



# New Hinksey CE Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs Charlotte Haynes

15<sup>th</sup> July 2022

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

What another amazing week we have had. Highlights have been a Story Museum trip for Finches, a bumper potato harvest and potato cooking for Owls, a fabulous sharing assembly and Narnia play by Doves and an outstanding 'Keymaster' performance by Kingfishers and Woodpeckers. I have never been so proud of the actors and singers, and it was joyous to see them so full of confidence on the stage. Thank you, parents and grandparents, for so much lovely feedback and thanks by word of mouth and email. Mrs Nash stayed behind the scenes during the performance but deserves a public thanks for the huge amount of effort and skill she put in to produce one of our best school plays ever!

### Very Important Extreme Heat Guidance – please read and act on requests

We need your support to help us keep the children from being affected by heatstroke and sunstroke next week.

- All children please wear **loose, lightweight and pale coloured clothes**, ideally cotton
- Every child must have had **sun cream** applied before school
- Please make sure your child has a sun hat/cap in school
- If possible every child to have **2 water bottles** and **ideally one of them with frozen water** in which will melt and stay cool for later in the day
- Please talk to your children to help them understand that if we do use outside shady areas for breaktimes, **we will not be having running around or ball games**. We will all be trying to stay calm, still and cool.

**\*\*\* As I am writing this letter the heat warning level has been raised to RED. Yesterday's guidance for schools to remain open has not changed so far, so we will assume that we will be open on Monday BUT ASK EVERY FAMILY TO KEEP CHECKING THE SCHOOL WEBSITE ON SUNDAY where we will post ONLY IF SCHOOL IS CLOSED\*\*\***

**After School Club – the last after school club session for this term will be on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> July AND THERE WILL BE NO AFTER SCHOOL CLUB ON WEDNESDAY 20<sup>th</sup> JULY.**

**Health and Hygiene Update** - Please be aware that there have been some cases of threadworms in school.

**After School Club in September** – Please contact Tracey ([office.3213@new-hinksey.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:office.3213@new-hinksey.oxon.sch.uk)) to say what requirements you have for September and to confirm whether your current days of use will stay the same.

**After School Club and Morning Club Bills** – The deadline for paying these bills is today 15<sup>th</sup> July. Thank you.

### Future Dates, Events and Activities

Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> July	<b>Day of Dance Workshops</b> for each class – parents come and watch us dance in the playground at 2.45pm *** It is very likely that this dance demonstration to parents will not take place because of the extreme heat*** We will not know until we see the weather that day as it is possible the heat might have 'broken' by then.
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> July	<b>4pm Year 6 Leavers Assembly and Treat</b> - Year 6s please return to school (wearing smart clothes) with your guests at 3.55pm ready for your speeches and presentation at 4pm in the hall. After that we will be outside for a treat!
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> July at 1pm	<b>Term Ends – please collect children promptly at 1pm</b>

**School Lunches Price Increase** – From September the price of a school meal will rise to £2.50 per day.

**Current Year 2 Pupils and ParentPay for Lunch Booking and Payment** – From September, when your children are Year 3 pupils, they will no longer be entitled to Universal Infant Free School Meals. This means that parents MUST CHECK THAT YOU HAVE YOUR LOGIN DETAILS AND CAN GET ONTO THE PARENTPAY SYSTEM BEFORE THE END OF TERM.

**School Attendance Next Year** – Please could we draw everyone’s attention to the term dates for next year 2022-2023 which are on the school website under Information – Information for Parents – Term Dates 2022-2023. Please do not book holidays in term time – they will not be authorised. Please give your children the best opportunity to progress in their learning by ensuring they attend school every day that they are well, and do not miss the start and ends of term. Since April this year there has been a huge increase in Oxfordshire of families being fined for taking children out of school for holidays in term time or for having poor attendance and being classed as persistent absentees, and we at New Hinksey really do not want to go down that route as it will be unpleasant and make the relationship between home and school uncomfortable for everyone.

**The September Term starts on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> September and all children should return to school that day. Thank you.**

**Strings Lessons (year 2s and above)** - Please go to [www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/musicinterest](http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/musicinterest) for information on instrumental lessons with the County Music Service. Jill Lloyd is hoping to start a new group of violins, violas, or cellos.

### **News from Classes**

**Robins and Ducklings** – Robins and Ducklings have had a lovely week sharing favourite stories and playing games together. We have stayed as cool as possible doing puzzles, building lots of great construction models and having lots of water play. All the children are really looking forward to our class party next Wednesday – a well deserved celebration of their hard work this year.

**Finches** – We have written letters to our new teacher Miss Cooper and in maths we have looked at number bonds to 20. We had the best time at the Story Museum! We loved *The Enchanted Wood* and the *Kaboom* exhibition. We have made our healthy ice lollies and look forward to eating them once frozen.

**Owls** – We have been finishing our maths learning and our embroidered book-marks. We dug up six baskets of ‘Nicola’ potatoes at the allotment and enjoyed eating them hot and cold at school and sharing them with our families. We have been discussing families, what we want to be when we grow up and changing classes in our ‘Growing Up’ course. We continue to do lots of quiet reading and sharing great books together in guided reading. We loved watching the dress rehearsal of ‘The Keymaster’ and discussed some of the historical events afterwards.

**Doves** – We have worked hard on our maths assessments this week and enjoyed playing some maths games as a reward. We enjoyed looking at local maps and used grid references to find things. In English we have learnt to use the present perfect form of verbs and become quicker at using dictionaries. Well done to all the Doves for their assembly to parents which showed how hard they have worked this term.

**Woodpeckers** – This week, despite the heat, we have finished our learning about the life cycle of flowering plants including watching our own bean seedlings grow. Adults are especially proud of the class’s contribution to the play and the children thoroughly enjoyed it. In English we are putting together our presentation of the destinations we have chosen for our ‘World Bike Tour’. We have been making art that shows motion, basing it on a piece of music by John Adams – *Short Journey in a Fast Car*. We have also been making beautiful rangoli patterns using our knowledge of symmetry.

**Kingfishers** – What a week! We certainly felt very proud of our achievements in the wonderful performance of ‘The Keymaster’ – well done to all. We have also been learning more about puberty with the Year 5s and sex and relationships education with the Year 6s. Everyone listened respectfully and hopefully feels better informed about this important aspect of learning. Some children have taken part in cycle training this week and a few more continue with that on Monday. The rest of us have enjoyed more ‘green screen’ filming.

Year 6s – On Wednesday, as an extra treat, we plan to make pizzas in school and then take them to the park to have a picnic lunch. Year 6s please don’t book school lunch that day but do please bring any healthy snacks of fruit and veg etc to accompany your pizza!

**Best wishes from Charlotte Haynes and the New Hinksey Team**