



New Hinksey CE Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs Charlotte Haynes

25th September 2020

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

I hope every family received and read a pink covid newsletter which was sent home yesterday. It is also on the school website so if you have not seen it please do so.

We hope this newsletter is more enjoyable reading with its news of what the children have been learning this week.

News from Classes

Foundation Stage (Robins and Ducklings) – In circle time Robins talked about what we want to be when we grow up and we added this to our ‘All about me’ pictures. We listened to the story of ‘The Three Little Pigs’ and worked in teams to order three different pictures from the story, and we also told a story using puppets and musical instruments. Our number of the week was 1 and we have been doing lots of counting! Sarah has been doing some really lovely leaf printing with the class. Every day at snack time we give the children a plain digestive or rich tea biscuit when they have had their fruit snack. If you are able to donate a packet of biscuits every now and then then this really helps. Ducklings are having lots of ‘Maisy Mouse’ stories and have been learning new songs such as ‘5 stick lolly pops’.

Finches – In English this week we have been reading and role playing the fairy tale ‘Little Red Riding Hood’. We have also written as if we are either the wolf or Little Red Riding Hood. In maths we started the week by being number detectives and trying to work out what happened when a number was put into a magic box. We have also been looking at number bonds to 10. We learnt all about harvest and created art in the style of Giuseppe Arcimboldo. We have also made a fantastic display for our classroom to show lots of different fairy tales.

Owls – This week we have read and written about the books ‘Squirrel Nutkin’, ‘Rosie’s Walk’ and ‘Howlat’ and heard two traditional tales ‘The Bird and The Forest Fire’ and ‘How the Raven Brought Fire to Earth’, producing beautiful pictures in response. In maths we have been doubling and using number bonds to do trickier maths. In science we have been recording food chains.

Doves – We have been learning all about Skara Brae in Scotland this week. We have researched how and when the site was discovered and written our own informative reports which we read out to an audience. In science we have found out about and drawn the stages of fossilisation. We have enjoyed learning some yoga positions and practising our breathing to help us relax.

Woodpeckers – We have been writing our own unique stories based on ‘The Shaman’s Apprentice’ and worked hard to edit and improve our work. In maths Year 4s have been learning and using multiplication facts and Year 5s have explored decimal numbers and useful tips on how to divide and multiply. We really enjoyed some focused close observational drawing of plants in our art lesson, using graphite pencils to achieve tonal variation. In science we recapped on ‘Mrs Nerg’ (ask your child to explain!) and drew mind maps to show how living things can be grouped.

Kingfishers – Year 6s have been exploring algebra in maths and Year 5s have worked on decimal place value. In our Victorian topic we have started to design our William Morris inspired wallpaper as well as thinking about the differences between the lives of the rich and poor. We have been learning about adaptation in science lessons. We have enjoyed playing in a mini hockey tournament to practise the skills we have been perfecting over the last few weeks.

Annual Flu Vaccinations for All Children Reception to Year 6 – These are scheduled to take place in school on Wednesday 21st October 2020. Parents have to access the online consent form to agree to this or else your child will not be able to have the flu immunisation. Please go to <https://www.oxfordhealthimms.co.uk/forms/flu>. The unique code for our school is OX123142. The form must be submitted by 5pm on Sunday 18th October to ensure your child receives the vaccination. Late consents will not be accepted. Paper consent forms are not available. A separate letter is also being sent home with each child about this.

Current Year 6 Parents – Don’t forget to visit www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/secondaryadmissions to find out about the process of applying for your child’s secondary school place for September 2021.

Parents are welcome in our school

Drop Off and Pick Up Times: Please do try to be on time.

Robins and Ducklings: 9.00am and 3.00pm

Finch Class: 8.50am and 3.00pm

Owl Class: 8.40am and 2.50pm

Dove Class: 8.50am and 3.00pm

Woodpecker Class: 8.30am and 2.50pm

Kingfisher Class: 8.40am and 3.05pm

Reminders of things you can do to help us keep everyone safe:

- **Only 1 adult from each family** around the drop off and pick up gates please to avoid congestion.
- Adults should maintain at least a metre between them and other families when waiting outside school.
- Please remember everything your child needs in the morning so forgotten bags, lunches, bottles etc. are not having to be handled by staff and delivered around the bubbles during lesson time – thank you.
- We strongly encourage parents and carers to wear a face covering (mask or visor) when dropping off and picking up.
- Please disperse from around the gates as quickly as you can to make space for others.
- You must let us know the reasons for any absence from school. The most helpful way to do this is to email office.3213@new-hinksey.oxon.sch.uk or if that is not possible please phone 01865 242169. We are unable to answer the phone from 8.30am - 9.15am. We need to know if any absence is covid or self-isolation related.
- A child with any of the symptoms (new/persistent cough, temperature, change or loss of sense of smell or taste) will need to stay off school and have a test. Siblings also need to stay off school, and other household members should self-isolate at home, until the outcome of the test is known. Siblings and other household members do not need to have a test unless they also develop any covid symptoms.
- If your child has had a covid test please let us know the result asap and email the test result letter to the school office – thank you.

Information on **how to get a test** can be found by phoning 119 or visiting <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>

School Streets Online Meeting: 29th September at 8.30pm. Please join this meeting where there will be discussion on how we can improve the streets around South Oxford's schools and nurseries. Zoom Meeting ID 645 241 3956
Passcode TOGETHER

Harvest with St Francis – There will be a friendly, outdoor, family harvest celebration, led by Fr Ruben on Sunday October 4th at 3.00pm at St Laurence Church in South Hinksey. There will be a collection of non-perishable food items for the local food bank. It would lovely if some of our school families took part in this opportunity as, sadly, we will be unable to hold our usual school harvest festival service this year.

Coats and Layers of Clothes – One way of reducing the risk of covid infection transmission is to keep windows and doors open to ensure good ventilation. We will continue to do this throughout the winter and so recommend that children wear suitable clothes and have a few layers on so that they can adjust their clothing to suit the temperature inside and outside. Children will also be using outside for playtimes and lunch play **whatever the weather** so every child must have a waterproof jacket/coat in school every day no matter what the weather is like in the morning!

Parent Governor Vacancies – We are looking for a couple of parents to join the Governing Body starting this term. If you are interested and want to find out more about it please do contact our Chair of Governors, Harm Jan Fricke, who will be pleased to discuss the role with you (hjfricke@btinternet.com).

School Association AGM – this will take place virtually 6-7pm on Monday 12th October. Details of how to join will be available nearer the time.

School Association Treasurer - Please consider whether you might be able to fill this vital role. We have not yet heard from anyone interested, and it really is essential that this post is filled. If you want to know more about what the role entails, please talk to our outgoing treasurer Louisa (mum of Sophia, Woodpeckers and Immy, Owls) or contact her by email lbrossler@gmail.com . Any of the other committee members would be happy to hear from you.

Wishing you all a relaxing and safe weekend.

Charlotte Haynes

Dates

This half of term **finishes on Friday 23rd October** at the usual end of day times for each class.

Half Term Holiday – Monday 26th October – Friday 30th October

Term **starts again on Monday 2nd November** and **finishes for Christmas holiday on Friday 18th December**

School is closed to all pupils on Friday 27th November for an INSET day (Staff Training)