



New Hinksey CE Primary School

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14th January 2022

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

It has been a good week of learning in school with classes getting very inspired by their 'amazing authors'. I hope you enjoy reading below what each class has been up to this week.

News from Classes

Robins and Ducklings – Robins have made some incredible collages using inspiration from the Eric Carle stories we have been reading. We have been learning our new sounds 'k' and 'ck'. In maths we have been comparing quantities to 5 and using the words more, fewer and the same to talk about how we compare them. We are very excited about our walk to the park next Friday afternoon and hope to make this a regular experience every week. If you are free and able to help between 1.15 and 2.30 on Fridays, please let Polly know, thank you. Ducklings have had fun with a set of Eric Carle's 'Brown Bear, Brown Bear' stories and have made ducks to go with the Duck story!

Finches – We have been looking at the features and layout of instructions and then we started writing our own instructions about how to be a flying doctor. We have recapped our number bonds to 10 and looked at addition and subtraction of 1-digit numbers. In geography we looked at the types of weather that we have in the UK and in science we discussed what mammals are and named common UK ones.

Owls – We have been reading, discussing and writing about three early Anthony Browne books: 'Gorilla', 'Changes' and 'Piggybook'. In science we are starting to learn about insects. In history we are learning about some famous Victorians. To help us understand what it was like about 150 years ago we explored lots of Victorian objects in our classroom.

Doves – We are thoroughly enjoying reading 'The Puffin Keeper'. We have used the text to explore clauses in sentences and expanded noun phrases. We have used watercolour paint to paint the fourteen parts of 'Carnival of the Animals'. To help us develop detail in our animal drawings we used magazine cuttings and looked at animal images by a wide variety of artists. In maths we have worked hard to use a range of strategies to subtract.

Woodpeckers – We have started our 'rivers' topic with a look at the River Severn. Did you know it is the longest river in the U.K.? We have learnt some of the features of a river such as 'source', 'tributary', 'confluence' and 'mouth'. In art we have looked at the Impressionist artist Monet and are having a go at copying his style.

Kingfishers – We have launched our Harry Potter inspired learning in English and have already explored the word class and definitions of some of the invented words in the books such as 'muggles' and 'Hogwarts'. In maths Year 5s focussed on using 'frog' to subtract and work our change. Year 6s have been solving mixed operation calculations using the rules of 'BIDMAS' (ask your child to explain the acronym). We enjoyed abstracting from broomstick view (aerial) photographs and drew the fascinating textures, shapes and patterns in black pen. In science we investigated the effects of shadow and colour by shining light on a variety of materials.

Parents of Reception and Year 6 Children – Your child will have brought home a letter with details of the heights and weights measuring which will take place in school on 28th January.

Covid Update – I am sure you are all, like us, trying to follow and keep up with the everchanging rules and guidance! If it is helpful here is a summary of what we think that the latest change is:

From Monday people in England will be allowed to leave self-isolation after five full days as long as they provide two negative lateral flow tests. The first LFT should be taken on day 5 and if that is negative they should take another LFT 24 hours later on day 6. They will be permitted to leave isolation immediately after the second test if that is also negative. If LFTs are still positive the person must continue to isolate.

After School Club and Morning Club Bills – The deadline for paying the December bills is today Friday 14th. Please remember that we charge for places at both clubs even if your child does not attend unless we are given more than one week's notice, or if your child is absent from school that day.

School Lunches – Please note that we will be having the **fish and chip meal on Thursday 20th January rather than Friday 21st January** as Thursday is school census day and some of our future funding is dependent on the take up of school lunches on that day. So for pre booking in ParentPay:-

On Thursday 20th for Fish Fingers and Chips please tick Chicken Pasta

On Thursday 20th for Veggie Sausage Roll please tick Veggie Pasta

On Friday 21st for Chicken Pasta please tick Fish Fingers

On Friday 21st for Veggie Pasta please tick Veggie Sausage Roll

URGENT– You only have until tomorrow 15th January to apply for Reception places for September 2022 for younger siblings born between 1st September 2017 and 31st August 2018 (inclusive).

Apply at <https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/schools/apply-school-place/reception-applications> .

Assemblies – This week we have started to explore the value of 'Compassion'. Why not ask your child what that means and if they need a prompt remind them about Mrs Haynes' collection of shoes and boots and the expression 'putting yourself in someone else's shoes'!

Donations – We are always grateful to receive packets of A4 photocopying paper and boxes of tissues.

Best wishes for a very happy weekend from Charlotte Haynes and The New Hinksey Team.

Key Dates

School is closed to all children on Wednesday 2nd February 2022 for Staff Training (INSET)

The first half of term ends on Friday 18th February 2022 at the usual end of day times

Half Term Holiday is Monday 21st February – Friday 25th February 2022

The second half of term starts on Monday 28th February 2022

The term ends on Friday 8th April 2022 at 1.15pm after lunch.

Easter Holiday is Monday 11th April – Friday 22nd April 2022

Basketball for 5-6 year olds!

Someone is setting up a new weekly session on Sunday mornings at St Ebbe's School Hall.

9.45am-10.45am. The club is £7 a session, mixed gender, small group training (up to 8 kids with a couple of spaces left) for Year 1 and Year 2 age children. The coach is Graham Nichols, Level 2 BE Coach (current Brookes' head coach and former Ox Uni women's head coach) and also a teacher at Meadowbrook College. Please message Hannah on 07977 037859 if interested!