will start on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> April (2<sup>nd</sup> week back) 3 – 4.15pm.

**Parents' Evenings** – Thank you to the many parents who met with class teachers. We really value working together with you to support each child's progress.

**Summer Fete - Save the Date! The New Hinksey Summer Fete** – This will be taking place on Saturday 6th July this year. It's always a highlight of the school year - put the date in your diaries now!

**Scarlet Fever** – Public Health England warns that at this time of year there is often an increase in the number of cases of scarlet fever. It is highly infectious. You are advised to be on the lookout for symptoms, which include a sore throat, headache and fever with a characteristic fine, pinkish or red body rash with a sandpaper feel. Contact local GPs or call NHS 111 if signs of scarlet fever are suspected in your children.

**Easter Holiday Art Days 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> April** - Crafty Kids returns to West Oxford Primary School on Monday 8th and Tuesday 9th April, with two days of Easter and Spring-themed arts and crafts, painting and drawing techniques, games, stories and songs. Open to children from all schools, Years 1 and upwards. Send an e-mail to [office@oxfordmusicandart.com](mailto:office@oxfordmusicandart.com) for more information and to book, or text/call Dave Boshier on 07752792477.

**Climate Strikes** - Many of you may have heard of the school strikes for climate started by Greta Thunberg - on March 15th around 1.4 million people all around the world joined the strikes to call on leaders to take decisive action on climate change. We can't encourage students to take time off to join during term time but the next strike is on April 12th and organisers would like to get huge numbers to join to show that children (and their parents) are not just joining the protests to get time off school! The Oxford strike will be 11-2 in Bonn Square (outside the library) and if you're on holiday elsewhere, Fridays For Future's website has details of all strikes if you want to find your nearest and go along! Adults are encouraged to join in solidarity with the children. If you want more information do speak to Rowan Ryrie who is very engaged in supporting the strikes locally and globally.

**After School Club** – The invoices were sent home this week via book bags and are also in ParentPay. The deadline for payment is Friday 12<sup>th</sup> April. Please ensure these are paid promptly – many thanks.

**All Year 4 and 5 Children** – Don't forget your **first swimming lesson is on the first day back** – Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup>. You must: **bring your swimming kit** including costume/trunks, towel and hat; be at school **on the playground by 8.40am**; bring a **packed lunch or have pre-booked** your school lunch; and paid for transport via ParentPay.

**New Menus** – the new school lunch menus for the summer will be on ParentPay so do please look at these with your children over the holiday so that they are aware of what is on offer each day. Thank you.

Wishing everyone a very happy and relaxing holiday.

Yours sincerely,  
*Charlotte Haynes*

### **Dates for Diaries**

**Term Ends at 1pm on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April for Easter Holiday**  
**Summer term starts at 8.45pm on TUESDAY 23<sup>rd</sup> April**

**All Stars Cricket** is run by the England and Wales Cricket Board and provides boys and girls aged 5 -8 with a great first experience in cricket. It comprises eight fun, active one-hour sessions held over eight weeks starting in May. It costs £40 - £50 and each child receives their own personalised cricket kit. There are several venues in and around Oxford; some children from Doves went to Sunningwell last year, loved it, and are returning again this year. See <https://www.ecb.co.uk/play/all-stars> for more details and to register.

**South Oxford Adventure Playground (SOAP)** is open over the Easter holidays every weekday from 8 - 18 April 2019, 10 am - 4 pm. SOAP is a charity which provides inclusive, supervised, adventurous outdoor play and activities for all children free of charge. Any financial donations or fundraising initiatives to help keep SOAP running are most welcome. Visit <http://www.soapoxford.org.uk> for further information about SOAP.