

## New Hinksey CE Primary School Vicarage Road Oxford OX1 4RQ

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Headteacher: Mrs Charlotte Haynes

17<sup>th</sup> May 2019

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

Phew – the Year 6 testing week is over and all the children rose to the occasion brilliantly and took the tests in their stride. We look forward to getting the results back in July!

Thank you to Finch Class for their delightful sharing assembly this morning when they took us on a journey through their year of learning.

## **News From Classes:**

**Foundation Stage (Ducklings – nursery; Robins - reception)** – We have started to enjoy some traditional tales. Our main focus has been the story of 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears'. The Robins have been thinking about 'story structure' and all of the children have enjoyed role play in the 'Bears Cottage' in the garden, and re-enacting the story using small props. Please can we remind you now that summer is coming, to apply sun cream on your children before school and to bring in a sunhat for them to wear for outdoor play. Lastly can we also remind you to have your child's shoulders covered in the sun, and to wear closed toe sandals.

**Finches** – We have started a new story called 'Lost and Found'. We have been creating missing posters, asking questions of the characters and writing thought bubbles. In Maths we have been focusing on ordering numbers within 100. We have been working hard on our sharing assembly and enjoyed seeing you on Friday.

**Owls** – We have all tried so hard with our Reading Comprehension assessments this week and done really well. Miss K is really pleased. We have been exploring the Aboriginal art produced in the Northern Territory both 'desert art', which uses lots of symbols, and 'bark paintings' which use cross hatching and lots of pattern to show animals. On Friday we focussed on frogs with the 'Greedy Frog' story and Australian frogs and toads research.

**Doves** – We have enjoyed learning about the city of London this week. We have each chosen a London landmark to research, sketch and sew a simple tapestry of. Our English has been based around Tolkien's 'The Hobbit'. We have drawn our own version of Bilbo's house and surrounded it with amazing adjectives. We then wrote our own story openings. In Maths we have learnt how to multiply and divide numbers by 4 by doubling and halving.

**Woodpeckers** – In English we finished our Walking Tour Guide for children and included maps and interesting facts and a front cover. Our main theme this week is nonsense poetry with a topic link to Edward Lear, who was born in London and Lewis Carroll, who lived in Oxford. We have enjoyed hearing, reading and writing our own limericks, inspired by Lear's 'Book of Nonsense'. In Maths, Year 4s have been calculating area and perimeter and Year 5s have been translating and reflecting shapes in quadrant coordinate grids. We investigated conductors and insulators of electricity in science and enjoyed printing the second of our Styrofoam reduction prints in art.

**Kingfishers** – Whilst Year 6s have been taking their SATs tests, Year 5 have been learning about London landmarks and art producing beautiful booklets for display. Year 5 children have also been reading 'Journey to Jo'burg' and learning about the system of apartheid that existed in South Africa. The whole class enjoyed taking part in a rounders tournament in the park.

<u>School Lunches</u> – Please ensure there is sufficient money in ParentPay before sending your children for a school lunch. Please do not book your children's lunches once they are in school as it is too late for that day - thank you.

<u>The New Hinksey Summer Fete</u> – This year's summer fête will take place on Saturday 6th July and will have an 'Our World' theme. Speak to April, Ben, Louisa or Rowan if you'd like to get involved with helping or have any ideas.

<u>Morning Club from September</u> – We sent home explanatory letters this week. Please return the expression of interest slip by Friday  $24^{th}$  May if you would like to take up places. Thank you.

Parents are welcome in our school

<u>Playground Tubs</u> – Any donations of bedding plants to help brighten up the plant tubs around the school will be gratefully received and the children really enjoy helping to plant them up. Lots of the supermarkets have bedding plants so it would be lovely if you could get us a tray during your weekly shop – thank you.

<u>After School Club Bills</u> – The invoices for April were sent home via book bags recently and are also on ParentPay. They were due to be paid by today so please check and pay over the weekend.

**SOAP AGM** - will be held on Thursday 23rd May 6.30 to 8pm at SOAP. Everyone welcome.

<u>A Few Reminders</u> – Please could all long hair be tied back all day in school. NO jewellery in school other than small stud earrings in pierced ears and wristwatches if worn. No riding of bikes or scooters across the playground – they should be walked/pushed please. We are a NO CHEWING GUM SCHOOL so would be grateful if no children or adults used chewing gum on the school site – we have done very well with avoiding horrible sticky blobs of it all over the playgrounds or paths and we do not want our school to start looking like the pavements! Thank you.

<u>Nursery Places for September 2019</u> – calling all children born between 1.9.15 and 31.8.16! If you, your neighbours' or friends' children are in our area and were born between those dates please let us know and get forms filled out if they wish to have a nursery place in September – 5 mornings or 5 afternoons, wrap around care available and 15 additional hours free childcare available for eligible families.

<u>Next Week is Walk to School Week</u> – Many of you already walk, cycle or scoot to school but, if you don't already do so, why not try to make a big effort next week to leave the car some way from the school and walk the last 10 minutes. You will feel the benefits of walking and help to reduce congestion and pollution! Thank you.

And here's something to discuss at home! It's a 'thunk'. Thunks are unusual questions to make you think. There is not really any right or wrong answer. Have a go at this one....

'Would you have your sense of humour removed for a million pounds?' What do you think and why?

Yours sincerely,

Charlotte Haynes

## **Dates for Diaries**

**Monday 20<sup>th</sup> May Class Group Photos** – please wear Hinksey sweatshirts, T shirts or polo shirts if you have them. If not we will lend, borrow or share!

Monday  $27^{th}$  May – Friday  $31^{st}$  May School Closed for Half Term Holiday Monday  $3^{rd}$  June - School Closed for Staff Inset Day

Tuesday 4th June – Children return to school for start of term

4th June – 14<sup>th</sup> June – Art Weeks in school

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> June – 9.10 in the hall Sharing Assembly for Woodpecker Class

Wednesday 19th June 3-4 pm Open Classes Art Exhibitions in each class – please come and tour the school.

Friday 21st June 9.10 in hall – Sharing Assembly for Dove Class

Friday 28th June SCHOOL CLOSED FOR STAFF INSET

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> July 9.10 in the hall Sharing Assembly for Owl Class

Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> July School Fete

Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> July (morning) Sports Day on University College Sports Ground, Abingdon Road

Tuesday 16th and Wednesday 17th July (afternoons) Key Stage 2 Performance to parents

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> July School Day Out at SOAP

Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> July 1.45pm Leavers Assembly

TERM ENDS AT 1pm ON WEDNESDAY 24th JULY

There is a Tudor Family day at Christ Church Cathedral on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> May 1-4pm – Tickets £5 per child. For further information or to buy tickets please visit www.museumofoxford.org

Millets Farm has a Family Fun Day on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> May, 10am – 4pm, in aid of 'Against Breast Cancer'. For further information please contact Kayleigh on 01235 858287