



New Hinksey CE Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs Charlotte Haynes

10th January 2020

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

Welcome back to the spring term and a new year. This term's topic is '**Amazing Authors**' and on the reverse of this letter you will find a topic plan for your child's class detailing the learning that will be taking place.

Thank You – On behalf of all the staff here at New Hinksey we would like to say very many thanks indeed for your kind and generous good wishes and presents at the end of term. They are very much appreciated.

News From Classes:

Foundation Stage (Ducklings – nursery; Robins - reception) – To start our new Amazing Authors topic we have all been looking at the Lucy Cousins story 'A Busy Day for Birds'. The children have painted birds using acrylic and these will be displayed on the tree at the end of the classroom. The Robins' word of the week was 'jubilant' and it has been incredible hearing the children using it in context during some of our class discussions. We have looked at the sound 'r' and in maths the Robins have been looking at number bonds to 5 and using language such as add, altogether and equals. The Ducklings have been looking at numbers 1 – 5 and singing lots of counting songs.

Finches – It has been lovely to hear all about what the children got up to in the break. We have welcomed student teacher Miss Branigan to Finch Class, who will be joining us for the next few months. In English we have been learning and retelling the story of Paddington Bear and in our maths we have been looking at place value of 2-digit numbers. In geography and science we have been looking at the seasons and the weather that occurs. In art we used pointillism to show the changes to trees in each season.

Owls – Our amazing author is Anthony Browne and we have started exploring his books with great enthusiasm. This week in guided reading we have read 'Gorilla' and 'Willy the Wimp' and in English we have analysed his early books 'Through the Magic Mirror' and 'Bear Hunt'. In maths we have been using place value to order number and add and subtract. We have reflected on the New Year in RE and played various 'surrealist' drawing games in our Anthony Browne inspired art lessons.

Doves – We have settled back in brilliantly after the holidays. We have begun to learn about the author Dick King Smith and have been creating fact files about his life and PowerPoints about authors. In geography we are learning about cities in the U.K. We have located the main cities and are going to investigate distances between them.

Woodpeckers – We have begun to listen to the first story, 'The Thieves of Ostia', by our amazing author, Caroline Lawrence. It has sparked enthusiasm to learn more about Ancient Rome as well as exploring the fictional characters, setting and plot. In art we have started to explore geometric patterns in Roman mosaics.

Kingfishers – We have kicked off this term with large numbers in maths, beginning our reading of Kensuke's Kingdom and an investigation of maps – their features and function. We have chosen Michael Morpurgo books to read either individually or in small groups, and look forward to reading our classmates' book reviews to help us decide which to read next.

After School Club and Morning Club Bills

The December invoices were sent home this week and are in ParentPay as well. The deadline for payment is 17.1.20.

Club Energy and Bollywood – both clubs will start again next week. Club Energy runs on Tuesdays from 3pm – 4.15pm and Bollywood on Thursdays from 3pm – 4pm.

For Bollywood please email Narinder directly: narinder.thapar@tiscali.co.uk

For bookings and payments for Club Energy please visit: www.clubenergysports.com

Yours sincerely,
Charlotte Haynes

Dates for Diaries

Wednesday 29th January 9.10am in the School Hall – Sharing assembly for Kingfisher Class

Friday 7th February 9.10am in the School Hall – Sharing Assembly for Finch Class

Thursday 12th March and Tuesday 17th March 4pm – 7pm Parents Evenings

Tuesday 31st March and Wednesday 1st April 2pm – Owls and Doves Performance of Ocean Commotion

Parents are welcome in our school