



# 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

28<sup>th</sup> May 2021

Dear Pupils, Parents, Staff and Governors,

Another busy week full of learning has taken place which you can read about in the news below. It has been lovely to end this half term with a little bit of better weather with the sun shining and fewer sudden downpours of rain. We hope everyone has a lovely week **next week during the half term holiday**. Please remember that **Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June is an INSET day and school is closed to pupils. Children should return to school on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> June at their usual start times.**

## News from the Classes

**Foundation Stage** – Robins have had a busy week practising our song ‘imagination’ that we are going to perform to the Ducklings on Friday. We have made clay tiles and pressed wild-flowers and plants to make imprints. We have loved the wonderful problem-solving stories written by Catherine Rayner and the beautiful illustrations which have inspired some great animal art using oil pastels and watercolours. There is so much fantastic independent art and writing happening in the classroom. The children certainly deserve a rest this half term! Ducklings have been telling the story of ‘Jack and the Beanstalk’ (our bean in class is growing fast!) and have taken home a story map.

**Finches** – Our question this week has been ‘Who was Marie Curie?’. In English we have been writing information leaflets about her life and her achievements. In our maths lessons we have added and subtracted 10 and looked at number bonds to 20. In our topic time this week we have been scientists and conducted a range of experiments. We tried to work out what an animal had eaten and had fun trying to melt ice to save a frozen dinosaur. We also explored static electricity.

**Owls** – This week we have been reading more books about the character Willy and writing in response. We have been doing maths assessments and going over the tricky questions together. In science we were learning about bees and recording our magnificent pea and bean plants. In history we found out about Grace Darling who saved nine people during a storm in 1838. We have written about her and created dramatic sea paintings featuring the rescue. There will not be any homework set for half term, but look out for interesting insects, beautiful bees and other marvellous minibeasts wherever you are.

**Doves** – We have worked really hard on our maths assessments this week. We have written blurbs and book reviews for ‘The Sheep Pig’ and begun our new novel, ‘Charlotte’s Web’. In geography we have drawn our own imaginary maps with grid references and enjoyed solving mystery questions about each other’s maps. In science we have found out about the heart and monitored our own pulses before and after different types of exercise.

**Woodpeckers** – In English, we have been focusing on explanation texts as a ‘genre’ and amused ourselves with preparing ‘Dragon’s Den’ style pitches for crazy inventions (taken from the U.S. Patent Office of 1930). We have all completed some maths assessments, which have been helpful in showing us our next steps. Please note that there will be maths games to access on Active Learn during the half term holiday. Our crazy machine D.T. projects are developing and thank you to Freddie H for explaining, in science, how he hears.

**Kingfishers** – We have been finishing off things this week. We’ve finished reading ‘Kensuke’s Kingdom’ and have also added the last touches to our Hokusai-inspired paintings of ‘The Wave’ which look lovely on display in our classroom. We enjoyed finishing our short animations – some of which are very imaginative. We have loved going to the park this week for our PE lessons.

**Heights and Weights** – The checks for Year 6 and Reception children took place yesterday. Parents and carers will receive letters directly from the Schools Nursing Team.

*Parents are welcome in our school*

**SUPERVISION and SAFETY around the School Gates** – Please could parents and carers supervise children when they are waiting to come in or have just left school at the end of the day. Children should be waiting sensibly and quietly close to their adult, not running around or darting onto the road, and being mindful of the neighbouring residents some of whom are elderly or have young children at home. Cyclists and the occasional neighbour who needs to leave or return to their property by car, do need to be able to use the road so please be vigilant and safe and helpful to these legitimate road users. A sensible, calm and orderly start to the day helps children be ready for learning on arrival in class which is beneficial to all children.

**After School Club** – This is 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.
- Adults collecting should wear masks, not enter the school building, and observe social distancing please.

**If you have need of after school provision as above, please email Tracey on [office.3213@new-hinksey.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:office.3213@new-hinksey.oxon.sch.uk)**

**Testing of Children with Corona Virus Symptoms** – PHE (Public Health England) are advising that primary aged pupils should only be tested if they are symptomatic, in which case their families should follow [the guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus \(COVID-19\) infection](#) and [book a PCR test](#) for the child. Lateral Flow Tests are not recommended for primary aged children.

**Attendance and Holidays in Term Time** – Whilst we appreciate that, as travel and holidays open up after lockdown, many families are keen to ‘get away’ or visit family, can we remind everyone that holidays should be planned for school holiday times and permission for holidays in term time will **not** be authorised. Thank you.

**Infection Control Measures around the School Gates** – We would like to remind you, please, **that the wearing of masks and social distancing at and around the school gates continues.** With well over a hundred households coming and going from the school gates we really do want to keep everyone as safe as we can. **Thank you for continuing to wear a face covering and maintaining social distancing.**

**Please can you help us with flowers and plants for our tubs and troughs around school?** – If you visit a garden centre or supermarket during half term and see any summer plants that you could kindly donate to school, we’d love to receive them! Now that the spring bulbs have gone over our tubs are in need of a revamp – thank you.

**School Lunches** – Don’t forget to top up ParentPay lunch accounts and pre book your meals before the second half of term starts on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> June. Thanks.

**Reporting Positive Covid Cases to School** – We sincerely hope that none of our pupils test positive for coronavirus during half term, but if they do please inform the school by emailing [office.3213@new-hinksey.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:office.3213@new-hinksey.oxon.sch.uk) .

Best wishes for a happy and relaxing week.

Charlotte Haynes

### **Key Term Dates**

The first half of term ends today.

The week 31<sup>st</sup> May – 4<sup>th</sup> June is the half term holiday.

**Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June is an INSET day and school is closed.**

**The second half of term starts on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> June.**

**The Summer Term ends on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> July.**

**The South Oxford Adventure Playground (SOAP)** - will be open at half-term (1-4th June, closed bank holiday Monday), 10-4pm. All children must be [registered](#) to attend and aged 7-14 years old. It's free to attend, fun and all outside. SOAP is run by volunteers but we rely on donations to keep open with our trained staff and to fix our equipment. Please [donate](#) if you feel you can. Closed bank holiday Monday. See [SOAP website](#) for further details.