



New Hinksey CE Primary School

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1st April 2022

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

It has been good to welcome many parents back into school for face to face Parents' Evenings on Monday and Wednesday this week. Thank you for coming in to hear about your children's progress, successes and next steps. Some of you have appointments next week on Tuesday so we look forward to seeing you then. Thank you to the staff for working extremely long days on these evenings to fit everyone in.

News from Classes

Robins and Ducklings – Robins had a wonderful trip to the Story Museum last Friday and were complimented by the staff there for what great listeners they are! This week we have been learning three new tricky sounds 'qu', 'ee' and 'th'. We have been labelling our body and thinking about how to look after ourselves with a focus on screen time! All the FS children have enjoyed watching the tadpoles this week. Ducklings have been doing lots of singing and using the story of 'Each, Peach, Pear, Plum' in their learning.

Finches – This week we have enjoyed reading and learning about the story 'Simon Sock'. We have written about our friends – what makes a good friend and what our differences are. In maths we have been looking at the place value of numbers to 100 and found 1 more and 1 less. In DT we have been making sock puppets.

Owls – We have been reading the remaining Anthony Browne books which all deal with expressing or managing emotions: 'How do you feel?', 'What if?' and 'Silly Billy'. In maths we have been practising adding up money and starting to record this using standard notation e.g. £5.29. In science we were looking at our food diaries and spotting where we had eaten carbohydrates, proteins and whether we had eaten 5 portions of fruit and vegetables each day. In art we have drawn pictures of things which scare us (connected to the 'What if?' book) and we had a lovely afternoon making worry dolls, inspired by 'Silly Billy'.

Doves – We have been learning about the features of a newspaper report and have planned, written and edited our own. In science we have been learning about how plants transport water. We have used white chrysanthemums, celery and coloured dyes to observe this. We have listened to the Easter story and created our own rotating wheels to write the story in our own words. We had an exciting trip to Hogacre where we identified trees and leaves. We then created our own Andy Goldsworthy inspired natural art. As an end of term treat and to complete our Roald Dahl topic, we will be watching parts of 'The BFG' next week which is a PG rating.

Woodpeckers – We have been familiarising ourselves with one of Shakespeare's comedies, 'Much Ado About Nothing'. We have listened to various versions, including some rap! We know that Beatrice and Benedick fall in love and that it is a play about trickery and hidden identity. We have even made our own Shakespearean insults as the play has lots of bickering in it! In RE we have looked at Jesus' Road to Calvary to illustrate the sacrifice he made for mankind. In maths Year 4 have done really well using their times table knowledge to divide 3-digit numbers, while Year 5 have been investigating patterns in subtraction sums. Everyone has been enjoying making a shoebox Macbeth scene (diorama). The results so far are brilliant.

Kingfishers – We have worked hard to improve our knowledge of grammar and punctuation by responding to recent tests in Year 6. Year 5s and others have been very imaginative in writing Harry Potter inspired potion recipes, diary entries, letters and more! We have all focussed on improving methods for all four calculation operations in maths, and in science we learned how to create a cladogram (used to identify common features in different organisms). We have also been busy preparing for a Harry Potter party which will take place on Thursday 7th April – please encourage your child to dress up. We intend to make it healthy by making fruit – sticks!

End of Term – This term ends next week on **Friday 8th April at 1.15pm**, after lunch. **Please pick children up promptly.** As we finish at lunchtime there is **no After School Club on that day.**

Covid Update – The new guidance for managing COVID-19 in education settings from Friday 1st April states:

- **children and young people who are unwell and have a high temperature should stay at home and avoid contact with other people. They can go back to school, college or childcare when they no longer have a high temperature, and they are well enough to attend**
- adults with the symptoms of a respiratory infection, and who have a high temperature or feel unwell, should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people until they feel well enough to resume normal activities and they no longer have a high temperature
- adults with a positive COVID-19 test result should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for 5 days, which is when they are most infectious. **For children and young people aged 18 and under with a positive COVID-19 test result, the advice is to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for 3 days**

Vaccinations for 5 to 11 year olds - Healthy 5 to 11 year olds will be offered the COVID-19 vaccine from the beginning of April. **Vaccinations will not take place in school**, but will be in vaccination centres, pharmacies, GP surgeries and walk-in centres. Parents of 5 to 11 year olds will receive a letter from the NHS with further information on the vaccine.

Future Dates Events and Activities

Tuesday 5th April 4.15 – 7.15pm Final evening of face to face Parents Evenings

Friday 8th April **Easter Raffle** and end of term at 1.15pm (No AS Club)

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

Monday 25th April – Summer Term starts

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

Thursday 16th June Reception – Year 6 **School Trip to Cotswold Wildlife Park**

Saturday 25th June **Summer Fete**

Summer Fete Planning Meeting, 7.30pm, 28th April, Duke of Monmouth.

The summer fete is the biggest event in the School Association's calendar. It takes a lot of planning, and a lot of people working together - and it can be a great day, raising much-needed cash for the school, bringing the community together, and giving the children a fun and memorable experience. If you could help (large jobs or small - it's all appreciated!) please come to this planning meeting to find out more about what goes into running a fete. If any veteran parents are able to come and help us remember how it all works, that would be very welcome! The current NHA chair (April Jones) and treasurer (Gemma Jackson) will be stepping down at the end of this school year, so this is a great chance for the next generation of parents to find out a bit more about how the School Association works.

Assemblies/Collective Worship – We have explored Ramadan, the Islamic month of fasting, which starts this weekend for our Muslim families.

Easter Raffle to Raise Money for School – Please help to make our Easter Raffle a success by sending in prizes - **Easter eggs and any easter chocolates are always a favourite, as well as other easter confectionery, spring and easter arts and crafts etc.** Ticket sellers are also needed next week to sell tickets at the gates at drop off and pick up times. They'll just be simple cloakroom-style tickets - all you'll need to do is make sure the name of the child/family is scribbled on the back of each ticket that goes in the draw bucket. If you can help, please contact april.elizabeth.jones@gmail.com.

Have a lovely weekend from Charlotte Haynes and The New Hinksey Team.

Saturday 2nd April 11am – 12noon - Oxford Brookes Science Bazaar Saturdays presents Egg-ceptional Science! Join us in performing egg-citing experiments with eggs and learning about oviparous and viviparous animals. Also find out what happens inside of a butterfly egg with Oxford Brookes researcher Dr Casper Breuker and UKCEH scientist Dr Melanie Gibbs. This virtual event is FREE and open to all. Fun for all the family and most suitable for 5 – 12 years. Register at: <https://brookes.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcvdOmqrTooG9GzoEauo9C4QtErsaXY8j4Y>