



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

3rd December 2021

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

There has been a lot of exciting learning going on in classes this week and the start of the build up to Christmas. Key Stage 2 Assembly focussed on advent as a time of waiting and getting ready for the birth of Jesus, all classes are learning some festive songs and Finches are preparing their nativity.

Please make every effort to read the school newsletter each week so that you don't miss important information and key dates and deadlines. Thank you.

Covid Update – Information about the situation in school and our plea as to how you can help us was sent out in a separate slip and then letter earlier in the week. Please be aware that we are constantly monitoring the situation and following advice and guidance from the Local authority, Public Health and the Department for Education. The situation is constantly evolving and whilst we have published our Christmas events some weeks ago, see below, we will have to make final decisions nearer the time depending on what is best and the most safe for our school.

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. Please could parents wear masks in the church. Thank you.

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. Please could parents wear masks in the church. Thank you.

School Christmas Lunch and Santa Presents on Wednesday 15th December. *** The deadline for booking the school Christmas Lunch for Key Stage 2 children who pay for lunches has passed (yesterday) so **if you did not make that deadline it's too late** I'm afraid as the numbers have now gone to the kitchen for ordering the food. Some children will be disappointed, so we suggest they have an extra special packed lunch that day. Everyone gets a cracker whatever lunch they are having. Key Stage 2 paid lunch families **please do not go ahead and book for lunch on Wednesday 15th** because we have already printed lists of names of who has booked for lunch. ***

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.

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. If your child is currently in our nursery, you still need to apply for their school place as explained above.

After School Club and Morning Club Bills – The invoices for November were sent home this week via bookbags and are also in Parent Pay. The deadline for paying these bills is Friday 10th December please.

Parents are welcome in our school

Raffle tickets - Many thanks to everyone who has brought in their stubs and money so far. Filling in stubs in advance is really helpful - just your child's name and year group, or a name and phone number, will do. If you can sell extra tickets to family friends or colleagues, just ask the ticket sellers, who will have spare books. We have so many wonderful prizes, with more being added all the time. We'd also like to manage a hamper prize, as these are always popular - if you could donate nice items like bottles, biscuits, Christmas chocolates etc, it would be very much appreciated. They can just be left with the ticket sellers at drop-off or pick-up.

Cake Sale - Don't forget the cake sale will be happening on Friday 10th December as well. Please bring in your festive bakes in the morning, or afternoon. If you can help to set up and sell that would be really great - just let April know (april.elizabeth.jones@gmail.com). Unfortunately, due to the covid situation we will not be selling mulled cider.

News from Classes

Robins and Ducklings – In Robins we have been rehearsing our songs for the 10th December a lot! We have also made and talked about maps to show how Father Christmas will get to our houses from the North Pole! We have listened to the stories of 'The Gingerbread Man' and the 'Enormous Turnip' to think about one more as each new character appears in the story. Thank you for the donations of biscuits this week. We were running low, any more would be gratefully received.

Finches – This week we have been learning about volcanoes! In English we have used the Chromebooks and books to research facts about volcanoes. In maths we have been learning mental strategies to add a one digit number to a two digit number and subtract a one digit number from a two digit number. Our nativity rehearsals are now in full swing and we have started to rehearse in the church. The children are working really hard and it is already sounding great! Please do keep practising your child's lines with them.

Owls – We have been counting and multiplying in 2, 5 and 10. We have learnt the story of the 'Apple Tree Man'. We have been discussing safety outside the home. We have been decorating bags and making felt owl decorations.

Doves – This week we have learnt all about the Roman gods. We enjoyed playing a complicated version of pairs to match up facts about each god and then created informative posters about our favourite ones. We have learnt how to sew cross stitch to make seasonal hanging decorations. In maths we have had a times table focus and we are all recalling our tables more quickly and accurately. **ROMAN DAY – THURSDAY 9th DECEMBER** – please come to school in your Roman themed costume. We will be having a Roman banquet (but children will still be having their usual lunch of school lunch or packed lunch). We will be making bread and using mosaics and grout to make place mats.

Woodpeckers – This week we have finished our Viking 'Tree of Life' paintings. We are making good progress with writing our Roman myths. In our maths lessons we've been concentrating on division, multiplication and problem solving. We have loved working on winter/Christmas scenes with a little animation using 'Scratch' during our computer lessons.

Kingfishers – We have begun a new poetry unit in English, which will introduce us to choral and performance poems. We discovered that some of their many features include a strong beat, consistent rhythm and emotional effect on the listener. In maths we looked at 3d shape and fractions. In science we made a prototype of the electrical circuit for our festive lights projects. We hope to be ready to present them to 'The Dragons' next week!

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 at once if you want to take part.**

Wishing you a happy 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.