



# New Hinksey CE Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs Charlotte Haynes

14 June 2019

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

This is a full newsletter so please take the time to read – thank you.

## **News From Classes:**

**Foundation Stage (Ducklings – nursery; Robins - reception)** – We have started to think about the life cycle of butterflies. We have been printing caterpillars with corks and also we have started to create symmetrical butterfly prints. The Robin class have started to prepare for their transition to Year 1 (Finch) class by joining in with the key stage one playtime. Also the children were able to visit and play in the Finch classroom during a casual ‘play swap’.

**Finches** – We have been working hard on developing our own story based on ‘Where the Wild Things Are’. We have used descriptive writing, conjunctions and a range of punctuation. In maths we have been learning to tell the time: quarter past and quarter to. In art we have been drawing self-portraits using pastels.

**Owls** – We have been exploring some aspects of Mexico, the Amazon, Costa Rica and San Francisco: - the geography, animals, stories and art work. Thank you to Will’s Dad Ollie, Sophia’s Dad Will and to Natasha in Doves for coming to talk to us and to Will’s Mum Ellie for sharing her trip with us via Will. We have been measuring in maths and using block graphs. We have been writing postcards about our travels. Please help us learn where we live!!

**Doves** – We have enjoyed learning about forces in science. We used Newton metres to measure the time needed to move different amounts of weights. In English we have continued to focus on diary writing inspired by Yossi Ginsburg’s expedition. In maths the Year 3s have developed their halving and doubling skills whilst Year 4s have added and subtracted four digit numbers. This week we are learning about Christopher Columbus. We will tell you all about him in our assembly next Friday, 21 June.

**Woodpeckers** – We have had a varied and busy week, full of change and excitement! In English we are beginning Faraway Fiction and have enjoyed reading a book called ‘Cloud Tree Monkeys’ by Mal Peet and Elspeth Graham. We visualised the Himalayan landscape and made predictions about the story, adding lots of description to interest the reader. In circle time with Year 4s, we explored why change can be positive and reflected on how our lives have changed over the years. Year 5s found both talks on Puberty and Fire and Safety interesting and useful. We have also enjoyed preparing for our sharing assembly which we hope you enjoyed today.

**Kingfishers** – We have started rehearsal for the KS2 musical after some jiggling around with parts. It has been an interesting process but now hope that we can settle into our roles. Scripts will come home for line-learning. However, please remind your child to always bring it to school. The class have been visited by our School Nurse to provide information about puberty (Year 5) and adult relations (Year 6). In maths we have been exploring area, perimeter and volume. We have begun a project to create an animation using ‘scratch’ in our computing lessons.

**Doves and Woodpeckers** – Please note that all the Dove and Woodpecker Class will be attending a Story Museum event in a pumpkin tent during the afternoon of Monday 17<sup>th</sup> June. They can do their usual thing for lunch, eating a little earlier in school, and will be back for the end of the school day. Please make sure they have suitable footwear and clothes for the weather conditions that day. Please note that any children from these classes also going to Festival of Voices will be able to do both things as they will come back to school a little earlier in time to get on the coach to go to Dorchester Abbey.

**School Lunches** – It is the parents’ responsibility to ensure that there is money in ParentPay before sending your child to school for a school meal. It is taking up too much time chasing and waiting for payments each morning and from next week we will not be phoning to give warnings as we simply do not have the capacity to do this each day. 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*

**Kingfisher Class** – have an exciting session at the Community Centre on Thursday morning next week when they will be immersed in an interactive operatic performance of Orfeo and Euridice, as part of Oxford Festival of the Arts. We look forward to hearing about it – they are treated like guests at a wedding with real canapes to eat as the opera unfolds around them!

**Parking** – After a few months with no parking issues, there seems to be an increase in cars parking poorly and turning by the gates again. **Please do park in neighbouring roads and walk from there.** A neighbour close to the school is having building work done which means that there is very restricted vehicle access at present and **our priority is for the children to come to school and leave school safely.** Your cooperation in this matter would be greatly appreciated.

**After School Club Bills** for May were sent home last week. They are due to be paid by today so please pay over the weekend if you have not already done so.

**Class Photographs** – Your child will have brought home a proof of their class photograph earlier this week. If you wish to order a copy, please complete the form and return with payment to school by Wednesday 26 June.

**Open Day Art Exhibition** – please earmark Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> June 3 – 4pm to come and tour the school to see all our artwork displayed in the classes. Bring family and friends too!

**Invitation to Parents of Children Going to Swan School in September 2019** – Please come to school at 3.10pm on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> June to meet with headteacher Kay Woods who will be visiting that afternoon.

**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.

**Please see attached info about the school fete and about a fundraising activity we are doing for The Story Museum.**

Yours sincerely,

*Charlotte Haynes*

#### **Dates for Diaries**

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

**Friday 21<sup>st</sup> June 9.10 in hall – Sharing Assembly for Dove Class**

**Friday 28<sup>th</sup> June SCHOOL CLOSED FOR STAFF INSET**

**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**

#### **Please join us for the 2nd South Oxford Family Triathlon**

**Sunday 30th June. All ages, all abilities, non competitive - take part on your own or part of a team.**

**Register on line before 21st Jun at <http://triathlon.sofr.org.uk>**

#### **Cleaner wanted**

Grandpont nursery school is looking for a reliable cleaner. This is a permanent position all year round 10 hours per week, £9.00 per hour. Please contact the school office on 01865 242900 for further information. Or call in for a chat at 47 Whitehouse Road, Oxford.