



# New Hinksey CE Primary School

Vicarage Road Oxford OX1 4RQ

Tel: 01865 242169 Fax: 01865 242169

Email: [office.3213@new-hinksey.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:office.3213@new-hinksey.oxon.sch.uk)

Website: [www.new-hinksey.oxon.sch.uk](http://www.new-hinksey.oxon.sch.uk)

Headteacher: Mrs Charlotte Haynes

26<sup>th</sup> November 2020

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

The newsletter is coming home on Thursday this week because **school is closed to all pupils tomorrow, Friday 27<sup>th</sup> November**, for a staff inset day.

## News From Classes

**Foundation Stage (Robins and Ducklings)** – This week the Robins designed ‘underpants’ for their aliens, inspired by the ‘Aliens Love Underpants’ story! They will be bringing their aliens home this week. We had a class quiz on space and the children showed that they know so much about space. We have all been writing about which planet we want to visit. Our number of the week was 9 and we used 9 blocks to make a square and then we worked out that we needed one less to make a rectangle. Our sounds of the week were ‘g’ and ‘o’ and we have been learning to read the tricky words ‘he’ and ‘me’. There are some photos of our recent work in the gallery section of the school website. Ducklings are still enjoying the outside space especially the climbing frames.

**Finches** – In maths we have been looking at addition and subtraction using a number line and mental strategies. In English we have been retelling and then writing the story of ‘The Three Little Pigs’. We have talked about what toys were like in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century and how they were different to toys now. We have started to record our nativity and it already looks as though it’s going to be a fantastic show.

**Owls** – This week we have been listening to, reading, discussing and writing poetry. Our task for our long weekend is to learn a poem by heart. In maths we have been practising adding and subtracting tens and ones using a hundred square. We have more to practise for homework to try to ensure that we can all use this method successfully. In science we enjoyed doing another investigation to find which type of paper was the strongest.

**Doves** – In maths we have worked very hard on developing our telling the time skills. We have matched analogue and digital times, timed ourselves saying our times tables and told the time to the nearest minute. In science we had fun using mirrors to find shapes in pictures and learnt about the importance of sun safety. In English we have all become more accurate at using inverted commas. We are all enjoying ‘Wild Way Home’ and have written letters to the author. Do have a look at some photos from Dove class on the school website in the galleries section.

**Woodpeckers** – We have been revising the use of apostrophes using the ‘The Vanishing Rainforest Book’ for examples. Our window collage art projects are looking amazing and we have begun to write some poetry to go with the final multi-media project. In maths Year 4s have been using written methods to subtract and Year 5s have been looking at decimals, fractions, percentages and their equivalents. We have all done some great homework for the international themed week which is being compiled into an A to Z class book of countries.

**Kingfishers** – We have completed our rhyming couplet artwork based on ‘home comforts’ (ask your child what their couplet is and their artist’s name). In our topic work we now have a better understanding of what ‘primary evidence’ is and how the Factory Act of 1833 helped improve the lives of workers.

**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 parents of 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 have a 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 please email Harm-Jan, our chair, [hjfricke@btinternet.com](mailto:hjfricke@btinternet.com).

*Parents are welcome in our school*

**Feeding Back to Parents on How Your Children are Getting On** – Personalised mini reports for each child 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 (up to December 2<sup>nd</sup>) 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** - Once again, New Hinksey Primary School has received the donation of a **6ft Christmas Tree** from Bunkers Hill Plant Nursery. As per the last two years, we are holding an auction to raise funds for the School Association. The auction is being run via the School Association Facebook group but please email your bids to [ben\\_j\\_armstrong@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:ben_j_armstrong@yahoo.co.uk) if you are not on Facebook but want to participate. Bids close at 12 noon on Sunday (29th).

**A Few Reminders for Parents:**

**Water Bottles** – Please make sure each child has a named water bottle in school every day.

**Christmas Lunch** on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> December – Every child will have brought home a letter about this. Please make sure you have found this, take note of the information and return the tear off slip once you have ticked the option required. Please return the slip asap even if your child is bringing a packed lunch from home that day. Also please note that children in Years 3,4,5 and 6 must have their money in their account for this meal - thank you.

**Working Together to Keep Everyone Safe from Covid** – Please do everything you can to reduce the chance of your family members being exposed to the risk of infection, especially in these last few weeks of the term. The potential risks should still be taken very seriously. We want you to understand that if any member of one of our class bubbles tests positive in the last week of term or even over the first weekend of the holidays this would mean that every child and staff member in the bubble would be required to self-isolate for 14 days – that means not leaving their house for 14 days and no visitors to the house and would therefore ruin Christmas for all the families in that class because the 14 day period would carry on till after the Christmas weekend.

Best wishes,  
Charlotte Haynes

**Dates**

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

**Term finishes for Christmas holiday on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December after lunch (12.50pm for Owls and Woodpeckers; 1pm for Foundation Stage, Finches and Doves; 1.05pm for Kingfishers)**

**A message from Father Ruben:**

Dear Parents and Children,

Advent is starting this Sunday, so happy Advent, everyone! This year's pandemic and consequent social restrictions have meant that we have had to rethink also how we mark and celebrate important festivals in our community. At St John, we have decided to mark the countdown to Christmas with the children of our school by inviting everyone to participate in a 'Christmas story spy-game', together with our beloved 'Donkey', who is now a constant feature in our children's crib service.

In your children's bags you will find a booklet and a code-breaker card, together with a letter from me explaining the game. All of us at St John hope that you will be able to join us and together start counting down to Christmas, to welcome in our hearts Jesus, God-with-us.

Fr Ruben