



New Hinksey CE Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs Charlotte Haynes

11th September 2020

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

News from Classes

Foundation Stage (Robins and Ducklings) – Welcome to the class. This term Robins are going to be using ‘All About Me’ as the topic. The children have been playing happily with each other and especially loving the outside area. They are settling in very well to all the routines and expectations of school. If your child does not have a book bag please could you send in a named bag each day so that they can carry home their paintings and letters. Please get used to checking the book bags every day in case there are notes from Polly or the office. Your children have made a super start to school and it has been fantastic getting to know them this week. Ducklings are making a good start to school life and we have been reading ‘Spot the Dog’ stories.

Vision Screening for Reception Children in Robins – Please note that the NHS School Vision Screening Service for children as they start school **remains suspended so will not be taking place**. Parents are recommended to arrange a sight test for your child at your local optometrist. You will not have to pay for this.

Finches – This term we are looking at different fairy tales. We have been learning and retelling the story of ‘Goldilocks and the Three Bears’ this week. The children have loved making masks and using role play to act out the story. In maths we have been practising our counting. It has been lovely having lots of learning through play in the afternoons and getting to know the children.

Owls – Year 2s have settled well into Owl Class and are enjoying our ‘Awesome Owls’ topic. We have been reading and writing about the characters in the story ‘The Owl who was Afraid of the Dark’ story in English and thinking about what makes a bird a bird in science. We are working on our phonics and handwriting in English, and counting and ordering numbers in maths. The children loved their PE lesson with sports coach Stuart.

Doves – We have begun to learn about The Stone Age by reading ‘Stone Age Boy’ and planning and writing our own time travel stories. In science we have begun to find out about the three types of rocks and have enjoyed using magnifying glasses to classify and describe them. Everyone has been working hard on place value, ordering numbers and refreshing our knowledge of our times tables.

Woodpeckers – We have launched into our new topic ‘Earth Matters’ and enjoyed a multisensory exploration of the rainforest, using video clips, music and a beautifully illustrated book called ‘The Great Kapok Tree’. In maths Year 4s have focussed on learning bonds and Year 5s have studied place value in 5-digit numbers. Please support your child in completing this week’s homework, due in on Wednesday.

Kingfishers – What an excellent start to the school year Kingfishers have had: focussed, hardworking and enthusiastic! We have kicked off our Victorian era topic and are drafting our autobiographies. Our science topic this term is Evolution and Inheritance; we’ve begun finding out about the life and works of Charles Darwin.

Woodlands for Year 5 and 6 – The residential week is being rescheduled for the end of the school year when we hope everything will be much more normal. It is so important the older children get the opportunity for this exciting week. All existing payments will be carried over for when the actual week takes place.

Drop Off and Pick Up Times: Thank you for helping us run smoothly by being on time and then leaving promptly, not crowding around the gates and maintaining social distancing whilst waiting outside the school. Please keep it up to keep everyone safe. It’s been great that we are virtually car free around the gates at drop off and pick up time. There are still sometimes residents or deliveries that drive past so it is still important that you encourage your children to be safe and responsible near roads.

Parents are welcome in our school

Instrumental Music Lessons – we are working hard with the music service teachers to see how we might be able to start music lessons again safely for those who were already signed up but it is very complicated timetabling a safe place and not mixing bubbles of children.

What to wear to school: Please could every child wear **clean clothes each day that are suitable for being outside for both playtimes and PE. This means wearing trackies, leggings or comfortable shorts/trousers, a comfortable top or t-shirt with a jumper/sweatshirt/hoodie/cardigan, well fitted trainers that are easy to run in, and have a waterproof jacket with them.** Children do not need to have another PE kit on their pegs, however we do recommend that children in Foundation Stage, Years 1 and 2 have a change of clothes on their pegs and leave them there for the duration of the term just in case they are needed for any accidents or if they get wet during any play or art activities.

After School Club and Morning Club: These have started again in a smaller, more covid safe way. The staff have worked hard to organise toys and equipment for each session which are then put away into quarantine for a week before being used again. Please email Tracey on office.3213@new-hinksey.oxon.sch.uk about any future requirements, to see if there is still any availability. We need to keep the group as Covid safe as possible so we are not able to accommodate one off sessions only regular bookings or two of more sessions per week. Similarly please email Tracey on the office email address with any requirements for Morning Club, which runs from 8am.

What if my child is ill? Because we must be as Covid safe as possible children must not come to school if they are ill and displaying any of the **key symptoms of Corona virus (high temperature, new or persistent cough, changes to sense of taste and/or smell)** until a test has verified that they do not have corona virus. Whilst we all recognise that children do get normal temperatures and coughs, every parent has a responsibility to minimise the chances of their child coming to school with covid and infecting others, hence the need for a test to verify if it is or isn't covid. Please could parents keep a very rigorous check on their children's temperature as unlike a cough, a high temperature is something we can't hear or see in school. Information on **how to get a test** can be found by phoning 111 or visiting <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test> . If a child becomes ill at school, especially if they have a high temperature or are coughing, we will isolate them from others and contact a parent to come and collect them as soon as possible. **We would not expect children to return to school until a test confirms negative for Covid and parents have sent us the test result.** If anyone in the school community contracts Covid (this means members of a child's or staff's household as well as the pupils), school must be informed, and we will then take advice from Public Health regarding the next steps to take. For other illness the advice is to keep children at home until they are well enough to manage a day in school. Please remember that **following any sickness or diarrhoea a child must be able to keep food and drink down and must have had 24 hours clear of any symptoms before returning to the class.**

Contact with Class Teachers: Please feel free to email your child's teacher if you have any queries or messages that you would normally have mentioned face to face at drop off or pick up time.

Teacher	Class	Email address
Polly Hodgson	Foundation Stage	phodgson@new-hinksey.oxon.sch.uk
Miss Martins	Finch	TMartins@new-hinksey.oxon.sch.uk
Miss Kilpatrick	Owl	mkilpatrick@new-hinksey.oxon.sch.uk
Mrs Tucker	Dove	rtuc1220@new-hinksey.oxon.sch.uk
Mrs Nash	Woodpecker	hnas4139@new-hinksey.oxon.sch.uk
Miss Potier	Kingfisher	hpot9071@new-hinksey.oxon.sch.uk
Ms Christensen	Kingfisher	lchr9699@new-hinksey.oxon.sch.uk

If emailing about a Kingfisher pupil please copy both Miss Potier and Ms Christensen in – thanks.

New Hinksey School Association – Treasurer needed! – After a much appreciated year as treasurer, Louisa is stepping down and a new treasurer is needed. If you could make this vital contribution to the school community please get in touch with the committee on newhinkseypta@googlemail.com. If you'd like to know more about what the position entails, Louisa will be happy to talk you through it.

All newsletters are posted on the school website (www.new-hinksey.oxon.sch.uk) so please check regularly.

Best wishes for a relaxing weekend.

Charlotte Haynes