



# New Hinksey CE Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs Charlotte Haynes

11<sup>th</sup> March 2022

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

Please take the time to read this newsletter carefully. The newsletter is also posted on the school website so if you want to use any of the links to websites or online information, please do go to the school website.

## News from Classes

**Robins and Ducklings** – It has been very quiet in Robins this week with so many children away. We are really looking forward to welcoming everyone back soon. We have used Lucy Cousins's book 'A Busy Day for Birds' to create some colourful bird pictures. We have also been bird spotting in the garden. In maths we have been making towers and then taking this interest in height into our play and finding different ways to see how tall things are. Ducklings have used the 'Three Little Pigs' story to retell and create their own pigs and houses.

**Finches** – In English we have been writing our own lost things story based on 'No-bot the Robot with No Bottom'. In maths we have looked at number bonds to 20 and doubles. We have designed and made our own fantastic robots with moveable arms and legs.

**Owls** – We are very proud of the tiny group of Owls that we've had in school this week because they have coped brilliantly with a very different week – supply teachers and a day with Miss Martins. They have continued to explore some Anthony Browne books and have enjoyed their PE sessions with a sports coach.

**Doves** – The children have been missing Mrs Tucker this week but have coped well with all the changes in teachers. They have learnt about rhyming couplets which Roald Dahl, their amazing author, uses to good effect in some of his shorter books. They have listened to 'The Enormous Crocodile' story, have written alternative endings and designed and created 'wanted' posters for the crocodile. In maths the children have been working on telling the time and column addition. They were thrilled to have Mrs Tucker back this morning!

**Woodpeckers** – We have familiarised ourselves with the Beatles' song 'Blackbird', then enjoyed listening to some classic Beatles' songs during our art lesson. In RE, we are examining the idea of sacrifice by looking at bible stories, and we have started finding out about human rights in our PSHCE lesson. Our homework this week gives us practice using commas which we need to use in our own independent writing. In English we have started drafting the story of Macbeth in our own words, after watching an animated version of the play. Any unwanted shoe boxes would be very much appreciated for our upcoming design project (a diorama of a Macbeth scene).

**Kingfishers** – Enjoying further extracts and video clips from the Harry Potter series, we have focussed on writing persuasive texts, including relevant adverbials and sentence structures. Year 5s have focussed on calculating perimeter and area of different shapes, while Year 6s have learned formulae to calculate areas of triangles and parallelograms as well as volume of cuboids. We tasted, and reviewed qualities of, various types of bread in DT and have used our results to create bar charts and pie charts in Google Slides in order to present a report on bread for our Harry Potter party plan! Thank you to Will for his delicious homemade focaccia.

**VERY IMPORTANT** – Please note that **Morning Club and After School Club** will remain closed on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> March but will be running as usual from Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> March.

**After School Club and Morning Club Bills** – The deadline for paying the February bills is today, Friday 11<sup>th</sup> March.

**Reminder** – Children should not wear any jewellery to school other than a wristwatch if they want to and small stud earrings if they have pierced ears. The following should **not be worn in school: rings, bracelets, necklaces**. Thank you.

**Thank You** to a group of governors and their families who have done a great job sweeping up in the school yards!

**Covid Update** – It has been a very difficult week in school, but we have managed to stay open despite challenging circumstances and high rates of staff absence. As I am writing this newsletter, we have 25 children currently covid positive and 7 members of staff. We have positive cases throughout the school, and it seems like siblings and classroom friends are ‘catching’ covid from each other, so we are in a cycle of waves of infection. Some children are turning out to be positive with no symptoms, others are just not themselves and some are quite poorly with fevers and winter cold like symptoms. Whatever the circumstances of their positive tests the following guidance should be followed:

- **Children and young people with COVID-19 should not attend their education setting while they are infectious.**
- They should **take an LFD test on day 5 after their positive test, followed by another one the next day (day 6).**
- **If both these tests’ results are negative, they can return to school as long as they feel well enough to do so and do not have a temperature.**
- **If their day 5 LFD test result is positive, they should continue taking daily LFD tests until they receive 2 consecutive negative test results 24 hours apart.**
- **This means that the earliest children can return is 6 days after their positive LFT and only if they have had a negative test on both day 5 and day 6.**

#### **Information for parents and carers on COVID-19 vaccination for 5 to 11 year olds from DfE**

Children aged 5 to 11 years who are in a clinical risk group or who live with someone who is immunosuppressed can get the COVID-19 vaccine, in line with advice set out by the [Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation \(JCVI\)](#). Eligible children include those with diabetes, immunosuppression, learning disabilities, and other conditions as outlined by the [UK Health Security Agency \(UKHSA\) in the Green Book](#). Vaccinations help to increase protection against COVID-19, which is particularly important for those with underlying health conditions. Further information is available in the [guide for parents of children aged 5 to 11 years](#) published by UKHSA. We have published some [frequently asked questions](#) on the vaccination programme including information on eligibility, accessibility and advice for parents of children at high risk from COVID-19. Following [advice](#) from the JCVI, **healthy 5 to 11 year old children will also be offered two 10 microgram doses of the COVID-19 vaccine. The NHS will prepare to extend this non-urgent offer to all children during April.**

#### **Future Events and Activities**

Friday 11th March **Owls and Finches to Hogacre (this has been postponed to a future date due to covid)**

**Friday 18<sup>th</sup> March – The photographer will be in school to take class group photos**

Friday 25<sup>th</sup> March **Kingfishers to Hogacre**

Friday 25<sup>th</sup> March **Robins to The Story Museum**

Monday 28<sup>th</sup> March, Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> March & Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> April 4.15 – 7.15pm Face to Face Parents Evenings (teachers will start approaching you and making contact from next week with sign up sheets and available slots)

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> April **Doves to Hogacre**

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> April **Easter Raffle** (we’ll be asking for donations nearer the time)

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> May **Whole School and Families Picnic at SOAP Platinum Jubilee Celebration Event** (save the date!)

Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> June Reception – Year 6 **School Trip to Cotswold Wildlife Park**

Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> June (provisional) date for our **Summer Fete**

**Bike and Scooter Safety** – Please could parents of young children supervise them and keep them close by to you when coming to and from school. Also, parents of older children who ride to school by themselves, must talk to them about using the roads responsibly, looking before they pull out of side roads and not scooting up and down the middle of the road when waiting for school to open. Although our road is quiet, the local residents, dustbin lorries, delivery drivers etc do have a right to use the road – it is a public highway. We want everyone to be happy and safe. Thank you.

**Wishing you all a happy weekend from Charlotte Haynes and The New Hinksey Team.**

#### **Key Dates**

**The term ends on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> April 2022 at 1.15pm after lunch.**

**Easter Holiday is Monday 11<sup>th</sup> April – Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2022**