



New Hinksey CE Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs Charlotte Haynes

3rd March 2023

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

World Book Day – What a lovely day we had. The children were so enthusiastic and there was a colourful display of costumes from all sorts of genres of books. Thank you for supporting your children in this. Every child will have brought home a World Book Day £1.00 token which we hope they can spend to get one of the specially written £1 books, or to put towards the cost of another book that they want. Children discussed their favourite books, imagined being able to step into the world of a book, designed bookmarks and made book jackets.

News from Classes

Robins and Ducklings – We started our new author this week – David McKee – and so we have been reading lots of Elmer stories and discussing elephants. We have talked to the children about their favourite authors and books to celebrate World Book Day and, along with designing a very colourful bookmark, we have painted elephants too. In maths we have been comparing height and length and thinking about the language we use to compare. We have also done some wonderful writing about elephants this week. Ducklings have used Todd Parr's story 'My Family' to talk about who is in our family and our homes. We are doing lots of number rhymes too.

Finches – In English our focus sound of the week was 'ow' (brown cow). We also played games to revise our red words. In maths, we practised counting in 2s, 10s and 5s and worked on identifying and continuing patterns on the 100 square. We celebrated St David's day on Wednesday by learning facts about Wales and making daffodils and Welsh flags. We have been writing sentences about our favourite book characters and describing our dressing up clothes. What an amazing effort putting costumes together! Thank you.

Owls – We have been learning about fractions in maths and identifying halves, thirds and quarters of shapes and amounts. In English we have learnt more about endangered animals, especially gorillas, by exploring non-fiction texts. We really enjoyed practising throwing to hit targets in P.E. and have loved celebrating our favourite books and characters during World Book Day.

Doves – We have enjoyed starting a geography focus on maps. We have learnt and matched up OS symbols and used grid references. We had fun finding our homes on Google Maps. In French we are continuing our 'shopping' theme and have drawn and practised how to say different vegetables in French and have learnt singular and plural versions.

Woodpeckers – This week in Woodpeckers we've been writing persuasive speeches, learning about biomes in geography, and about the digestive system in science. You could see if your children remember the order that food passes through the body. During morning and lunch registrations we've been listening to lots of music by Bach and others, which has been lovely and is something we're going to continue.

Kingfishers – We have written formal and informal recounts of exciting events from one of the chapters of our 'Percy Jackson' book. We have all worked very hard to include particular features of these texts. In maths we have multiplied and divided fractions, learning simple 'tricks' that make this easier! As part of our fairtrade fortnight, we have been focusing on the cocoa trade, exploring the journey from the very beginning (growing pod), to buying a bar of chocolate and biting off a chunk!

Emailing About a Child's Absence – If you are emailing to let school know that your child is absent from school and the reason why, please email the school office email: office.3213@new-hinksey.oxon.sch.uk . Thank you.

Morning Club and After School Club Bills – The invoices for February have been sent home this week via book bags and are also in ParentPay. Please ensure that these are paid by the deadline of Friday 10th March – thankyou.

Vision Tests (Reception) and Heights and Weights Checks (Reception and Year 6) – Children in Reception and Year 6 will have brought home letters about these. See below for the dates.

Future Dates, Events and Activities

Date	Event	Notes
Thursday 9 th March	Vision Tests for Reception Children	
Friday 10 th March	Heights and Weights checks for Reception and Year 6	
Friday 10 th March	Dove Class to Hogacre (weather permitting)	
13 th – 17 th March	Science Week	
Friday 17 th March	Class Group Photographs	
Friday 17 th March	Kingfisher Class to Hogacre (weather permitting)	
Friday 17 th March	Owl Class afternoon visit to Story Museum	
Wednesday 22 nd March	Parents’ Evening between 4pm and 7pm	Each teacher will start to make appointments from next week.
Tuesday 28 th March	Parents’ Evening between 4pm and 7pm	
Friday 24 th March	Dove Class sharing Assembly in hall at 9am	** Please note this has changed from Friday 17 th March**
Friday 31 st March	End of term at the usual time (FS and KS1 3pm; KS2 3.05pm)	No A.S. Club today
Mon 3 rd – Fri 14 th April	School closed for Easter holiday	
Monday 17 th April	Term Starts at 8.40am	

Donations – Things that we would very much like donations of are **red biros, boxes of tissues** and any **little items suitable for rewards** (stationery items such as special pens or pencils, rubbers, notepads; small gadgets, games, toys etc). Thank you.

Calling All Parent and Grandparent Scientists – **British Science Week** takes place in school **13th – 17th March**. Class teachers are organising a selection of ‘sciencey’ activities. It is especially inspirational for children to hear and listen to real life scientists. If you have a science background and feel that you could offer a short talk, demonstration, presentation, on any science topic, to your child’s class then class teachers would love to hear from you. It may be about humans and animals, technology, physical processes, geology, environment, chemicals, engineering, materials, medicine etc etc. Please email the class teachers:

Foundation Stage	Polly Hodgson	phodgson@new-hinskey.oxon.sch.uk
Finch	Miss Keely Laufer	klaufer@new-hinksey.oxon.sch.uk
Owl	Miss Fiona Cooper	fcooper@new-hinksey.oxon.sch.uk
Dove	Mrs Rachael Tucker	rtuc1220@new-hinksey.oxon.sch.uk
Woodpecker	Mr Joe Wilson	jwilson@new-hinksey.oxon.sch.uk
Kingfisher	Mrs Helen Nash	hnas4139@new-hinksey.oxon.sch.uk

Nut Allergies – We are a **NUT FREE SCHOOL**. Please don’t send in any nut products at all, even if you think that the nut element is minimal. Some children are very sensitive and cannot be exposed to any ‘nuts’ at all. Thank you.

Super Science Saturday - This annual family science fair is taking place at the Oxford University Museum of Natural History. It is on **Saturday 11th March, 12-4pm** and is drop-in. The event is free and is a great opportunity to meet scientists and learn more about nature and how all things on the planet are connected/dependent on each other to survive. There will be lots of games, activities and specimens to see and touch. It is recommended for children aged 8+.

McDonalds FREE Fun Football Sessions (for ages 5-11) start on Saturday 22nd April - 17th June and are at Oxford City FC, Marsh Lane, Marston, OX3 0NQ from 9am - 10am. You can choose what dates you book - you don’t have to attend all of them. mcdonalds.com/gb/en-gb/football/fun-football-centres.html

Best wishes for a happy weekend.

Charlotte Haynes and the New Hinksey Team