



New Hinksey CE Primary School

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24th May 2019

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

Everyone has enjoyed the lovely weather this week and it has been good that classes have been able to get out and about to the park for athletics, rounders and tennis, to the allotment and on trips to Oxford for local sketching and a picnic.

We hope you all have a happy and relaxing week's holiday next week. Remember Monday 3rd is an INSET day, so children come back to school on Tuesday 4th June.

News From Classes:

Foundation Stage (Ducklings – nursery; Robins - reception) – We have been reading the story of 'The Three Little Pigs', and once again the children have been enjoying hearing differing written versions and making up their own versions of the story with props. They have particularly enjoyed using the larger puppets and puppet theatre (thank you once again Joe and Alfie Green's family for that donation). The children have also been fascinated by information books about the human body and they were especially interested in the functions of the digestive system.

Finches – We have been writing and planning our own story based on 'Lost and Found'. We are choosing our own characters and settings. In maths we have been looking at tens and ones within two digit numbers. In art we have been creating different pictures and collages of modes of transport.

Owls – We have been working hard during our two maths KS1 Sats tests this week. In the afternoons we have been learning about the Great Barrier Reef: the fish, the coral and why it is under threat. Miss Kilpatrick and Mel wish Owls and their families a very happy half-term and a well-deserved break.

Doves – Hej! This week we have found out about the Danish city of Copenhagen. We have created posters to advertise the Tivoli Gardens, the Little Mermaid statue, the Nyhaun area and the Amalienborg Palace. We have made delicious Danish pastries. In maths we have developed our knowledge of place value and worked hard on our assessments. In science we had fun melting chocolate as part of our focus on states of matter.

Woodpeckers – We have listened to some more nonsense poems, including 'Jabberwocky' by Lewis Carroll. We drew our own interpretations of the 'beast' and enjoyed analysing and predicting what words such as 'brillig' or 'slithy tower' might mean. In maths we have managed to assess the learning for this half term, in order to identify our next steps in learning. Our wonderful three colour prints are complete and you will be able to see them on display at the art week exhibition soon!

Kingfishers – Our city skyline in silhouette prints are now on display outside the classroom. They are very successful and look great (come and have a look). Year 6s have investigated fractions of area while Year 5s have shown a growing understanding of coordinates and translating polygons on a grid. Everyone is encouraged to audition for the KS2 production – please ask us to practise some lines with you over the break. We enjoyed a visit from local historian Liz Woolley and staff from the Great Western Railway where we learned about the local history of the railway and a little about how trains work. We have been encouraged to enter a competition either to design a train of the future or to write a short story about a train journey. Do ask us about this and see below.

Children are asked to design a train of the future by producing an annotated drawing on A3 paper. They will be able to work on this by themselves during half term and with their teachers in the first two weeks in June.

School Lunches – 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.

Parents are welcome in our school

The New Hinksey Summer Fete – Second Fete Planning Meeting - We will be meeting again to plan the summer fete on Wednesday 5th June at 8pm, at Ben and Ellie's house. Please come along - especially if you have ideas on how to 'green' the fete! If you need the address, contact Ben on 07909 900297.

Nursery Places for September 2019 – 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.

Hedgehog Talk @ South Oxford Community Centre, Sunday 2nd June 2:30pm (free of charge) - Please join us for an entertaining talk on all things hedgehog, delivered by Hugh Warwick - author, ecologist and all-round hedgehog expert! A short update on the local hedgehog research project (Hinksey Hogs) will also be provided. Contact hinkseyhogs@gmail.com for more information.

Thank You - to Gillian (mother of Edward in Year 1) who has donated £300 of surplus childcare vouchers to the school for purchasing some KS1 resources – this is much appreciated. If you are a family using childcare vouchers and you too have built up a surplus we would welcome further donations if you would like to give them to a worthy cause.

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

'If you always got everything you ever wished for, would you always be happy?' What do you think and why?

Yours sincerely,

Charlotte Haynes

Dates for Diaries

Monday 27th May – Friday 31st May School Closed for Half Term Holiday

Monday 3rd June - School Closed for Staff Inset Day

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

4th June – 14th June – Art Weeks in school

Friday 14th 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 5th July 9.10 in the hall Sharing Assembly for Owl Class

Saturday 6th July School Fete

Wednesday 10th 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 22nd July School Day Out at SOAP

Tuesday 23rd 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 30th May 1-4pm – Tickets £5 per child.

For further information or to buy tickets please visit www.museumofoxford.org

What killed the Dinosaurs – a science musical for families

This takes place on Tuesday 28th and Wednesday 29th May 2 – 3pm at the Oxford University Museum of Natural History. Please book tickets in advance at www.oum.ox.ac.uk/events

Get writing and submit your work to a local competition.....

As part of this summer's celebrations of the 175th anniversary of the arrival of Oxford's first railway, pupils at New Hinksey Primary School are invited to take part in a creative writing competition:

A train journey in the past, present or future

This is a creative writing competition for pupils in all years, to write a side of A4 on 'A train journey of the past, present or future'. The results will be put on display in the marquee at the 175th anniversary event at Grandpont Recreation Ground on 15 June (see <http://www.didcotoxfordgwr175.org/oxford.html>). Judges will include Jim Noble, Isambard Kingdom Brunel's great great great grandson, and there will be some great prizes.

By the way, older siblings, parents and grandparents need not feel left out! The 175th anniversary celebrations include an exciting photography competition – see <http://www.didcotoxfordgwr175.org/competition.html> for further details.