



New Hinksey CE Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs Charlotte Haynes

17th January 2020

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

The *Amazing Authors* topic is going down very well with the children and plenty of interesting learning has taken place this week. The topic plans for each class are displayed on our school website and a paper copy was sent home with the newsletter last week to every child.

We have started to use some of the new playtime equipment – balls, hoops, skipping ropes – kindly donated by the School Association and have enjoyed having more equipment to have fun with.

News From Classes:

Foundation Stage (Ducklings – nursery; Robins - reception) – Robins and Ducklings have used Lucy Cousin's story, 'Hooray for Fish', to look at creatures under the sea. We have read lots of other 'fishy' stories and have done some pastel and brusho dye art and printing to make really lovely colourful fish. In maths the Robins have been comparing 2D and 3D shapes, measuring pictures of penguins and working with numbers that add together to make 5. Our new sounds this week have been 'j' and 'v'. The Ducklings have also been continuing to look at 1-5 and doing lots of listening and music activities with Sarah.

Finches – Finches have had another, lovely week learning about Paddington Bear. In English we have been writing character descriptions of Paddington using adjectives to make our writing interesting. In maths we have been looking at mental addition and subtraction. This week we have also been investigating the colour wheel and learning about primary and secondary colours. We used this knowledge to choose colours to paint our own artwork in the style of Kandinsky.

Finch Parents and Carers – *We ask that you begin to say goodbye to your children at the line in the playground each morning and allow them to go into class independently now. If you need to do this gradually please do but could we say that from the start of February all the children lead in without parents at 8.45am – thank you.*

Owls – This week we have been studying 'Changes' and 'Piggybook' by Anthony Browne in English, and 'Walk in the Park' and 'Willy the Wimp' in guided reading. We are getting good at spotting the links between Browne's books. In science we have been investigating why certain materials were used in our classroom. In art we have been making 'Surreal' pictures inspired by Miss K's collection of wooden and metal objects, which we had also investigated in science.

Doves – We have worked hard to improve our short stories by adding adjectives, dialogue and similes. In maths we have developed our addition skills. The Year 4s are adding groups of 4 digit numbers and the Year 3s are adding near multiples. In geography we have used atlases to locate cities and find directions and distances between them.

Woodpeckers – We have welcomed trainee teacher Miss Gardner to our class and she will be working with us for the next couple of months. In English we used role play (inspired by the Roman Mystery series) to explore dialogue. We then wrote our own, with the correct punctuation for speech, to inform the reader about character feelings, events and the setting. In maths Year 4s have been using written subtraction as well as learning more tricky times table facts and applying these to written methods of multiplication. Year 5s have focused on solving addition and subtraction problems with decimals. In science we enjoyed using different scientific equipment to make accurate and careful measurements.

Kingfishers – We are continuing to enjoy Michael Morpurgo books which we are reading in class – he is a prolific author! We have done our first practice SAT test, a spelling and grammar one and have been learning the names of the verb tenses. In maths lessons we have been working hard on fraction and decimal equivalents and have been practising and improving our multiplication skills.

After School Club and Morning Club Bills

The deadline for payment of the December invoices is today, Friday 17th. Please ensure any un-cleared debts are paid asap.

Parents are welcome in our school

Club Energy and Bollywood – both clubs have now started. 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 (We have some letters if their website is still down!)

Cake Sale, 3pm, Friday 31st January - There will be a cake sale to raise money for the school on Friday 31st January. All donations of cakes/cookies very welcome. If you can help to set up the stall or sell, please let April (mum of Sam in Finches and Annie in Doves) know, or email newhinksepta@gmail.com. Thank you!

Christingle Fundraising for The Children's Society – Thank you for your donations. We raised and donated a terrific £281.77 to help vulnerable children in difficult and challenging circumstances.

Donations Sought! – Firstly thank you to those who have brought in outgrown children books that are no longer wanted at home – this is a great way to keep our class and library books topped up and refreshed. We are always grateful to receive children's books which are in a good condition and suitable for primary aged children. Secondly, if you have any little toys, games, knick-knacks, stationery items etc. that would be suitable for the school reward box please send them in to Mrs Haynes (bouncy balls, stationery items, packs of cards, novelty ornaments, bracelets, jokey items, fiddle toys).

Wishing you a happy weekend with hopefully not too much rain!

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**