



# New Hinksey CE Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs Charlotte Haynes

6<sup>th</sup> March 2020

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

We have had another busy week in school with some really exciting learning going on. We are all getting a bit fed up with the rain though! Let's hope this weekend is brighter weather. Thank you to Woodpecker Class for their very interesting sharing assembly – The Roman Mysteries books have certainly inspired their work on Ancient Rome.

**Parents Evenings** – Class teachers will be available on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March and Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March from 4pm – 7pm for parents to have ten minute consultations with them about your children's progress and next steps. The sign-up sheets are up and ready for you to sign either just outside the classroom doors or in the glasshouse cloakroom for the upstairs classes.

## **News From Classes:**

**Foundation Stage (Ducklings – nursery; Robins - reception)** – Robins have been using and exploring the word 'imagination'. In groups we wrote our own elephant stories and then retold them. We have been writing about elephants too! In maths we have been looking at different ways to make 10 and playing games with 2D and 3D shapes. We loved sharing our favourite story with the Owl Class on Thursday for World Book Day. Sarah has been doing some creative elephants with the children. Thank you so much for all the plants, bulbs and seeds you have donated from across the school – the children have loved planting these. Ducklings have also had an elephant theme singing 'One elephant went out to play on a spider's web' and listening to elephant stories.

**Finches** – This week we read 'Charlie Cook's Favourite Book' and have been writing book reviews. In maths we have looked at addition and how number bonds to 20 link to our number bonds to 10. In science the children had a fantastic lesson with Miss Branigan where they were challenged with making a strong bridge for the troll in The Three Billy Goats Gruff tale. We spent time this week making a display for World Book day based on 'Tiddler' by Julia Donaldson. Please do come and have a look – it is on the wall outside the classroom.

**Owls** – Year 3 have been working on strategies for mental addition and practising expanded column addition whilst Year 2 have been using their 2, 5 and 10 times tables. We finished our illustrated books of our own versions of Little Red Riding Hood. We have listened to various versions of Goldilocks including Anthony Browne's 'Me and You' and written our own version. We read books to Robins and our favourite Anthony Browne book to our reading buddy in Kingfishers on World Book Day. Regular rehearsals of 'Ocean Commotion' are going well.

**Doves** – We have been learning about root words and the meanings of different prefixes. We have developed our bridging skills in maths and have practised crossing tens, hundreds and thousands. In English we have learnt the features of instructions in order to care for our fictional 'Mouskin' pet. We have made bird food and written clear instructions on how to make it. On World Book Day we enjoyed writing consequences for different first lines from famous novels and shared our favourite books with Woodpecker Class.

**Woodpeckers** – It has been a very busy week for all of us! We have written newspaper reports about the eruption of Mount Vesuvius and hope to present them on the computer. In maths Year 4s have been choosing best methods to add or subtract and Year 5s have focussed on written short methods to divide and multiply. We really enjoyed sharing our books with a book buddy from Doves. We hope you enjoyed our sharing assembly!

**Kingfishers** – We have written newspaper articles about Michael falling overboard (Kensuke's Kingdom), plotting conversion graphs in maths as well as watching Jesus of Nazareth as part of our RE learning 'Why is Easter important to Christians?'.  
  
**Important Information for Parents of Reception and Year 6 Children** – Your child should have brought home a letter last week about heights and weights measurements taking place in school. If you wish that your child is not measured then you must follow the instructions in the letter. It is no good telling school staff.

*Parents are welcome in our school*

**World Book Day**—We had a fabulous day yesterday. Thank you to parents for helping your children with their costumes – we certainly had a good variety of interesting book characters. All classes enjoyed sessions with other classes sharing stories, books and information about ‘amazing authors’. Father Ruben led a hugely enjoyable assembly about books being able to take you travelling, both to different places and different times, and then talked about the Bible being a book of books.

**Book Day Tokens and Book Catalogue** – Every child was given a World Book Day book token yesterday worth £1 which can be used towards the cost of a book or to buy one of the specially written books for the day which cost just £1. We are also sending home a book club catalogue today if you would like to order any books and the £1 tokens can be used towards the cost. The instructions on how to buy and the order form are within the catalogue.

**No Nuts in School Please!** - Due to nut allergies that some children have, we are trying to be **NUT and SESAME SEED FREE**. **Please do not include loose nuts, peanut butter, sesame seeds or nut containing food items in snacks or lunchboxes** – Thank you in your support for keeping all our children safe from allergic reactions. Also please impress upon your children that they should never share food items with others at lunchtimes.

**Coronavirus** – We continue to follow the Government, NHS and Public Health England advice to help keep our school community healthy. We have talked to the children about taking the usual precautionary measures that help slow the spread of almost any germs. Please encourage your children to follow these guidelines at all times.

- Always carry tissues to catch your cough or sneeze
- Bin/throw away safely any used tissues as quickly as possible
- Wash your hands often with soap and water

We are also having more times in the day when we are asking children to wash their hands and have provided extra boxes of tissues around the school so that children can use a tissue to ‘catch’ their germs and then throw away the tissue, knowing that they can get a fresh tissue each time. The website NHS.UK contains further information.

**Term Time Holidays** – Can we remind you all of the importance of regular and good attendance at school and how it helps your children to make better progress. Days off for holidays, overseas trips and long weekends will not be authorised by the school.

**SCHOOL DISCO** – The New Hinksey School Association will be running a **DISCO on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March** in the school hall. **Please see separate letter for more details.**

**After School Club and Morning Club Bills** – The invoices are in ParentPay and the paper invoices were sent home earlier this week via books bags. The deadline for payment is Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March. Thank you.

Wishing you all a great weekend

*Charlotte Haynes*

### **Dates for Diaries**

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

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March – School Disco** – see above and the separate letter for details

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