



New Hinksey CE Primary School

Vicarage Road Oxford OX1 4RQ

Tel: 01865 242169 Fax: 01865 242169

Email: office.3213@new-hinksey.oxon.sch.uk

Website: www.new-hinksey.oxon.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mrs Charlotte Haynes

20th September 2019

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

We have had a great week in school. As I have walked around the classes I have been struck by the high levels of pupil engagement and the wide range of exciting activities going on. We have also been lucky with beautiful weather.

Assemblies – This week we have explored the teaching ‘Do unto others as you would have them do unto you’ using the story of The Ungrateful Servant. Fr Ruben reinforced this theme telling us about how the unpopular tax collector was treated kindly by Jesus and then changed his own behaviour and his name to Matthew – as in the Gospel writer. He started assembly with a hilarious introduction about the meaning of the most popular children’s names and had us all laughing.

News From Classes:

Foundation Stage (Ducklings – nursery; Robins - reception) – We have been singing lots of rhyming songs in Robins. We have been investigating shape including dancing and drawing to the ‘shape song swingalong’ and we went on a shape hunt. You will have seen the great drawings that all the children did of their family’s home in book bags this week - we had lots of fun doing those. Ducklings have had fun making painty hand prints and have been listening to ‘Maisie Mouse’ stories.

Finches – We have had a fantastic week! In literacy we have learnt and retold the story of Beegu. In maths we have been adding numbers to ten. In ‘Discover and Explore’ we have had a fabulous time looking at the art work of Jackson Pollock and then creating our own beautiful piece of art in this style. We have also been busy making our own junk model rockets and using oil pastels to draw a self-portrait. Sonia and Miss Martins have loved seeing the incredible space themed homework the children have been busy making this week!

Owls – We have been looking at, describing and writing poems about zebras, hippos, lions and leopards. We have explored other art techniques to make animal pictures. In Year 2 we have learnt how animals find their food and shown we can match living things to their habitat. Year 3s have been comparing the differences and similarities between four types of antelope as well as describing what animals need to survive and linking this to their habitats. In R.E. we have been thinking about leaders and what they do. In Year 2 in maths we have been practising our numbers to 10, 20 and 100 and in Year 3 we have been adding and subtracting multiples and near multiples of 10.

Doves – We have begun to find out about Egyptian Gods by listening to stories and from our own research. We are now planning out our own written versions. We have used Fimo clay to mould our Nekhbet necklace designs. We are working hard to balance numbers with different totals and experiment with different methods of addition. In French we are beginning to learn phrases for conversations.

Woodpeckers – We have looked at how pronouns help with the flow of our writing and enjoyed making ‘wanted’ posters for that pesky dragon called Toothless! We also recapped on how to punctuate direct speech, using the exchanges of jokes and riddles between Hiccup and his dragon. In maths Year 4s have worked hard on understanding place value in 4-digit numbers and using this in ‘no-work’ addition. Year 5s have discussed and used the most efficient methods to add and subtract numbers. Our joint artwork for imaginary dragons is complete and now on display as inspiration for our story writing. In R.E. we have researched and presented interesting facts about the Qu’ran and discovered what a ‘Hadith’ is and what skills a person with the ‘Hafiz’ has. (See if your child can remember).

Kingfishers – We have enjoyed sketching objects with different tonal qualities in our art books as we explore ‘chiaroscuro’. In maths we have been calculating unknown values in sums (algebra!). In science we are learning how animals and plants have adapted to their environments over time.

Vacancy for a Lunchtime Supervisor – We are looking for another lunchtime supervisor daily, term time only from 11.30am to 1pm. Please come and talk to Tracey or Mrs Haynes if you are interested and we can tell you a bit more.

Parents are welcome in our school

Important Information for Current Year 6 Parents – You need to apply for your children’s secondary school places by **Thursday 31st October**. This is during the half term holiday so we urge you to get your applications in before then. Please visit schools you are interested in, attend their open evenings and then go to the Oxfordshire County Council website, school admissions. You will be asked to register on the Citizen Portal before starting your application which you then submit when it is complete with your secondary preferences listed on it.

Transition Events at The Swan School - This is an exciting but stressful time for families. We understand that, being a new school, some families may not yet know very much about what The Swan School is offering. The Swan School is therefore hosting a series of open mornings as well as open evenings that we would encourage as many families to go along to as they can. The dates are:

•Open Evening - Tuesday 8th October (5-7pm)

•Open Mornings - 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 9th, 10th, 15th, 16th, 17th October (9.30-10.45am)

More information about The Swan School and how to book onto the open mornings is on their website - www.theswanschool.org.uk

Morning Club – Our daily ‘Morning Club’ is up and running offering before school supervision from 8am till 8.45am. £3.00 per session. Children must have had their breakfast before being dropped off. Please note that we have decided to invoice parents through ParentPay monthly and not in advance as families are still deciding on their needs. There are spaces each day at Morning Club so it is possible to book ‘ad hoc’ sessions rather than an entire term’s worth BUT we must have at least 24 hours’ notice for this. We cannot take children who are dropped off without having been booked in advance. Please email office.3213@new-hinksey.oxon.sch.uk if you need to use this facility. Many thanks.

PE Kit Reminder – All children from Year 1 to Year 6 need a PE kit in school, hanging on their peg from Monday to Friday. PE kit should be a standard t-shirt, a pair of shorts (leggings or tracksuit bottoms acceptable for outdoor PE) and a pair of sports trainers or black plimsolls. Trainers /plimsolls must have non-slip soles and foot support.

Macmillan Coffee Morning, Wednesday 25 September, 9-10am, School Hall - Please come and join us for a coffee and cake, and get to know some new faces. All proceeds to Macmillan Cancer Support. No one has come forward to help as yet, so if you can come a little early to help set up, please let April know, either in the playground or at april.elizabeth.jones@gmail.com. Lovely homemade cake also very welcome. Thank you!

Climate Postcards - You will all find a postcard for you (parents!) to fill in in book bags this week to send a message to the Secretary of State for the Environment about an environmental issue/something you care about/something you are worried about. This can be as long or short as you like and include words or pictures; the children will also be filling them in at school. Please hand them back in to your child's teacher so they can all be sent off together.

Individual Pupil Photos – Please remember that the photographer will be in school on Friday so if you would like your child to be wearing a particular outfit or have their hair done in a special way for their photograph, send them in on Friday suitably attired and styled! The photos make excellent presents for grandparents and other family members for Christmas.

Yours sincerely,

Charlotte Haynes

Dates for Diaries

Wednesday 25th September - Macmillan Coffee Morning in school hall 9-10am (see above)

Friday 27th September – Photographer in school to take individual pupil photographs

Tuesday 1st October - Governing Body Meeting at 6.30pm

Wednesday 2nd October 3pm – 4pm – Open Afternoon – Please come and see your children’s classrooms, meet the teachers and look around. Family, friends and neighbours welcome too.

Friday 4th October 9.10am in the school hall – Sharing Assembly for Dove Class

Thursday 10th October 2.15pm in Church – School Harvest Festival

Friday 18th October 9.10am in the school hall – Sharing Assembly for Kingfisher Class

Friday 25th October 9.10am in the school hall – Sharing Assembly for Finch Class

School finishes at 3pm (After School Club as usual) on Friday 25th October for half term holiday

Monday 28th October – Monday 4th November Half term Holiday

Term starts again at 8.45am on Tuesday 5th November

South Oxford Community Centre invites you to the ‘Cave Painting’ event as part of The Big Draw Festival.

Saturday 5th October 10 – 4pm. For more details call 01865 242666 or go to enquiries@southoxford.org