



New Hinksey CE Primary School

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Dear Home Learning Children and Families,

Well done for getting to the end of another week in these strange and difficult times. We do hope you are all well and coping with the juggling of home life, home schooling, work and lockdown restrictions. We are so pleased to see the many fantastic results of your home learning efforts – keep up the good work and thank you.

When will school reopen to all pupils? – We are asked this question often, but schools tend to find out at the same time as everyone else via TV or radio once a politician makes an announcement! After the Prime Minister's statement on Wednesday our understanding is:

- That there will be a review of the national lockdown on 15th February which will take account of the vaccination programme, infection rates, death rates and NHS capacity.
- In the week commencing 22nd February the government will publish a plan for taking the country out of lockdown.
- Schools and families will be given two weeks' notice of any reopening of schools so the **earliest that schools could begin to reopen is Monday 8th March**. This will just be a potential start date and does not mean all children will be back in their classes, it could be that the return is phased by different age groups or it could be that the scientific data pushes this date back further – we hope not but that is the reality – there is no certainty.

Where to get support – These are really difficult and challenging times for everyone in terms of physical and mental health, financial pressures and juggling work and family. This section offers some signposting to places you can get support for different needs.

There is a **Health Team Newsletter** for Primary Schools on our website (www.new-hinksey.oxon.sch.uk) which gives hints and tips for keeping healthy (mentally and physically) for children and their families.

<https://www.oxford.gov.uk/essentialsupport> is the Oxford City Council website and is a useful one stop shop for where to find help and support.

Here is a link to **Oxford Together** and a form <https://occ.oxfordtogether.org/support-form> which allows for volunteers to signpost help (food etc) and get people into the system and also people can signpost others that need support. They are not statutory so theoretically nobody should fall through the gaps as they have no remit apart from helping. They'll go shopping and get prescriptions etc.

Money Saving Expert is also a good provision / newsletter especially where money is concerned and a sensible place for everyone to start at regarding money, savings, how to access support. <https://www.moneysavingexpert.com/> also good for people to know their rights around covid and employment and covid19 etc.

Google Classroom – This is going really well (the children in school are using it doing the same learning that is being offered to the children at home) and we are grateful for all the positive feedback you are giving. Please keep 'turning the work in' but please be aware that if you are turning work in late in the evenings or at the weekends it will very likely be the next working day when your teacher responds to it.

Best wishes for a happy weekend from us all at New Hinksey.

Parents are welcome in our school