



# New Hinksey CE Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs Charlotte Haynes

4<sup>th</sup> October 2019

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

Many thanks to Dove class for their lovely Sharing Assembly today where we heard all about the Ancient Egyptians and were entertained by a dance choreographed by the children themselves. Father Ruben's assembly this week was a modern day version of The Good Samaritan – why don't you ask your children about it?

**Harvest Festival** – Please come along and join us on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> October at 2.15pm at the church for our harvest festival. From Monday please start sending in food donations to make our harvest boxes for senior citizens in the neighbourhood and for the foodbank. The sorts of things we are looking for are tins, packets, jars, dried goods. A separate detailed list was sent out earlier in the week.

**Parent Governor Election** – Thank you to both candidates for being enthusiastic and standing. Samrah Ahmed received the higher number of votes and is therefore elected as a parent representative on the governing body.

## **News From Classes:**

**Foundation Stage (Ducklings – nursery; Robins - reception)** – Robins have had another busy week. We have been learning our song for Harvest Festival next week and talking about what harvest means. We have been learning our two new sounds 'd' and 't' and lots of us are enjoying role playing schools. We have set up a school outside and this has produced lots of writing and drawing. On Tuesday we were grouped and took our pens for a walk to create a collaborative picture using as much of the page as possible! In maths we have been comparing quantities and using lots of language e.g. fewer, more, less, altogether. Finally, please have a look at the paintings we did with Sarah which are on display in the cloakroom as we enjoyed mixing colour. Ducklings have been singing lots of songs including 'Five in the Bed'. We have also done lots of counting.

**Finches** – We have had another wonderful week learning about space. In our literacy lessons we have been working hard writing a recount about Neil Armstrong's journey to the moon. In numeracy we have had fun learning the names of shapes and seeing if we can spot them in real life. In discover and explore we have made fantastic hand-print aliens that look amazing on our Jackson Pollock display.

**Owls** – Year 2s have been learning about 2D shapes and Year 3s have been learning about time and 3D shapes. In English we have been writing up our African animal stories and a page for a factual class book on African animals. In science we have been learning about African animal food chains, with the Year 3s using correct scientific terms such as producer and herbivore.

**Doves** – We have edited, peer assessed and typed out our stories about Egyptian Gods. Year 3s have developed our symmetry skills in maths whilst Year 4s have learned about angles. In science we have learnt the common and scientific names for the bones in our bodies. We have enjoyed preparing our work and creating a dance for our sharing assembly.

**Woodpeckers** – We have written some amazing stories inspired by Cressida Cowell's book. Measurement of time and length has been the theme of maths this week and we have become experts at reading timetables! In RE we discovered more interesting facts about the Bible (did you know the word 'Gospel' means 'Good News'?) and drew our own ornate letters just as medieval monks would have done. Our class timeline has begun and we used it to understand when baroque music was written and enjoyed listening to music by Bach and Handel.

**Kingfishers** – We have learnt why Henry VIII broke away from the Catholic church in 1534. One reason was that he had fallen in love with Anne Boleyn and wanted to marry her. We have been writing a love letter to her whilst imagining to be Henry! We have continued our space theme by 'drawing with an eraser'. These are on display up the stairs if you would like to see them. In maths we have been practising different ways of subtracting decimals.

*Parents are welcome in our school*

**Open Afternoon** – Thank you to the many families who came on Wednesday, and for the lovely comments and feedback you made about the quality of the work and interesting displays showing the great learning that is going on in all classes.

**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.

**After School Club and Morning Club Bills**

These were sent home in book bags this week. Please pay using Parentpay by Friday 11 October. If you have childcare vouchers then you can also use those for payment. Please ask Tracey if you need more information.

**Maths Challenge Competition**

Three teams of four children represented our school at this competition at Oxford Spires on Wednesday this week. There were 19 teams altogether and our children thoroughly enjoyed the experience, answering some tricky maths problems, and came a very respectful 5<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>. Well done and thank you, especially to Ms Christensen who organised and supported our teams in their preparations. We are very proud of: Elijah, Fiona, Frank, Gabriele, Hannah, Mia, Edith, Katie, Roben, Eva, Annie and Eric.

**Important Information for Current Year 6 Parents** – You need to apply for your children's secondary school places by Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> 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](http://www.theswanschool.org.uk)

**Individual Pupil Photos** – If you would like to order, please follow the instructions given by Tempest Photographers and return to school by 11 October. Although the proofs that have come home appear to be quite dark the actual photographs are not so dark and apparently the slate coloured backdrop is the most popular with all schools this year.

**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.

**Macmillan Coffee Morning** - Thanks very much to everyone who baked for, helped at and came to the Macmillan coffee morning last week. We raised £38.60 for cancer support.

**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.

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](http://HOUSE-OF-FUN.ORG)

Wishing you all a happy weekend.

Yours sincerely,

Charlotte Haynes

**Dates for Diaries**

**Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2.15pm in Church – School Harvest Festival**

**Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October 9.10am in the school hall – Sharing Assembly for Kingfisher Class**

**Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October 9.10am in the school hall – Sharing Assembly for Finch Class**

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

**Monday 28<sup>th</sup> October – Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November Half term Holiday**

**Term starts again at 8.45am on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> November**