



New Hinksey CE Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs Charlotte Haynes

30th April 2021

Dear Pupils, Parents, Staff and Governors,

We really hope your children are sharing with you some of the fantastic learning and creative activities they are doing in school. There is an amazing atmosphere of engagement with learning oozing from the children, a lovely buzzy feel and displayed work is inspiring and of high quality. The news from classes later on in this newsletter will give you a more detailed flavour.

Please note: MONDAY (3rd May) IS A NATIONAL BANK HOLIDAY AND SO SCHOOL IS CLOSED FOR ALL CHILDREN.

VERY IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT PARENTS EVENING ARRANGEMENTS

The following days are allocated for you to arrange an appointment with your child's teachers on Google Meets. **The 10 minute time slots for each day given will be available from 3.45 - 6.45pm.**

Polly (PHodgson@new-hinksey.oxon.sch.uk) - Monday 17th May and Thursday 20th May
Miss Martins (TMartins@new-hinksey.oxon.sch.uk) - Monday 17th May and Thursday 20th May
Miss Kilpatrick (mkilpatrick@new-hinksey.oxon.sch.uk) - Tuesday 11th May and Wednesday 19th May
Mrs Tucker (rtuc1220@new-hinksey.oxon.sch.uk) - Tuesday 11th May and Wednesday 19th May
Mrs Nash (hnas4139@new-hinksey.oxon.sch.uk) - Thursday 13th May and Tuesday 19th May
Miss Potier (hpot9071@new-hinksey.oxon.sch.uk) - Thursday 13th May and Tuesday 19th May and
Ms Christensen (lchr9699@new-hinksey.oxon.sch.uk) - Thursday 13th May and Tuesday 19th May

What you need to do (in 5 simple steps!):

1. BEFORE WEDNESDAY MAY 5th, end of school day, please EMAIL your class teacher (for Kingfishers please ensure that you email BOTH teachers, Miss Potier and Ms Christensen).
2. Please type YOUR CHILD'S FIRST NAME ONLY in the subject heading.
3. In the email let your teacher know the following:
A - I can make myself available for ANY TIME and DAY given
B - I can only make ONE of the TWO days (please state the day!) and I am available ANY TIME on that day
C - I am only available after 5pm at a range of specific times (please state)
4. If you wish to include a second email address for the meeting (i.e. if more than one of you wish to attend the meeting remotely at the same time) please include this in the cc. line of your email.
5. Your class teacher(s) will reply by email to all the email addresses provided as soon as possible BEFORE Monday 10th May. Included in this reply will be: a 10 minute specific time slot and the link for the google meeting (you simply have to click on this link at the specified time to attend the meeting).

Key Term Dates

The first half of term ends on Friday 28th May at the usual end of day times (not a half day).

The week 31st May – 4th June is the half term holiday

Monday 7th June is an INSET day and school is closed.

The second half of term starts on Tuesday 8th June and ends on Thursday 22nd July.

Parents are welcome in our school

News from the Classes

Foundation Stage – This week in Robins we have been talking about how and where vegetables and fruit grow. Our author of the week was Julia Donaldson and we had some great whole class story telling time. Sarah has been helping the children create incredible collages of animals and minibeasts using inspiration from Eric Carle. In maths we have been finding different ways to make 10 and 20 and we have been doing lots of counting in 2s and 10s. Ducklings have enjoyed listening to Eric Carle stories – ‘Brown Bear, Brown Bear - What Do You See?’ and ‘Polar Bear, Polar Bear – What Do You Hear?’

Finches – Our question this week has been ‘Why do plants have leaves?’. In English we have started writing about the life cycle of a sunflower. In maths we have practised adding and subtracting. In science we looked at different parts of plants and what their function is. In art we recreated our own versions of ‘Almond Blossoms’ by Van Gogh. We have also had lots of fun making cress heads and planting runner bean seeds so we can watch them germinate.

Owls – This week we have enjoyed planting Nicola potatoes at the allotment and spotting other herbs, vegetables, trees and flowers growing there. Beforehand we had drawn magnificent portraits of our ‘chitted’ potato! In English we have been exploring ‘Changes’, ‘Piggybook’ and ‘Walk in the Park’ by Anthony Browne with much excitement. In maths we have been revising using number facts to add and using number bonds to 10 to help us subtract. We have been learning about the Great Fire of London in history. In art we played Surrealist art games.

Doves – We have enjoyed writing an additional chapter to Dick King Smith’s ‘The Hodgeheg’. We have developed our paragraphing skills. In science we have learnt about the seven types of nutrient our bodies need and analysed packets of food to see how much goodness, salt and sugar they provide. In geography we have practised following and plotting grid references.

Woodpeckers – ‘The Lost Thing’ by Shaun Tan has raised more questions and stimulated close observations and comparisons in English. It has also inspired our DT project on machines and this week we asked, ‘How do gears work?’, and used KNEX to explore this idea further. In maths Year 4s have been comparing decimal numbers and Year 5s have explored short written methods for multiplication. ‘What are helpful and unhelpful thoughts?’ has been our big question for our ‘Think Positive’ RSE topic.

Kingfishers – We have been thinking about what we eat and where it comes from. We are drawing and painting a version of Hokusai’s ‘The Great Wave’ to complement our music appreciation lessons featuring Benjamin Britten’s ‘The Storm’. We have enjoyed reading and re-telling the story ‘Rikki Tikki Tavi’ from ‘The Jungle Book’ by Rudyard Kipling. In maths Year 5 children have been learning long multiplication with teen numbers. Year 6 children have been revising finding percentages of amounts and solving simple algebraic problems.

After School Club – This resumed again from last Monday running in 3 ‘bubbles’ – Foundation Stage, Key Stage 1 and Key stage 2. **Each bubble has their own staff member and own zone of the ASC and outdoor space.**

- **Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 will operate on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays.**
- **Key Stage 2 will operate on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays.**
- Sessions cost £10 per child per day and this includes individually packaged teatime snack and fruit.
- The window for picking up from the ASC door is from 5.10pm up to 5.30pm. This is because, whilst keeping the children’s bubbles in separate spaces and thus covid safe and, keeping each staff member as safe as possible through not having to cross over bubbles, staff cannot be in two places at once constantly going to and from the door at whatever time parents turn up to collect, and leaving the rest of their group unsupervised. I understand that some parents didn’t realise this change was due to covid safety measures.
- Adults collecting should wear masks, not enter the school building and observe social distancing please.
- The procedure for children who are not picked up by 5.30pm remains unchanged in that they are brought over to the office area, (allowing the cleaning staff to get into the after school club rooms), and supervised by staff until a parent/carer arrives and allowing us to start phoning to find out if someone is on their way. It is usually just a few minutes and related to the unpredictable Oxford traffic. We are using the outside space by the apple tree at the moment for waiting as it is safer to be in the fresh air than in the very small reception office lobby.
- Should there be a positive covid case within the ASC community then all children from that group of ASC will need to isolate as well as the children in the class bubble of the class concerned.

If you have need of after school provision as above, please email Tracey on office.3213@new-hinksey.oxon.sch.uk

After School Club and Morning Club Bills – The invoices for April have been sent home today via book bags and are also in ParentPay. Please pay these by the 14th May deadline. Many thanks.

Have a happy bank holiday weekend.

Charlotte Haynes