



New Hinksey CE Primary School

Vicarage Road Oxford OX1 4RQ

Tel: 01865 242169 Fax: 01865 242169

Email: office.3213@new-hinksey.oxon.sch.uk

Website: www.new-hinksey.oxon.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mrs Charlotte Haynes

26th March 2021

Dear Pupils, Parents, Staff and Governors,

One of the highlights of my week is reading the class news and putting it into this newsletter to share with you. It's really uplifting and I am in awe of the classroom staff for providing such an engaging and rich variety of topics and learning experiences for the children. I do hope you also enjoy finding out more about what's going on in school each week and talking to your children about what they are doing.

News from the Classes

Foundation Stage – This week we have looking and talking about the Amazon Rainforest in South America. The children have been asking some wonderful questions about the animals that live there and really enjoyed 'The Great Kapok Tree' story by Lynne Cherry. Our word of the week was 'respect' so we have been focussing on what that means when we are playing with one another and our toys. All the children have been so engaged with their learning this week. The Ducklings have started looking at rhyme using stories and songs.

Finches – In English we have been looking at poetry and we are writing our own spring poems. In maths we have been looking at 1 more and 1 less, and 10 more and 10 less, and making two-digit numbers. Science has seen us thinking about our five senses and which body part each sense is linked with. We have also started making lovely Easter crafts.

Owls – This week we have been learning the story called 'Honey and Trouble' about a very young monkey. Please ask your child to tell you the story at the weekend. In maths we have been using money – we do need lots of practice of using coins at home please. In science we have been recording African animal food chains and life cycles. We have also been making our own African Animal Top Trump cards! We are really enjoying our two PE sessions with sports coaches each week.

Doves – We have enjoyed a virtual trip to Athens. We have located Greece and its surrounding countries on a world map. We have researched traditions and historical landmarks and have tasted Greek foods and created our own menus. We enjoyed writing versions of the Greek folk story, Midas, using the first person. We have made magnet mazes and designed our own magnetic games. In maths we have developed our subtraction and addition skills.

Woodpeckers – We have all worked really well to write interesting information texts linked with our Fairtrade topic. We look forward to some role play activities to explore fair trade issues further. In maths Year 4s have become experts at multiplying and dividing and Year 5s have focussed on using written subtraction to investigate patterns and predict answers. We have enjoyed making city skyline prints using a polystyrene printing block.

Kingfishers – We have explored the amount of food miles a pizza may have made (with its various ingredients) using Google Earth. We are making paper globes having listened to Hans Zimmer's 'Earth' piece. We are continuing our guided reading (Yr 5) and exploring figurative language (Yr 6) in English. In maths year 5 children have been learning about mixed numbers and improper fractions and year 6 pupils have been practising their multiplication and division skills.

Parents are welcome in our school

Covid 19 Reminders –We continue to follow DfE guidance to reduce risk of transmission and keep the school open. **Please help us continue to keep fully open by:**

- Keeping up to date with and **following Government restrictions**, including from Monday meeting others **only outside** in groups of **up to six** people, or **two households** and **staying local**.
- **Sticking to the school drop off and collecting times closely every day.**
- Only coming to and from the school gates and area around the school for the few moments it takes to drop off or collect your child. **PLEASE DON'T ARRIVE EARLY** when other bubbles are needing the space to come and go safely.
- Keeping your children close by you outside school and **maintaining a 2 metre distance** from other adults, and **always wearing a face covering** at drop off and pick up times.

Assemblies – This week assemblies in classes have focussed on valuing the things we do and the opportunities we are offered, encouraging the children to always do things to the best of their ability. The story was based around a young builder who deliberately did a poor quality job of building a house in order to make more of a profit only to find that the house he'd built for his employer was actually being given to him as a wedding present!! Ask your children about it!

Nursery Places for September 2021 – Do you have a child, or know of friends, family or neighbours with children born between 1st September 2017 and 31st August 2018? Children who will be 3 years old by 1st September 2021 could come and join our friendly nursery in September. Please let us know by word of mouth or by phoning 01865 242169 or emailing office.3213@new-hinksey.oxon.sch.uk.

After School Club – We will review the situation about After School Club during the first week back after the Easter holiday, following further government announcements expected on 12th April. Our decision will take account of covid safety, guidance from the DfE and local authority, and will be risk assessed for our particular circumstances.

End of Term – Term ends next week on Wednesday 31st March. Please note that **we will not close early at 1pm but will finish at the usual end of day times for your child (2.50pm, 3.00pm or 3.05pm)**. It is a normal school day – we thought the children had spent quite enough time out of school this year so will work them till the end of the day!

The **Summer Term** starts on **Monday 19th April** at the usual start times for each class bubble.

New Menu – There will be a new menu for school lunches after Easter so please look at this in ParentPay with your children and make your choices and bookings in advance as this really does save a lot of valuable class time. Also please remember, if you pay for lunches, to top up money so that you are in credit ready for the first week back. Thank you.

This is the last newsletter of this term so we would like to wish you all a happy and relaxing Easter break.

Warm wishes,

Charlotte Haynes

SOAP - The South Oxford Adventure Playground (SOAP) will be running an Easter Holiday play scheme for unaccompanied local children who are 7 years or older and have completed the registration form. No need to book, but we will be limiting numbers to 30 (in two groups of 15), and access will be on a first-come-first-serve basis for a 2 hour session.

10am – 12noon on 6, 7, 8, 9, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16 April 2021 and **2pm – 4pm on 7, 9, 12, 14, 16 April 2021**

For further information and to complete the registration form please go to:

<http://www.soapoxford.org/about-us/holiday-play-scheme/>