



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

19th November 2021

Dear Parents, Pupils, Staff, Governors and Friends of the School,

Please take the time to read this newsletter carefully. If ever you mislay the paper copy, please remember that the weekly newsletter and previous newsletters are always available on our school website.

Covid Update – Unfortunately we have three positive pupil cases this week and have heard of further cases in other household members in a few families. Therefore, please could we remind you of the following:

Children who are unwell or who have any possible covid symptoms should not come into school and should get a PCR test to check that they are not covid positive. If there is a positive case in your household the advice is for all household members to have a PCR test to check that they are not also positive, regardless of whether symptoms are evident or not.

We do appreciate that there are a lot of colds, sore throats and sniffles around at the moment but as a school we ask you not to take any chances and please get ill children tested. Thank you.

Sponsored Run – A massive **thank you** to all who sponsored the children in their run. They all did brilliantly with most running more than 1km! A whopping £2000 was raised for the school.

Children's Nasal Spray Flu Vaccines – Your child has already brought home a letter explaining about the process for receiving a flu vaccine, which is due to take place in school on 2nd December. Please note that **parents have to complete the online consent form** as instructed in the letter. School cannot do this for you.

The website that you need to go to is: <https://www.oxfordhealthimms.co.uk/forms/flu>

The school code is OX123142

Starting School in Reception in September 2022 – Parents/Carers of children born between 1st September 2017 and 31st August 2018 (inclusive) need to apply for a school place for September 2022. If this applies to you, please go to <https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/schools/apply-school-place/reception-applications> to make an application. We have a lovely flip book presentation about our Foundation Stage on the school website and we are also doing face to face tours of the school for prospective parents. Do spread the word and let friends, neighbours and other family members know if they have children who fall into this age bracket. The window for making on-line applications opened on 2nd November 2021 and closes on January 15th 2022.

Christmas Plans in School – Our current plans are for the following events which we very much hope won't need to be changed due to covid. We will be using the larger space of the church as a venue for some events.

Robins – Festive Songs for parents on **Friday 10th December at 2.30pm** in the church.

Key Stage 1 Nativity acted by Finch Class with singing from Finch and Owl Classes – for Key Stage 1 parents on **Tuesday 14th December at 2pm** in the church.

School Christmas Lunch and Santa Presents on **Wednesday 15th December**.

Whole School Festive Songs on **Wednesday 15th December at 2.30pm** performed on the playground. Parents welcome to watch and listen from the other end of the playground.

This term ends on Friday 17th December after lunch at 1.15pm.

Parents are welcome in our school

Parents' Evenings – Thank you to those parents who attended parents-teacher meetings this week. There are further appointments on Thursday 25th November and Monday 29th November between 4.15pm and 7.10pm. Please could parents make arrangements to attend parents' evenings **without bringing children and siblings along with them**. Also, it is imperative that the appointment times are kept to **so please arrive just before your allocated time and leave promptly afterwards**. This is for two purposes, one so that the evening runs smoothly and to time and secondly so that we try to be as covid safe as possible and don't have groups of parents waiting in groups in small spaces outside classroom doors. Thank you.

News from Classes

Robins and Ducklings – Robins have been thinking about our homes this week. We made a map of our bedrooms and talked about these and started creating a 2d cardboard house. Our sounds of the week were 't' and 'i'. We have been looking at the composition of 5 in maths. Duckling parents – do ask your children about 'Dinos on the Bus', a new book they really enjoyed this week!

Finches – This week we have had great fun learning all about the Great Fire of London. In English we have started writing diary entries about the fire and in maths we have focused on subtraction to 10. We have created fantastic art based on the fire. We also started rehearsing the nativity so do please keep practising your child's lines with them.

Owls – This week we have been measuring with centimetres in maths. In science we were investigating which materials stretch, bend, squash or remain rigid. We continue to explore our dragon theme with old and new dragon stories, answering questions and improving our descriptive writing, creating beautiful oil pastel dragon drawings and making dragon sculptures.

Doves – This week we enjoyed learning about Roman towns and villas. We have written persuasive adverts to sell these. We have looked at the features of towns and designed our own. We have used an atlas to find cities with Roman place names ending in -chester or -caster e.g. Manchester and Doncaster. In science the Year 4s have researched the scientist, Inge Lehmann. They found out that she was a seismologist who lived until the age of 104. The Year 3s enjoyed experimenting with mirrors to find out about the reflection of light.

Woodpeckers – We have learnt about Yggdrasil, the tree of life in Norse mythology and producing a picture of it for display. We are making posters about Viking gods to improve our knowledge of them. We have all worked on a 'reflection' piece of writing to express what we are grateful for. Year 4s have been learning about weight and capacity in maths and expressing measurements in different ways (e.g. 800ml = 0.8L; ¼ kg = 250g). Year 5s have been learning about angles and how to use protractors and compasses accurately.

Kingfishers – Our English work has focussed on using well punctuated dialogue to effectively enhance our storytelling. We enjoyed some role play to explore 'what' and 'how' things were said. In maths we have added and subtracted from decimal numbers. Our celebration lighting DT/Science project has progressed, and we are now challenged with working in teams to develop a 'blue-print' circuit diagram and final design for 'The Dragons'!

Raffle draw and festive Cake Sale, 10 December, 3pm in the playground - NHSA are very pleased to announce we will be holding a festive Cake Sale and Christmas Raffle draw on the last full Friday of term. We will need your help!

For the cake sale: all donations of festive cake and bakes, whether shop or home-made, will be very much appreciated. Anyone who would be able to help set up and sell on the day, please let April know (april.elizabeth.jones@gmail.com).

For the raffle: we already have some excellent prizes lined up (Cotswold Wildlife Park, Oxford Playhouse, Mahogany...) but it's very much a case of the more the merrier, and if you could help source more prizes please get in touch with Sophie (sophiebowell@hotmail.com). Donations of things like bottles, tins of biscuits, chocolates, smellies etc will also be very welcome nearer the time.

Christmas Film/Song Trail - The PTA is organising a fun walking trail around the area over Christmas to raise funds for the school (along the lines of our 'Spooky Safari' in 2020). We're looking for volunteers who would be willing to put up a display in their window/garden over the Christmas period based on a Christmas Song or Film. If interested, please email newhinkseypta@gmail.com for more details!

Best wishes for a lovely weekend from Charlotte Haynes and the New Hinksey Team.

SOAP - As we come to the end of our 2021 Season, SOAP would like to get some feedback to inform how we move forward into 2022. We'd love to hear from parents, carers, grandparents, AND children and young people who may or may not have visited SOAP. It should only take 5 mins of your time! All responses are anonymous, will be kept confidential, and your participation is completely voluntary. <https://forms.gle/PYKhK5FMfARnqseLA>