



New Hinksey CE Primary School

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11th October 2019

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

As we are heading towards the end of the first half term of the school year, with colder and unpredictable weather, please could we remind parents that **every child** must have a **rainproof jacket/coat** in school **every day**. Fleeeces, hoodies and fluffy jackets are no good at all at keeping children dry when it starts raining during playtime. Whilst we are on reminders please remember that **all long hair should be tied back in school**. Also we try very hard to be a 'gum free' zone in an effort to prevent unsightly blobs of chewing gum being stuck all over the tarmac play areas. Please respect this and **do not allow your children to bring chewing gum to school with them**.

Travel Disruption on Monday – please be aware that on Monday between 8am and 12.30pm a number of roads and bus routes in and around the city centre (including St Aldates) will be closed due to the procession and funeral of PC Andrew Harper that will be taking place at Christ Church Cathedral that morning. Diverted traffic and buses will be using Donnington Bridge so expect that to be much busier on Monday and please leave extra time accordingly.

News From Classes:

Foundation Stage (Ducklings – nursery; Robins - reception) – In Robins this week we have been learning new sounds 'i' and 'n'. We have been practising to read lots of words using all the sounds we know now. Also we have read the beautiful stories by Lois Ewert focusing on leaves and this has inspired some great leaf art. Sarah has been getting the children to do some observational pastel pictures using harvest vegetables as well as some lovely leaf printing. Ducklings have been enjoying Bobo stories and songs about leaves and conkers.

Finches – We have had another fantastic week in Finch Class! In English we have been learning and writing facts about the sun, and in our numeracy lessons we have been looking at place value of numbers to 20. We have been investigating materials and their different properties. We had a fantastic time at the Harvest festival and the children were amazing singing their harvest rap.

Owls – This week we have been putting numbers on a number line, ordering numbers and learning to use the signs for 'smaller than' and 'greater than', focusing on 2 digit numbers in Yr2 and 3digit numbers in Yr3. We have all been learning to tell an African story called 'Honey and Trouble' which we will tell you for our homework. We have been discussing 'harvested' foods which we eat and making harvest pictures using frottage (rubblings). Our African animals at sunset pictures are now on display.

Doves – We have been learning about the features of non-fiction writing and have written about farming and harvesting in ancient Egypt. We have made some delicious, healthy Egyptian lentil soup. In maths we have found different ways to double and halve. In French lessons we have practised our numbers and ways to describe the different types of weather.

Woodpeckers – We have begun a unit on Haiku poetry, inspired by the Japanese 'anime' films, which some of us are familiar with. In maths we have focussed on written methods for addition and subtraction and have been using these skills to solve word problems. We are looking at Renaissance paintings in art and had a go at using one-point perspective to draw a scene. We will be looking in closer detail at how Leonardo da Vinci, and others, used vanishing points to draw the viewer's eye onto important parts of a painting. We enjoyed showing our medieval harvest scenes in the church service.

Kingfishers – In maths we have been practising mental and written methods of multiplying large numbers and money. We have each made a Tudor rose using clay. We have written some lovely poems for the Harvest festival. We have started preparing for our sharing assembly next week which will be all about the scientist Charles Darwin.

After School Club and Morning Club Bills

The deadline for paying the September bills is today, 11th October. Places may be withdrawn until payment is made.

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.

Transition Events at The Swan School - 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 Mornings - 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 9th, 10th, 15th, 16th, 17th October (9.30-10.45am)
More information and how to book onto the open mornings is on their website - www.theswanschool.org.uk

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.

School Association AGM - New Hinksey School Association has its Annual General Meeting on Tuesday 15th October, 6.30-7.30pm. It's a time when we review our activities and think about new directions the school association might want to take. Please come along and join the discussion. It is taking place in school.

Free Stick Puppet Making Workshop – On Wednesday 16th next week, at 3pm in the school hall there will be a stick puppet making workshop for children. All ages are welcome BUT children must be accompanied by a parent. During the session parents will be asked to give feedback on a tick sheet about what sorts of free adult learning courses they might like to see in the future. It is very much a drop in session and you can stay for as little as 10 minutes – just long enough for your children to make a stick puppet – or a bit longer.

Kids’ Half Term Fun – House of Fun is running some days of Halloween Tricks and Sustainability Treats at St Ebbe’s School during half term. For more details and booking go to HOUSE-OF-FUN.ORG

Half Term Activities for Children at The Oxfordshire Museum in Woodstock include guide dog experience, art, printing and dinosaur workshops. For more information visit Oxfordshire.gov.uk/museum or telephone 01993 814106.

Donations for the Reward Box – If anyone has any packs of playing cards or small bouncy balls they will be gratefully received to top up the reward box – thanks.

Harvest Festival – thank you for your donations which will make up lovely harvest boxes for residents of Vicarage Court, senior citizens in the neighbourhood and the remaining items going to the Botley food bank. We had a beautiful service in church yesterday – it was nice to see so many of you there.

Doves Cake Sale Friday 18th October - Join us for a cake sale next Friday at 3pm after school. Please donate cakes if you can (donations can be dropped off in the ICT room in the morning) and don’t forget to bring money to buy. Most items 50p! All valuable funds raised go to our school. If any Doves parents or other volunteers would like to help, please see Claire Aldridge, Laura Hunter or Anne Alexander. Thanks!

Have a good weekend.

Yours sincerely,

Charlotte Haynes

Dates for Diaries

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

Monday 4th November is an INSET Day so children should not come to school

Term starts again at 8.45am on Tuesday 5th November

SOAP Fundraising Jumble Sale – 18th October 3.30pm – 5.15pm at SOAP – adults’ and children’s clothes, shoes, jewellery, toys, bric-a-brac and much more – lots of bargains.