



New Hinksey CE Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs Charlotte Haynes

26th November 2021

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

The end of term feels like it is approaching so quickly with the weeks rushing by! This week Dove and Owl classes had a lovely opportunity and have watched the show 'Suddenly a Star' at the Story Museum. We are very lucky to be able to walk the children to and from this marvellous place. Assemblies over the past couple of weeks have focussed on 'Honesty and Truthfulness'.

Covid Reminder – 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. Also, **if your child is frequently coughing and has a streaming nose, even if tested negative for covid, please consider whether it is fair to send them in to school where they will be passing on their germs to other children and staff.** Thank you.

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, next week, 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. **If you have not yet done it, you need to act right now because Monday 29th is the last day for consent.**

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. The window for making on-line applications opened on 2nd November 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.

***** If you would like your child to have Christmas Lunch please pre-book in ParentPay for the meal on Wednesday 15th December. Book the meal that says roast pork for the traditional turkey lunch and book the quorn roast for the vegetarian Christmas lunch. Please pre book by Thursday 2nd December (next week) and ensure there is money /credit in ParentPay to pay for it if you are a Key Stage 2 family who pay for lunches. Thank you.*****

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.

Parents are welcome in our school

News from Classes

Robins and Ducklings – Robins have been creating pictograms in maths to show all the different ways we can travel to school. We have been discussing night and day and times of the day. We have looked at ‘n’ and ‘p’ in phonics and learned how to use our ‘Fred fingers’ to segment and blend sounds together to read and write. ‘Robin Road’ has been created in the classroom using the amazing 2D houses that the children made. Finally we have started practising our Christmas songs to sing to you on 10th December at 2.30pm (we are using the church as a larger space for this). We really hope you can come along. We will be bringing all the children back to school after singing ready for 3pm home time, so the children can collect their bags etc. and be collected from the usual gate. Ducklings have made Humpty Dumpty pictures and have been singing ‘silly’ versions of the Humpty Dumpty nursery rhyme.

Finches – This week we have finished writing our diary entries about the Great Fire of London and in maths we have been looking at positional language and measuring. We have also learnt about Thanksgiving (celebrated this week in the USA), and we wrote what we are thankful for. We have continued with our nativity rehearsals and can’t wait to show you. Please keep practising your child’s lines with them.

Owls – We have enjoyed our last dragon-focussed week, which included reading ‘Tell me a dragon’, learning about Komodo dragons, describing and drawing our own dragons and writing a short story about them. In maths we have been practising adding and subtracting tens and ones using a 100 square. We explored ‘Safety at home’ and why tidying up toys was a good idea, as well as issues around electrical items and items which are hot and could burn us such as a saucepan or baking tray.

Doves – This week we have researched Roman baths and created informative leaflets about what Romans did there and the different rooms and treatments. In science the year 3s have found out about sun safety and invented sunglasses and hats to protect us. The Year 4s have investigated inventions ranging from inhalers to toilets! Everyone has worked very hard in maths developing their skills of telling the time. **Please note:- On Thursday 9th December, Dove Class will be having a Roman day.** Please can every child dress up as a person from the Roman era. This could be a soldier, slave, emperor or Boudicca. Please do not worry about buying anything. We have made crowns and sandals at school and outfits can even be made from a sheet.

Woodpeckers – We have been focussing on expanding noun phrases to give more detail in our sentences, in preparation for writing our own Viking saga which we will be planning next week. In Relationship, Health and Citizenship lessons we have been thinking about dangerous substances and how harmful they can be to our bodies. Thank you very much to Paul (Ayliffe and Tarn’s grandad) and Natalie who delivered a fascinating lesson about the brain to us last week. This week in science we have been learning about the water cycle.

Kingfishers – We have managed to learn another fire-related story from ‘Native American’ which features a cunning raven! We used this to explore characters and write descriptively. We also looked at the passive voice as a way of changing the emphasis, rather than the meaning, of a sentence. In maths, the focus has been units of measurement including comparisons between metric and imperial systems. Our electric lights designs have been finalised and we look forward to making the decoration and the prototypes of the electrical circuits next week.

Raffle draw and festive Cake Sale, 10 December, 3pm in the playground - NHTA 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 Raffle Ticket Selling: You'll find two books of raffle tickets (per family) in your child's bookbag today, priced £1 per ticket. If you're able to, please fill in the stubs and return to our sellers, who will be on the gates every morning and afternoon to collect stubs and money. We'll have a card reader, so we can take cards or cash. If you think you can sell more - to colleagues, friends or family, please ask the sellers, who will have some spare books. The prizes really are fantastic, and all money raised goes to help the school.

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! **Please sign up by Friday 3rd December.**

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

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

School Holiday Monday 20th December 2021 to Monday 3rd January 2022.

Next term starts on Tuesday 4th January 2022.