



New Hinksey CE Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs Charlotte Haynes

29 November 2019

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

We look forward to seeing many of you at **International Evening tonight** in the school hall **6.30-8pm**. This is always a happy, relaxed and delicious social event! **Please bring a plate/dish of food to contribute to the shared buffet table.** A **cash bar** will be available. **Entry and exit will only be via the red, wooden old front door in Vicarage Lane.** There will be no access to the playgrounds during the evening.

Reminder

Please can we remind all families that there should be no cycling or scooting on the playground at the start and end of the school day. Please walk your bikes or scooters out of school and away from the school gate before getting on them. Also, please can adults leave their bikes against the playground railings over the road as it is not safe if they obstruct or fall on people using the school gates.

News From Classes:

Foundation Stage (Ducklings – nursery; Robins - reception) – Robins have started learning the songs for their nativity performance. On Monday we read Quentin Blake's 'Sailing Boat in the Sky' and, using his inspirational illustrations, the children created their own drawings from the story and then added watercolour. We will display these in the cloakroom next week for you to see. Our number of the week was 8 and we have been looking at adding groups of objects together to make 8. We have learned two new sounds 'h' and 'sh' and finally have talked a lot about what we can see in the sky in the daytime. The Ducklings have enjoyed sharing stories about amazing aeroplanes and roaming rockets. Whilst Elizabeth is away they have been joining the Robins for registration in the morning and story time in the afternoon.

Finches – In literacy we planned our own traps to catch a dinosaur and are now starting to write instructions to tell someone how to catch a dinosaur. In numeracy we have been looking at measurement. We are still hard at work preparing for our nativity. We are already very confident with our lines and our songs sound brilliant! We have also been busy making pompoms for the nativity. Please could we have any donations of white wool. Thank you.

Owls – This week we have been practising our multiplication and division skills. We had a great trip to the Ashmolean and enjoyed learning more about Ancient Egypt from our guide and from seeing and handling real Egyptian artefacts. We loved seeing the mummies of a priest, a dancer, a cat and a crocodile. We have been writing interesting reports about our trip. We have been modelling clay shabti figures.

Doves – We had a wonderful Egyptian workshop at the Ashmolean Museum this week. We handled real artefacts and found out who the mummified bodies on display actually were. In art we have enjoyed making polystyrene printing blocks. In PE we have been learning some of the main Zumba moves and creating our own routines. We had great fun and all enjoyed this. In maths we are all working hard to develop our multiplication skills by timing ourselves to beat our times tables records.

Woodpeckers – We have worked hard to plan and write a persuasive letter to send to our local MP concerning local issues including the environment, safety in our parks and homeless people who we see in town. In maths Year 4s have been rounding numbers and using written methods to subtract. Year 5s have focused on place value of 5 digit numbers including decimals, and recognising equivalent fractions. We have started to cut out our pocket monster patterns.

Kingfishers – Maths has been challenging – we have been multiplying and dividing fractions; we have then converted improper fractions into mixed numbers. Our trip to the JR hospital was extremely successful where we took part in IMPS (Injury Minimisation Programme for Schools). The online quiz we completed when we got back was easy – we scored 100%. Please ask your child about what they learnt and ask them to show you the recovery position. We are doing well creating our own games using 'scratch' in our computing lessons. Ask us to show you what we have learnt at home.

Parents are welcome in our school

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>.

PE Kit for Outside PE – The classteachers have asked me to remind all parents that every child must have a change of PE kit suitable for doing outside PE in cold weather in school. Thank you.

Christmas Lunch

We will be having Christmas lunch in school on Wednesday 18 December. Please ensure that your child is booked in (using Parentpay) by Friday 13 December. It will not be possible to book after this date (even if your child always has a school lunch) as the Christmas food order needs to be made. 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.

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. The oldest child in each family will have brought home two raffle ticket books to sell. Please do sell and return stubs and money to school as soon as possible. There are more books available for anyone who thinks they could sell more.

Festive Wreath-Making, Wednesday 4 December, 8-10pm. - Please join us for a fun evening making evergreen wreaths to sell at the Christmas Bazaar. Bring along any greenery you can spare from your garden, and ribbons etc. for decoration, and learn how to make lovely Christmas wreaths. Last year there was even mulled wine. Email april.elizabeth.jones@gmail.com for the location.

Temporary Change to Foundation Stage Staffing – Elizabeth (Ducklings teacher) will not be here for a few weeks whilst she recovers after an operation on her heel. Sarah will be caring for the Ducklings whilst Elizabeth is off. Bimla and Sandra, both experienced teaching assistants who have worked in Foundation Stage before, will be supporting Polly with the Robins group. We wish Elizabeth all the best and hope she is back on her feet and mobile soon.

Yours sincerely,

Charlotte Haynes

Dates for Diaries

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 10am – School Christingle Service in Church

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