



# New Hinksey CE Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs Charlotte Haynes

31 January 2020

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

This week in Assemblies we have heard about Chinese New Year and Fr Ruben led an assembly about Candlemas on Thursday morning.

Please could we ask ALL families **not to drive cars down to the school gates** or use the junction of Vicarage Road and Vicarage Lane to turn around in at drop off and pick up time. We want the area around the gates to be as safe as possible for all children and families coming to and from school. We ask you to kindly park a little away from the school. Thank you.

## News From Classes:

**Foundation Stage (Ducklings – nursery; Robins - reception)** – This week in Robins we have looked at ‘The Very Busy Spider’ and ‘The Bad Tempered Ladybird’ by Eric Carle. We have read other stories about ladybirds and spiders and focused on some other characters from the stories. We have used ladybird templates to combine groups of objects together and some of the Robins have been writing addition number sentences. Our sounds have been ‘th’ and ‘z’. Our word of the week was ‘elated’. The Ducklings have looked at more ‘under the sea’ stories with Sarah along with the Eric Carle stories ‘Little Cloud’ and ‘Brown Bear’.

***A Request from Foundation Stage Staff: Please do all that you can to help your children be able to manage their personal care and organisation independently. We are particularly talking about making sure your children can manage their shoes and boots! In Foundation Stage the children do need to be able to pull their own shoes on and off, change into wellingtons etc and many of them struggle with tricky zips and laces. There are so many young children’s shoes available now with Velcro and other easy to use fastenings that we would urge you not to send young children to school in laced shoes – many thanks for your cooperation.***

**Finches** – We have been learning all about London and the different places Paddington Bear visited. We took an (imaginary) trip to London on Monday morning and visited places like Buckingham Palace and the London Eye. In maths we have been looking at mental addition and 3D shape. In geography we have been learning about the four countries of the UK. In history we learnt what it would have been like in a Victorian school.

**Parents and Carers** – *Please remember that from next we ask that you say goodbye to your children at the line on the playground at 8.45am and allow them to go into class independently with Miss Martins. If you are late and don’t make the line at 8.45 am we will ask you to say goodbye at the gate – thanks you.*

**Owls** – In maths Year 2 have been learning about 3D shape and time while the Year 3s have been learning about 2D shape and measuring angles and the perimeter of a shape. We have all been writing about Anthony Browne’s character Willy and drawing him and modelling him. We have been practising our songs for Ocean Commotion enthusiastically.

**Doves** – In English we have enjoyed a poetry week. Inspired by Dick King Smith’s animal stories we have written acrostic poems and haikus about our favourite animals - sometimes working out the 5, 7, 5 syllable rule was tricky! In maths we have enjoyed estimating and measuring the lengths of our hands and feet and converting them from mms into cms. In science we have found out about and drawn the water cycle.

**Woodpeckers** – In English we have carefully planned and begun to write our own mystery stories set in Ancient Rome. For maths Year 4s have explored properties of 2D shape and used vocabulary such as acute, obtuse, parallel and perpendicular – ask your child about this! The Year 5s have learned the names of different types of triangles and enjoyed reading scales for weight, volume and distance. Miss Gardener delivered a great science lesson on cooling materials using mars bars, jelly and a banana.

**Kingfishers** – In our computer lessons we have been finding out about and making a slideshow presentation about ‘The Scilly Isles’ where some of Michael Morpurgo’s books are set. We have also been using logo and our knowledge of angles to write code that creates beautiful Spirograph type patterns. Everybody enjoyed performing in the Kingfisher sharing assembly and had fun learning the wide variety of subjects – Treasure Island, Degas, Sikhism.

***Parents are welcome in our school***

## 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.
- 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.
- **Morning break snacks should be FRESH fruit or veg only – no dried fruit, raisins, cereal bars please as the sugar in them is very bad for children’s teeth.**

## Data Collection Sheets

Some families have now received a fourth copy. These were due back by today so please do check over the weekend 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. The residential trip is a very exciting week and is one of the highlights of the children’s 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](mailto:narinder.thapar@tiscali.co.uk)

For bookings and payments for Club Energy please visit: [www.clubenergysports.com](http://www.clubenergysports.com) (We have some letters if their website is still down!)

**Plants for Outside Tubs in Foundation Stage** – We have some new coloured pots in place and some larger plant troughs on order for ‘greening’ up the Foundation Stage outdoor classroom. We would be most grateful for donations of some plants particularly lavender, rosemary, thyme, heather, herbs such as chives, sage, oregano, marjoram, or any small hardy shrub such as hebe or fuchsia. If many families just donated one or two small plants we would have a lovely selection – thank you.

Have a good weekend.

Yours sincerely,

*Charlotte Haynes*

## Dates for Diaries

**Friday 7<sup>th</sup> February** 9.10am in the School Hall – **Sharing Assembly for Finch Class**

**Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March and Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March** 4pm – 7pm **Parents Evenings**

**Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> March and Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> April** 2pm – **Owls and Doves Performance of Ocean Commotion**

**This half term finishes on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February 3pm and After School Club as normal**

**Half Term Holiday – 17<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> February**

**Nest half Term starts on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> Feb at 8.45am**

## 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 8<sup>th</sup> February 3 – 5pm, suitable for under 8s. Buy tickets at the nursery or visit [www.lakestreetnursery.org.uk](http://www.lakestreetnursery.org.uk)