



New Hinksey CE Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs Charlotte Haynes

24th January 2020

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

Value and Assemblies this week – Our value is tolerance and we have been thinking about celebrating diversity. Fr Ruben's assembly this week focussed on the conversion of St. Paul using a really informative power point presentation as well as a group of children who acted out the story with varying degrees of dramatic skill!!

News From Classes:

Foundation Stage (Ducklings – nursery; Robins - reception) – This week we have continued our fishy stories using our new amazing author, Eric Carle. The Robins have had lots of discussions about how we can look after our planet and we have been making posters which you can see in the classroom. Sarah has been working with the Ducklings on drawing and then collaging sea animals. The Robins word of the week was reluctant and our new sounds were 'y' and 'w'.

Finches – We have been looking at mental addition and subtraction in our maths lessons. In literacy, we have finished our fantastic character descriptions of Paddington and we have written our own whole class Paddington story which we are very excited to share with you in our sharing assembly. In our topic times this week we have been looking at where we live and our local area. We have also had fun learning about Chinese New Year.

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 comparing Anthony Browne's books 'Walk in the Park' and 'Voices in the Park' – basically the same story but retold in the first person by the four characters and set in a different place. We have compared related pages, hot seated and then written about the characters and reviewed the books. In Maths Year 3 have been working on fractions and Year 2 have been using 'frog' to count up to find the difference between numbers and to calculate change. We are enjoying practising the songs for 'Ocean Commotion' with Dove class. Year 3 Owls loved their ice skating trip!

Doves – We had a really enjoyable trip to the Oxford Ice Skating Rink. We all improved our skating skills and were brilliantly well behaved. In RE we are learning about religious journeys and this week we found out all about Buddhist pilgrimages. We are all enjoying learning the songs for 'Ocean Commotion' and we worked hard in our very informal auditions. In science we had great fun melting chocolate and recording the temperatures at which it melts in warm and boiling water.

Woodpeckers – We have been writing powerful build ups using metaphors, similes and phrases which appeal to the senses. In maths Year 4s have been studying fractions and Year 5s have investigated patterns in prime and square numbers. In science we enjoyed experimenting with irreversible changes using toast. Our Roman inspired mosaics are complete and will go on display in the classroom.

Kingfishers – We have been getting ready for our sharing assembly (which is next Wednesday). In art we have learnt about and practised colour blending. We are enjoying 'Kensuke's Kingdom' in English and have written a summary of the first four chapters. In our science lesson we are continuing to learn about our circulatory system. Did you know that if you placed all your blood vessels end-to-end they would stretch around the world twice?

Reminders

- We are encouraging healthy lunch boxes so please can you supply only one chocolate covered snack; no sweets and ensure there is a piece of fruit. We are also trying to reduce packaging so please do not send lots of packets or cling film in the lunch box. We have a recycling box for tin foil so try to use that.
- Please do not send glass water containers into school.

Parents are welcome in our school

- Please could the families who arrive after the classes have lined up try and get here in time to make the line at 8.45am.

Data Collection Sheets

Some families have now received a fourth copy. Please do check, sign and return as **it is essential that we have the correct contact details for every family.** Thank you.

Woodlands

Children in Years 4 and 5 should have brought home a letter about the Woodlands trip in November 2020. There will be a short meeting in the Woodpecker class on Thursday 30 January at 3.15pm to find out more about this residential trip. The residential trip is a very exciting week and is one of the highlights of the childrens' time at New Hinksey.

Club Energy and Bollywood – both clubs are up and running. 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 - Don't forget the cake sale on Friday next week! We will be so grateful for any contributions of baked goods (leave them in the ICT room in the morning, or just bring in at pickup time), and remember to bring money to buy on the day. One or two extra helpers would still be very welcome, if anyone can manage it. Thanks!

Have a happy weekend.

Yours sincerely,

Charlotte Haynes

Dates for Diaries

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

Thursday 30th January 3.15 in Woodpeckers – short meeting about Woodlands

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

Message about a Competition from Fr Ruben:

Septuagesima Sunday is soon approaching. This is a time during the Church year when we can no longer use the word 'Alleluia' during our services, as a sign of penance and restraint until the joy of Easter! There is an old English tradition of 'burying the Alleluia,' whereby a stone or a piece of wood with the word 'Alleluia' carved on it, would be buried in the churchyard until Easter Day (12/04, this year). It would be nice for the pupils in the school to be involved with this celebration this year, so I would like to call up a competition: children are invited (whether by themselves, or in groups, or with their families!) to create a poster with the word 'Alleluia!' and decorate it as elaborately as they wish. We will then display all the posters in St John and will pick a winner, which will be buried in front of the church until Easter. I hope many of the children will participate and be as creative as they wish! Entries need to be submitted to me by the 3rd of February. (Entries can be left in school for Fr. Ruben). The winner will be announced during our Thursday morning assembly and all the children's works will be displayed.

Winter Wonderland Event at Lake Street Nursery – Saturday 8th February 3 – 5pm, suitable for under 8s. Buy tickets at the nursery or visit www.lakestreetnursery.org.uk