



New Hinksey CE Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs Charlotte Haynes

11th November 2022

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

It's been another busy and interesting week in school with lots going on in each class which you can read about below. All the Year 5 children enjoyed a Lego STEM workshop on Wednesday afternoon (STEM stands for Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths), when they built wind turbines.

News from Classes

Robins and Ducklings – Robins have been exploring and discussing skeletons this week – we had fun drawing around our friends and then drawing in their bones, reading lots of 'Funnybones' stories and making skeleton pictures. We have been talking about positional language in maths (under, above, next to etc) and made our own obstacle course in PE. All the children are working so well in phonics to learn their sounds. We spent Thursday afternoon making poppies to commemorate Remembrance Day, after discussing this as a class. Ducklings have enjoyed their 'Shark in the Park' story and playing lots of farm animal games.

Finches – In English we have read, discussed, retold and explored emotions in 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears' using adjectives and writing in full sentences. Our weather watching learning has progressed to observing the temperature by learning to read a thermometer and in geography we have been making sure that we can recite our home address and know our full name which all plays a part in helping us to keep safe. Part of our science work has been learning the names of different parts of our bodies through playing games. We have used lots of practical resources in maths to help us practise teen numbers, place value and number bonds to 20 and 30. We have started to rehearse for our Christmas nativity performance and have been enthusiastically learning our new songs.

Owls – This week we began our history topic on the Great Fire of London. We have been fascinated by what London was like in the 17th century. We have been using drama in English and the acting has helped us draw out further what characters might be thinking and feeling. In maths we have consolidated adding and subtracting tens, using this as a strategy to add and subtract 11 and 12 from any given 2-digit number. We hope you enjoyed hearing about our learning in our sharing assembly this afternoon.

Doves – We have been learning about the Amesbury Archer this week. We have mapped, planned and written our own narratives of what we think his story was. We have enjoyed learning to play duets on the glockenspiels and painting our Beaker style pots. We will be going on a class trip to the ice rink on November 30th (separate letter sent). Please return your slips to Mrs Tucker asap. Thanks.

Woodpeckers – We have started to explore the book 'How to Train your Dragon' in English. In science we were learning about thermal insulators and conductors. In history we were finding out about what and where the Vikings traded. We have been working on how to communicate positively and politely linked to our RHCE learning and in RE we have started to think about the big question 'Does God communicate with humans?'. Our maths has covered too many areas to mention!!

Kingfishers – It has been a full and busy week! We have all worked very hard to plan and write our own biographies about a trailblazing scientist of our choice. Division has been the key focus in maths and we have all realised the importance of knowing our times tables in order to carry out written methods. In art, we have made some amazing designs for our Ancient Greek garments and accessories and look forward to making them over the next few weeks. Please remember to bring a small length of material such as an old sheet.

Parents Evening – Tuesday 22nd November and Monday 28th November, 4pm – 7pm, have been set aside for ten minute parent teacher meetings. Class teachers will be making contact at the school gates next week to get you signed up for a slot.

Student Update Forms – Some children will have brought home another form. Please check, sign and return asap. We desperately need up to date contact information.

Future Dates, Events and Activities

Date	Event	Notes
Wed 16 th November	Kingfishers Ashmolean Ancient Greek workshop	
Tues 22 nd November	Parents Evening – appointments between 4pm and 7pm	
Wed 23 rd November	Year 6s to Junior Citizen Event	
Fri 25 th November	Woodpecker Class Sharing Assembly at 2.30pm in hall	Parents welcome
Mon 28 th November	Parents Evening – appointments between 4pm and 7pm	
5 th – 9 th December	Woodlands Residential Week (Yr 5 and Yr 6 participants)	
Tues 13 th December	Yr 1 and Yr 2 Christmas Performance in hall at 2pm	Parents welcome
Fri 16 th December	Foundation Stage Christmas Singing to Parents in hall at 2.30pm	
Tues 20 th December	Christmas Lunch and a jolly seasonal visitor – ho ho ho END OF TERM at 1.30pm (please pick up children promptly)	No After School Club
Wed 4 th January 2023	Spring Term Starts at 8.40pm	

Morning and After School Club – Bills for October have been sent out and are also in ParentPay. **Please pay over the weekend** (if you have not already done so) **as payment due by today, 11th November.**

Donations – We would very much like donations of **glue sticks** for each class (Pritt stick style). We get through them so quickly and it would be greatly appreciated if families could donate a few. Thank you.

Road Safety – Next week is **National Road Safety Week** and we urge all families to take a little time to revisit and reinforce how to stay safe walking on pavements, crossing roads, cycling and scooting etc. with your children. This is especially important for families living locally as there is a tendency for children to be overrelaxed in the roads around school because they are quiet, and many are dead ends etc so have little traffic on them.

On the subject of Road Safety **please impress on your children that, if you send them to school without an adult, they should wait on the pavements and stay still in one place whilst waiting for the gates to open. It is not acceptable for their own safety or for the sake of neighbours in local houses, or other legitimate road users, for groups of children to be racing up and down the road on scooters, holding running races or running off around the block, shouting and screaming.** Thank you.

Starting School in Reception in September 2023 - Foundation Stage Applications – If your child was born between 1st September 2018 and 31st August 2019, they can start full time Reception in September 2023 and you can apply now via www.oxfordshire.gov.uk then go to ‘schools’ and ‘starting school’. Please encourage neighbours, friends and family to contact us for a show around the school. If you child is currently in our nursery (Duckling) group, you also need to make an application for their school place as explained above.

Armistice Day - On Friday morning, at 11am we observed a respectful two-minute silence in remembrance of all those who have lost their life as a result of war.

Best wishes for the weekend,

Charlotte Haynes and the New Hinksey Team