



# New Hinksey CE Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs Charlotte Haynes

20<sup>th</sup> November 2020

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

This week assemblies in classes have focussed on 'kindness' and the children have all been encouraged to consider how they can show kindness to others and how it makes them feel when others are kind to them. Fr Ruben's weekly powerpoint assembly has started to explore the season of advent and getting ready for Christmas.

## News From Classes

**Foundation Stage (Robins and Ducklings)** – Robins have been continuing our space topic and discussing all the different planets. We worked together to show how the earth, moon, and sun move around and we used a rhyme to remember. Our number of the week is 8 and we have used this to look at numbers that are less and more than 8 both with a number line and groups of objects. We have been learning our new sounds 'n' and 'p' and blending the sounds we have learned and some of the tricky red words like 'I', 'the', 'go' to read simple sentences. Ducklings have enjoyed big books for stories and songs. Ducklings have learned 'Walking Through the Jungle' with lots of animal noises!

**Finches** – In maths this week we have been using positional language to describe where an object is. We have talked about length and used cubes to measure how long things are. In English we have read, learnt and retold the story of 'The Three Little Pigs'. We created art in the style of Paul Klee by mixing tints. We also learnt what the secondary colours are and completed our colour wheels. In science we talked about what the weather is and what the weather is like in autumn. In history we discussed what our present-day toys are like so that when we have learnt about toys in the past we can compare them.

**Please could all Year 1 Finch children have a spare set of clothes in school on their pegs (including pants) in case of accidents or in case they get wet, muddy or covered in paint and need to change! Many thanks.**

**Owls** – In maths we have been using directional language to move a teddy along a route (left, right, quarter turns, clockwise etc.) and positional language (beside, above, inside, in between etc.). We have been measuring things in our classroom using decimetre (10 cm) strips. We also measured some dragons! We have been describing the dragons in 'Tell me a dragon' and writing about dragon scales, eyes and eggs which Miss K found on Boars Hill and on remote Scottish beaches! We have completed a best version of our own dragon stories with fabulous covers. We will bring these home soon. We have been learning to count to 10 in French, Spanish and Italian and how to say hello and goodbye too. We enjoyed sharing our home languages with our classmates as well.

**Doves** – We have had a storytelling week based around the story 'The Marriage of Ganesh'. We listened to, stepped and then planned our own versions of the story, making one major change of our own. We have begun to draw life size pictures of the Hindu deities. In maths the Year 4s are making good progress with their decomposition skills whilst the Year 3s are developing their mental subtraction skills. In French we are learning names of classroom items and school related language.

**Woodpeckers** – We have enjoyed making flags for some bunting and finding out about particular countries for our international themed homework (see Google Classroom). In English we wrote some persuasive letters using certain language features, and in maths Year 4s have been looking at weight, capacity and data handling, whilst Year 5s have had the challenge of using protractors to measure angles. Our window collages have begun and already look interesting. Thank you to those who kindly brought in extra materials. There are lots of photos of our fabulous displays of work on the school website in the 'galleries' section so do have a look and ask your child to tell you about them.

**Kingfishers** – In RE we have been exploring the meaning of Christmas and In RSE we have been thinking about different types of families. We have been learning about percentages and equivalent fractions in our maths lessons. We've had fun practising lots of throwing, catching and shooting in PE in preparation for games of netball. In science we have been learning about circuit diagrams and have enjoyed experimenting with the new 'Snap Circuit' kits. International week has seen us discussing the languages we have in our class and learning a little about the Greek language.

*Parents are welcome in our school*

**Feeding Back to Parents on How Your Children are Getting On** – Teachers are preparing personalised mini reports for each child and these will be sent home on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December, which we hope you will find useful.

**To help keep us all safe and school open please do all that you can to follow lockdown regulations and ...**

- Keep children at home and get them tested if they show **any** of the three main coronavirus symptoms, which are a fever/raised temperature, a cough or a change to or loss of taste and smell.
- **Keep school fully informed of why children are off** (including if they are having to self-isolate at home because another household member is positive or waiting for a test result) by phoning 01865 242169 (not between 8.30 and 9.15am please) or emailing [office.3213@new-hinksey.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:office.3213@new-hinksey.oxon.sch.uk)
- Email the test results notification to the school office so we can keep track and put in place procedures if a child tests positive.
- Be on time for drop offs and pick-ups, and **please could adults wear face coverings around the school gates. Please disperse quickly once you have dropped off or picked up.**
- Keep a distance from others and thus minimise the potential spread of infection.
- **PLEASE note that playdates are not permissible under current restrictions even outside. The maximum number of people meeting up is 1 person (on their own) from one household and one person (on their own) from another household. Children count as a person so if you are out with your child or children none of you are on your own so should not be meeting up with others.**

**School Association News - Lock Down Quiz Night 2: the revenge!** 5 fun rounds including the next in a long line of identifying animals by their body parts. Join in the quiz night in aid of New Hinksey School **tonight** Friday 20th at 9pm. Entry by a discretionary donation. <https://localgiving.org/charity/newhinkseyschoolassociation/>. Please put "New Hinksey Quiz" in the message box.

The School Association is excited to announce that **we are funding the purchase of 15 Chromebooks for the school.** This will make a great contribution to the IT facilities for the children and wouldn't have been possible without your donations and your fantastic efforts to help with fundraising. We also funded some exciting science equipment earlier this term, so the funds are having a real impact on the children's learning.

**The Oxford Christmas Light Festival** - It's Oxford's Christmas Light Festival this weekend! Many households in the area are getting involved by putting up lights and displays and it should be lovely to walk around New Hinksey and Grandpont. Families are encouraged to take a socially distanced walk on Friday and Saturday evenings to enjoy the displays. For more info see [www.oxlightfest.com](http://www.oxlightfest.com)

**Children Starting School in Reception in September 2021** – Applications are now open and can be made on the County Council website [www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/primaryadmissions](http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/primaryadmissions). All information is on that site. Please note that children who are currently in our nursery need to make an application for their reception place through the website above. The closing date for applications is 15<sup>th</sup> January 2021.

**Parent Governor Update** – We are pleased to let you know that **Richard Bailey** (parent of Max in Year 4) is a new parent governor and has joined the Governing Body.

We now have another parent governor vacancy. If you would like to stand for the role of parent governor please could you nominate yourself by emailing [head.3213@new-hinksey.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:head.3213@new-hinksey.oxon.sch.uk) by Monday 30<sup>th</sup> November. To find out more about the role of parent governor please email Harm-Jan, our chair, [hjfricke@btinternet.com](mailto:hjfricke@btinternet.com) .

**Free Online Workshops for all the Family** – The University of Southampton has some exciting sessions that you can join in with for free on Saturday, especially a poetry workshop for Key Stage 2 aged children. Have a look at what's on offer by visiting [https://www.humanworldsfestival.com/hands-on\\_humanities\\_day/](https://www.humanworldsfestival.com/hands-on_humanities_day/)

**Christmas Holiday Tech Camp** – Nextthing Education are holding a 3 day Christmas Tech Camp 21<sup>st</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> December and 29<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> December from 9am to 4pm at St Ebbes Primary School. It will include electronic Christmas card making, 3D bauble printing, festive movie creation, Minecraft Christmascraft and snow science. To find out more, check availability or to enrol please visit <https://www.nextthing.education>.

Have a happy weekend,  
Charlotte Haynes

#### **Dates**

**School is closed to all pupils on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> November (next week) for a staff INSET day**

**Term finishes for Christmas holiday on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December after lunch (specific times will be given later)**