



New Hinksey CE Primary School

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15th November 2019

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

Well what a wet and soggy week we have had in school! We ask that every child has a waterproof jacket/coat in school every day, please. Fluffy fleeces are not waterproof and sleeveless jerkins are also not sufficient cover.

Thank you to Fr Ruben for his entertaining assembly on Thursday and to Woodpeckers for their sharing assembly today all about parliament past and present.

News From Classes:

Foundation Stage (Ducklings – nursery; Robins - reception) – Robins have continued their topic of space this week. We talked as a class about what we would like to learn about space and those questions are on display in the classroom. Over the next two weeks we are going to research the answers. We also watched Chris Hadfield brush his teeth in space and then Loraine showed us how to brush and look after our own teeth. We have been looking at 2D and 3D shape in maths. Our weekly sounds were ‘b’ and ‘f’. Please can the children bring their wellies on rainy days.

Finches – We had a fantastic trip to The Natural History Museum on Wednesday. We had the opportunity to hold and touch real dinosaur fossils, even a T-rex tooth! The children were captivated by the dinosaur tales and facts they learnt and loved looking at all the dinosaur skeletons in the museum. We were also lucky enough to see the meteorite whilst there. We are now writing an information leaflet about dinosaurs that the museum could give out to other children visiting. We have made our own salt dough fossils and have learned what herbivores, carnivores and omnivores are.

Owls – In maths we have all been improving our measuring. In English we have been practising using speech marks, commas in a list and writing about characters in our Egyptian story. We have been learning about mummification and Egyptian ideas about the after-life. We have been decorating an Egyptian style coffin and painting lovely tomb paintings. We may have to draw lots to determine who is ‘mummified’ in our sharing assembly on 6 December!!

Doves – We have used a thesaurus to extend our descriptive writing to describe the artefacts found in King Tut’s tomb. In maths we have developed our subtraction and problem solving skills. In PE we have found out about the origins of hip hop dancing, learnt one of the main moves and created our own sequences. In science we are investigating reflective materials.

Woodpeckers – We have enjoyed learning more about UK Parliament and watching real debates taking place in the chamber of the House of Commons. Using complex sentences, we have begun to write an information text about various aspects of Parliament, including its history. In maths, Year 4s have focussed on decimals, fractions and written methods for addition while Year 5s have been mastering the ‘ladder’ method for multiplication. We made some amazing ‘Benin-inspired’ masks in pottery. Thanks to Anna, Edith’s mum for sharing her first-hand experience and knowledge of Benin.

Kingfishers – We have begun learning about how our democracy works in view of the upcoming election. In maths lessons we have been practising dividing with ever larger numbers, expressing any remainders in different ways (as remainders, fractions or decimals). At the start of the week we keenly got on with drafting our science fiction stories.

Applying for School Places for Reception in September 2020 -Was your child born between 1st September 2015 and 31st August 2016? If so, from 1st November you need to apply for a reception place even if your child is currently attending our school nursery here at New Hinksey. The deadline for applications is 15th January 2020. If you know of relative, neighbours and friends with children of this age in this side of Oxford, please do encourage them to go on our website and to come for a look around the school. For more information on how to apply for your child's school place please visit: <https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/schools/apply-school-place/infant-and-primary-school>.

Data Update Forms – every child has had a form sent home this week. Please check, sign and return as soon as possible even if there are no amendments. Thank you.

Parents are welcome in our school

Flu Vaccinations

Please ensure that you register online for your child to receive a flu vaccination in school on Monday 2 December. The registration needs to have taken place by 28 November so that the paperwork is triaged and the nurses can ensure that they have sufficient vaccinations in school. You need to go to <https://www.oxfordhealthimms.co.uk/forms/flu>. The code for this school is OX123142.

How to Find a Local NHS Dentist – If your child is not registered with a dentist you can find a local NHS dentist by calling 111 and giving your postcode or by following this link: <https://www.nhs.uk/Service-Search/LocationSearch/3>.

Parent-Teacher Meetings – These take place next week on Tuesday 19th and Thursday 21st from 4pm till 7pm. Sign-up sheets have been available over the past 10 days at the classrooms or in the glasshouse for the upstairs classes. Please make every effort to attend one of the given slots on one of the given days. We hope that with two different days of the week on offer as well as a spread of times between 4pm and 7pm families will be able to make arrangements to stick to these evenings – many thanks. It is not too late to sign up on Monday.

International Evening – We would love as many families as possible to join us for International Evening on Friday 29th November 6.30 – 8.00pm. This is a lovely social evening celebrating our diverse cultural and international make up of families. There is no charge for the evening, we simply ask for everyone to bring a dish of food to contribute to the shared buffet table. There is a cash bar on the night. There will be more details and a sign-up sheet next week. Please note that children must be accompanied by their parents who have responsibility for them throughout the evening.

Dress Up to Support Just One Tree - Dress up like a tree for National Tree Planting Week! National Tree Planting Week begins on Friday 22nd November. Scientists have identified tree planting as one of the most effective means of combating global warming. **If you'd like to do your bit, pay one pound to come to school that day dressed in green and/or brown**, and we'll pass the money to Just One Tree, which partners with the Eden Project to plant trees in severely deforested regions of the world.

Review meetings for Children with Individual Education Plans – letters inviting parents to SEND review meetings were sent home early last week. Please look in book bags if you think you should have one but have not seen it yet!

After School Club and Morning Club Bills – Paper copies went home last week and the invoices are also in ParentPay. Please make sure the bills are paid before the deadline which is **TODAY** otherwise places may need to be withdrawn and given to others on the waiting list. Thank you.

Christmas Bazaar – help needed! -The bazaar is happening on **Friday 6 December, 3-4.30pm**, and we need your help! Please let Louisa or April know if you could help on a stall, paint faces, set up or tidy away. We will also be repeating last year's hugely successful wreath-making and sale – look out for more info in the coming weeks. **Donations:** we will be on the lookout for bottles and festive items for raffle prizes, chocolates for the chocolate tombola, and small toys for the lucky dip. Please hand in to raffle ticket sellers in the playground in the week leading up to the bazaar.

Yours sincerely,
Charlotte Haynes

Dates for Diaries

Tuesday 19th November 4 – 7pm Parents Evening

Thursday 21st November 4 – 7pm Parents Evening

Friday 29th November – International Evening in the school hall 6.30 – 8pm

Monday 2nd December – Flu immunisations for Year Reception to Year 6

Tuesday 3rd December – Vision Tests for Reception Children

Friday 6th December 9.10am Sharing Assembly for Owl Class

Friday 6th December - Christmas Bazaar 3 – 4.30pm

Tuesday 17th December 9.30am - Foundation Stage Nativity to parents in the school hall

Tuesday 17th December 2pm - Year 1 Musical Nativity to parents in the school hall

Wednesday 18th December – School Christmas Lunch and jolly festive visitor ho, ho, ho!

Thursday 19th December - End of Term at 1pm after lunch.

If you love a beautiful Christmas tree and love SOAP this is a no-brainer! Kelty and Jo Caston are offering 4ft, 5ft and 6ft non-drop Nordmann fir Christmas trees for sale at very low prices. 4ft - £25, 5ft - £35, 6ft - £45. (Stands ordered separately). The trees are excellent quality from a well-respected grower and **100% of the profit will go to support the South Oxford Adventure Playground**. Please let Jo know as soon as possible on jo.human@virgin.net with size wanted, as she needs to place an order next week at the latest.