



# New Hinksey CE Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs Charlotte Haynes

7<sup>th</sup> January 2022

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

Welcome back to the Spring Term 2022 and a very happy new year to you all. This term our School Topic is Amazing Authors with each class focussing on different texts and authors. You will find a Topic Web for your child's class on the back of this newsletter. Topic webs will also be on the school website in the curriculum section.

## News from Classes

**Robins and Ducklings** – We have started our new topic by looking at the books of Eric Carle. We have used the story of 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' lots this week to inspire creativity and storytelling.

**Finches** – We have enjoyed learning 'Zog' by Julia Donaldson, looking at 2-digit numbers, identifying and naming pet animals and exploring the colour wheel in art.

**Owls** – As well as starting to learn about Anthony Browne, we have been busy thinking about marking the new year, the feast of Epiphany, putting events on timelines and learning more about the safe use of the internet.

**Doves** – We have quickly become immersed in our first Michael Morpurgo novel, 'The Puffin Keeper'. We enjoyed the start of our music, art and dance project 'The Carnival of the Animals' by listening, describing and acting out.

**Woodpeckers** – We have enjoyed developing our geographical skills this week. We have made lovely maps of South America as the story we are reading is set in Brazil.

**Kingfishers** – We have been working hard this week to research some 'Amazing Authors', to explore number and investigate shadows in science.

**Covid Update** – A separate letter was sent out on Tuesday explaining the current testing and isolation guidelines relevant to primary schools. If you have not yet seen it, it is also posted on the school website. The change since writing it is that **confirmatory PCR's are no longer needed if you test positive on an LFD test without symptoms, but you still need to start isolating from the day of the positive LFT test.** Please be aware that, although we very much hope that the school staff remain healthy and covid free, we cannot predict what may happen and if we will need to change arrangements at short notice if we suddenly have a lot of staff absence.

**After School Club and Morning Club Bills** – The invoices for December were sent home via book bags this week and are also in ParentPay. Please ensure they are paid by the deadline of Friday 14<sup>th</sup> January. Thank you.

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 20<sup>th</sup> January rather than Friday 21<sup>st</sup> January as Thursday is school census day. Please also be aware that there may have to be menu changes due to potential catering staff shortages and food delivery issues.

**Parents of Reception and Year 6 Children** – Your child will be bringing home a letter with details of the heights and weights measuring which will take place in school on the 28<sup>th</sup> January

**URGENT**– You only have until 15<sup>th</sup> January to apply for Reception places for September 2022 for younger siblings. Parents/Carers of children born between 1<sup>st</sup> September 2017 and 31<sup>st</sup> August 2018 (inclusive) need to apply at:  
<https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/schools/apply-school-place/reception-applications> .

Best wishes from Charlotte Haynes and The New Hinksey Team.

School is closed to all children on **Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2022 for Staff Training (INSET)**  
The first half of term ends on **Friday 18<sup>th</sup> February 2022** at the usual end of day times  
**Half Term Holiday is Monday 21<sup>st</sup> February – Friday 25<sup>th</sup> February 2022**