

## Newsletter 15<sup>th</sup> January 2021

Dear Parents, Carers and Wider School Community,

I hope you all saw last week's newsletter, including the School's Distance Learning Protocol, on our website.

It continues to be busy in school with groups of critical worker children in each class in Covid secure mini bubbles alongside the provision of home learning. There has been a great deal of positive feedback especially around the flexibility of how we are delivering the curriculum. Families are very grateful that the learning and tasks are available and accessible but that they are not tied to a particular rigid timetable. We have families sharing laptops and parents of younger children having to fit things around their own working from home and the rest of the household. Some home learning is being done in the evenings and weekends and not during the parents' working day – that is absolutely fine if that is what suits you (although please understand that the teachers won't be responding or giving feedback to individuals late at night or over the weekends!). We have also supplied many home learning packs to families who prefer not to have all on screen learning or who chose not to engage with Google Classroom. The system is enabling a great deal of feedback between children and their teachers. Every few days there are checks to monitor who is accessing what and supportive phone calls and emails are being made to individuals where there has been a lack of contact and engagement through Google Classroom for a day or two.

**Topic for the Term** – The overarching topic for this term is '**Around the World**' and we are trying to base remote learning around this and the curriculum areas planned for prior to the announcement that school would be closed.

**Further contact with Class Teachers:** - From next week there will be some opportunities for your children to 'see' and 'meet' with their teachers using the 'meet' function in Google Classroom. There is a brief schedule below. It is important that if your child is going to join the 'meet' that parents have read the Risk Assessment for this and shared relevant bits as appropriate with your children. It is on the school website and has been assigned to each child's Google Classroom account. This weekly offer begins from 18<sup>th</sup> January. This is in addition to the daily Google Classroom learning activities, feedback and messaging.

**Robins** – Pre-recorded stories read by Polly each week and fortnightly face to face distanced 1:1 chat when collecting books from Foundation Stage garden, plus Thursday afternoon live meet with Polly at 1pm.

**Finches** – 2 short live catch ups with Miss Martins on Monday and Thursday mornings at 9.30am

**Owls** – Friday afternoon live meet with Miss Kilpatrick at 1.30pm

**Doves** – Live meet with Mrs Tucker – Year 4 Doves on Tuesday at 11.15am, Year 3 Doves on Tuesday at 1.15pm

**Woodpeckers** – Live meet with Mrs Nash – Year 4 Woodpeckers on Monday at 11.15am and Year 5 Woodpeckers on Wednesday at 1.15pm

**Kingfishers** – Wednesday afternoon live meet with Ms Potier and Ms Christensen at 2.30pm.

	Group and Time of Meet	Group and Time of Meet	Group and Time of Meet
Monday	9.30am Finches	11.15am Year 4 Woodpeckers	
Tuesday		11.15am Year 4 Doves	1.15pm Year 3 Doves
Wednesday			1.15pm Year 5 Woodpeckers 2.30pm Kingfishers
Thursday	9.30 Finches		1pm Robins
Friday			1.30pm Owls

The link to the meet will be in Google Classroom.

**ParentPay** – If your child is at home and if you did not see the request in last week's newsletter, please could families help us by going into ParentPay and cancelling any school lunches that you had prebooked for this term. Please also pay outstanding After School Club bills. Thank you.

**Christmas Thank You!** – Although Christmas now seems a distant memory, all the staff would like to say thank you for our many cards, presents and good wishes. It was very generous and thoughtful of you and much appreciated.

Best wishes for a safe and relaxing weekend from us all at New Hinksey School.