



New Hinksey CE Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs Charlotte Haynes

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

We have had another busy week in school with lots of inspirational and creative learning activities taking place, some of which you can read about below. Please remember that we have a parent governor election taking place on Monday at drop off and pick up times so please spare a moment or two to vote. The candidates are James Webber and Samrah Ahmed.

News From Classes:

Foundation Stage (Ducklings – nursery; Robins - reception) – We have had a very busy week. We have started ‘phonics’ everyday and this week have been learning to read and write the letters ‘m’, ‘a’ and ‘s’. We have had discussions as a class about why we are special and our comments are displayed in the classroom. We have also been talking about what ‘respect’ means and on Tuesday we listened to Aretha Franklin singing it! We are doing so well and our listening at group times is fantastic. Ducklings have continued to enjoy ‘Maisy Mouse’ stories. We have also learned new songs such as ‘Clap your hands – wiggle your fingers’.

Finches – We have had a fantastic week learning all about the moon landing 50 years ago. We have used Google Earth to look at where we live and then zoomed out to look at the Earth. We have been learning the names of the five oceans in Discover and Explore. We have started rehearsing for the Harvest celebration and created harvest art in the style of Arcimboldo.

Owls – We have been planning our African animal stories by working on the plot, the characters and the settings. In the afternoons we have been listening to stories of Moses and acting them out and making pictures to help us remember them. In maths: Year 2 have been learning and using number bonds to 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 do harder maths and spotting patterns while Year 3 have been revising 2, 5 and 10 times tables and learning and using 3 and 4 times tables. Miss K read John Burningham’s ‘Whaddayamean?’ and ‘Leaf’ by Sandra Dieckmann to help us think about what to write and draw on our postcards to the Secretary of State for the Environment.

Doves – We have worked hard to complete our stories about Egyptian Gods. We have all added interesting noun phrases to make our stories more descriptive. We have each chosen an Egyptian god to research and draw. In PE we have learnt some Egyptian dance steps with our partners. In Maths we have begun to develop our problem solving skills by investigating multiplying by 9, 19, 29 up to 159 and finding 2 digit multiples out of a group of numbers.

Don’t forget to come along to our sharing assembly at 9.10am in the hall on Friday 4 October.

Woodpeckers – In English we have enjoyed reading and listening to more of ‘How to Train your Dragon’. Focussing on comprehension skills and understanding the different parts of a story, we have mapped, discussed and written in role. In maths we have focussed on using multiplication and division facts to solve problems and understand place value decimal numbers. In art we have worked well in pairs to paint an harvest scene inspired by the medieval artists called the Limbourg Brothers.

Kingfishers – We have been examining the difference in darkness obtained by using pencils in different ways as well as using different pencils (5H – 6B). We are looking at how light and darkness in art can add drama to an image. In maths we have been practising reading timetables and finding time intervals. We have begun to think about writing our own science fiction stories – to help inspire us we have been taking photos of ourselves pretending to spot an approaching spaceship and discussing the powerful language that could be used to describe the scene.

Open Afternoon – Wednesday 2 October

Please come and have a look at your child’s class (and other classes) during the Open Afternoon from 3 to 4pm. You are very welcome to bring neighbours, grandparents and friends. This is a lovely informal opportunity to get to know your children’s classes at this early stage of the year.

Parents are welcome in our school

Vacancy for a Lunchtime Supervisor – We are looking for another lunchtime supervisor daily, term time only from 11.20am to 12.50pm. Please come and talk to Tracey or Mrs Haynes if you are interested.

School Census Day and Menu Swap for Thursday and Friday next week

On Thursday 3 October there is a school census and we are given some funding dependent on the number of school lunches taken that day. Because fish and chips is the more popular option, we will be having fish or vegetable frittata on Thursday and Pork Sausages or Veggie Sausages on Friday. If you wish for your child **to have fish on Thursday, please order British Pork Sausage on Thursday**; if you wish for your child **to have Frittata, please order Veggie Sausages**. On Friday, if you wish your child to have Pork Sausages, please order Battered Fish Fillet and if you wish your child to have Veggie Sausages, please order Vegetable Frittata. Children who don't usually have school lunch on a Thursday we hope will have fish and chips that day and then bring their packed lunch for Friday. Thank you. **Please do not forget to ensure that there is sufficient credit in your Parentpay account before sending your child in for a school lunch.**

Maths Challenge Competition

Three teams of four children will be representing our school at this competition at Oxford Spires on Wednesday 2 October. We wish them good luck as we are the defending champions having won the trophy last year!

Important Information for Current Year 6 Parents – You need to apply for your children's secondary school places by Thursday 31st October.

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.

Individual Pupil Photos – Your child should have brought home a proof of their photos today. If you would like to order, please follow the instructions given by Tempest Photographers and return to school by 11 October.

Kids Bee Activities at the Natural History Museum, Saturday 28 September, 11-4pm - Go to the museum dressed up as a bee! As part of Extinction Rebellion's Arts-Science Extravaganza on biodiversity at the Natural History Museum on Saturday, there will be a stall of bee-themed activities and storytelling for primary aged children - and if they want to, they can visit dressed as bees!

School Pen Recycling Point - Sharper-eyed children may have noticed the new pen recycling point in the glass house. When your pens run out, please don't throw them away! Bring them to the school pen recycling point, and volunteers will make sure they get to terracycle for recycling.

Yours sincerely,

Charlotte Haynes

Dates for Diaries

Tuesday 1st October - Governing Body Meeting at 6.30pm

Wednesday 2nd October 3pm – 4pm – Open Afternoon

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