



# New Hinksey CE Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs Charlotte Haynes

27<sup>th</sup> June 2019

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

This is a Thursday newsletter as tomorrow (**28<sup>th</sup> June**) **school is closed to all pupils for staff INSET– please don't send your children to school!**

This week we say goodbye and thank you to Miss Hope who has very successfully completed her final teaching practice in Dove class over the last 8 weeks. The children have really enjoyed her teaching and will be sad to see her go. We all wish Miss Hope the very best in her new job in Watford.

On Thursday Key Stage 2 children had an 'off curriculum' day. Year 3 was with Mrs Tucker, Year 4 with Mrs Smith and Year 5 with Mrs Nash. We only had a handful of Year 6s in school that day so they rose to the challenge of being teaching assistants in the younger classes.

## News From Classes:

**Foundation Stage (Ducklings – nursery; Robins - reception)** – Our caterpillars have grown into the most enormous caterpillars we have ever raised! We are even wondering if they are indeed the Painted Lady variety that Elaine ordered or if they will turn out to be gigantic butterflies! On Wednesday the children really enjoyed their walk through the park to South Hinksey village. En-route the children saw two trains and looked closely at different materials the houses are made of. We will continue with some transition activities next week and Robins have the chance to join some of the Key Stage 1 playtimes and to visit the Finch classroom.

**Finches** – We have begun exploring a story called 'Journey' which is a wordless picture book. The children will become authors and write words for the story, so we have been doing lots of planning this week. In maths we are revising adding and taking away 1 and 10, and solving missing numbers. In D.T. we have evaluated our Viking long-boats.

**Owls** – This week we have been planting cress seeds, 'mummy' peas and beans. We have been travelling around Africa discovering a bit about Algeria, Egypt, Botswana and Tanzania from our visiting parents. A big thank you to them all. Enjoy your long weekend.

**Doves** – We have continued our work on diary writing by writing sailors' diaries. We found out that sailors drank scotch coffee made from burnt biscuits and water. We visited the allotment where we saw frogs, toads and a newt, and did lots of weeding. Thank you to Deborah for helping us. We enjoyed a busy day today playing rounders, making gazpacho and creating our own quizzes. Over the week in maths we have worked hard to add up groups of numbers using different methods.

**Woodpeckers** – In English we have been checking each other's stories with a target tick list to identify our strengths and next steps in writing. In maths Year 4s have been looking at multiplication and finding fractions of amounts. Year 5s have focussed on understanding percentages and relating them to fractions and decimals in order to solve money problems. In D.T. we have begun to work on our city landmarks, using what we have learnt about strong structures and shapes. We will work in small groups to combine our ideas and make the final structures. We all enjoyed a change on Thursday, which enabled some problem solving, role play and creativity.

**Kingfishers** – Children have been busy visiting their new schools, rehearsing for Kitty Whittington, making posters and planning next week's Fairtrade café. Please help your child provide their costume for the play by 8<sup>th</sup> July – thanks.

**All Year 4 and 5 Swimmers** – Next week (Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> July) all the swimmers will be taking part in a water safety session. Please can each pupil bring a long sleeved t-shirt top and leggings or a pair of pyjamas. Onesies are not allowed. The children will also need an additional plastic bag to put these items in once they have finished swimming in them as they will be wet!

*Parents are welcome in our school*

**Summer Fete Raffle Tickets** – Please try to sell the raffle tickets that children brought home last week. For a chance to win some fantastic prizes, please fill out the stubs and return with your money to the ticket sellers who will be in the playground at the start and end of the school day. If you can sell more tickets to family and friends, just ask the seller

**Summer Fete Items Wanted** - Please also, if you get a chance this weekend, have a sort out, looking out for teddies, lucky dip prizes, craft paper/card and sweetie jars that we can use on stalls in the fete - every little helps! The fete is at the end of next week, Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> July, so we all need to 'get in gear' and help make this vital fundraiser for the school a success.

**Notice to All Year 2 parents** – From September, when your children are Year 3 children, you will need to pay for any school lunches that your child has as the free entitlement is for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children only. Therefore it is very important that you check that you can log on and use ParentPay as this is how you will book and pay for meals. You will have all received a letter when your child started school with log in information.

**Important Notice to After School Club Users** – If your child is currently using After School Club and will be doing so in September please confirm with Tracey, **by email**, as soon as possible your continued use and which sessions. We have waiting lists and new children wanting to use it so we would like to get an up to date picture of your September requirements. Thank you.

**Job Vacancy** – We are recruiting for a lunchtime supervisor from September, daily 11.30 – 1pm, term time only. Please speak to Tracey or Charlotte Haynes if you are interested and would like to know more.

**Staff Changes in September** – Two of our teachers are moving on at the end of the year, Elaine from Foundation Stage is retiring (it is early retirement – she's not that old!) and Stephanie Haig in Year 1 is moving back to her home town to live and work. We are very sad to lose them from our team and will say a proper goodbye nearer the end of the term. We are very pleased to have secured two excellent teachers for Foundation Stage and Year 1 from September. Polly Hodgson will be our new Foundation Stage teacher and Ms Victoria Martins will be our new Year 1 teacher. They are both able to visit this term so children and families who will be taught by them in September will be able to meet and get to know them. After many years of service to our school in many different capacities, Tim Sparrowhawk is also retiring – again a proper farewell to him at the end of term.

**May Bank Holiday in 2020** - Please note that since publishing the term dates for next year the Government has announced a change to the May bank holiday date from Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May to Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May.

**SOAP** - Could you spare 2-3 hours a month during the school term for SOAP? We're looking for a secretary. We meet locally once a month during the week, usually 8-9.30pm. The role would entail taking notes, and sharing the agenda and minutes prior to the meeting. Please get in touch if you're interested or would like to know more. [hiresoapoxford@gmail.com](mailto:hiresoapoxford@gmail.com) Thank you! Please help support SOAP and keep it open! We have repair and staffing costs and need your support to keep going. Check out our local giving page <https://localgiving.org/soapoxford>

**Fairtrade Café Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> July** – The children in Kingfisher Class will be running a café in the hall on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> July, starting at 2.15pm. Why not come and have a drink and a cake before picking up your children at 3 o'clock. The café runs until 3.30pm so there is plenty of time to take your children along straight after school. Look out for tickets on sale in the playground at the end of the school day. **No Bollywood Club on this day – Thursday 4<sup>th</sup>.**

Finally, thank you to Reverend Jane Baun who led a fabulous assembly on Wednesday about Jonah and the Whale. At one time she asked the children what the inside of a Whale might be like – never have we heard so many describing words – smelly, slimy, sticky, squelchy, disgusting, unhygienic, soggy, fishy, to name but a few!

Yours sincerely,  
Charlotte Haynes

### **Dates for Diaries**

**Thursday 4 July – Fairtrade Café in School Hall at 2.15pm organised by Kingfisher Class**

**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 16<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> 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 24<sup>th</sup> JULY**