

New Hinksey CE Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs Tamsin Smyth

Friday 15th September 2023

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

I was written a letter this week by one of our children with an idea to make the school even more exciting. So I brought the idea to the staff and we all agree – we need a school mascot! This week I am launching a competition for the children to design our school mascot – its name will be “Hinksey”. Look out for the entry instructions and get designing!

We had a lot of interest in the violin lessons mentioned in the previous newsletter – this week we have some information for you on some guided walks and Oxford Young Singers.

Take a look at the gallery on the website – I have added some new photos this term.



Have a lovely weekend,
Tamsin Smyth

Year 6 Parents



The application period for applying to secondary school is now open. Please visit the website below for more information. You must apply by 31st October.

<https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/schools/apply-school-place/year-7-applications/key-dates-secondary-school>

Dates for your diary	Event
Wednesday 27 th September 2023 3.10 to 4.10	Open Classrooms
Wednesday 11 th October 2023 2.15	Harvest Festival in church
Friday 17 th November 2023 6pm – 8pm	International Evening

Puffins 	The year 1 children have enjoyed making their ‘Reading Rivers’ this week and we have spent lots of time talking about everything we read. In maths we have been looking at all the different ways we make 5 and finding lots of different ways to work out our number bonds to 5. The reception children have been working on their listening skills using their eyes, ears and staying still. We have been distinguishing between lots of environmental sounds and singing lots of songs. All the children have been working so hard at all the new routines and are working so well together. Please remember when you buy new shoes to try and avoid laces where possible.
Owls 	We have enjoyed storytelling and writing inspired by ‘The Owl in the Forest’. Our Abacus maths scheme has educational games to play. We have all practised logging on to our Active Learn accounts to access these and we have each had a copy of our log in details sent home if you want to have a go at them. We have become more confident at ordering numbers in maths. We had an enjoyable trip to pick giant carrots at the allotment and saw all the wildflowers and interesting things growing.

Living life in all its fullness.

<p>Doves</p> 	<p>What a wonderful week in Doves class! In English the children planned and wrote adventure stories. In maths year 4s looked at 4 digit numbers, and year 3s looked at 3-digit numbers. In Science we planted salad, re-potted sweet rocket, and described the life cycle of plants. In PHSE we talked about having a positive attitude to life, and in music the children composed pieces using crotchets and quavers. The class was also visited by mon cousin français Monsieur Wilson who taught them some classroom instructions in French. Thanks to Rory who brought in some Roman pottery fragments for the children to look at and touch.</p> <p>Useful information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I'm sending children home with their 'active learn' logins and passwords, these will give them access to a wide range of age-appropriate maths games I've assigned them. • We're going to try to grow avocado plants so please send in any spare avocado seeds that you have. • We're trying to grow a lot of things this year so any spare compost would be greatly appreciated. <p>We'll be visiting the school allotment on Tuesday 19th September so I'd recommend that the children wear weather appropriate clothing on that day</p>
<p>Kingfishers</p> 	<p>We have gone <i>back in time</i> to learn the story of Romeo and Juliet by Shakespeare. We used drama and reading skills to understand phrases from the original text. We also found out that he wore a gold earring and wrote 37 plays! In science, we explored Linnaeus' classification and latin naming system for all living things. Reminder: <i>Trainers need to be worn for PE (Mondays and Friday)</i>.</p> <p>We are also learning about the early kings of England in our non-fiction English lessons. In addition, we have been practising graffiti writing ready to add to our 'We are the Kingfishers' display!</p>

Does your child enjoy singing? Would they like to join a choir?

West Oxford Young Singers is open to all children in years 3-6 who love singing and want to develop their singing and performance skills. The choir is run by Jo Gill and Sue Baker from Oxfordshire County Music Service. We meet every Wednesdays from 4-5pm at West Oxford Primary School (just a 15 minute cycle along the river!). We sing a wide range of songs, and have lots of chances to perform: last term we went to Birmingham for the Music for Youth National Festival, as well as singing in a concert in Oxford. We're keen to recruit some new singers for this school year. Any children interested in joining are invited to a free trial session – please just email Jo (jo.gill@oxfordshire.gov.uk) in advance to let her know your child wants to give the choir a try. For more information about the choir, including details of charges and how to sign up, go to West Oxford Young Singers | Oxfordshire County Council

GUIDED WALKS AROUND SOUTH OXFORD Sunday 24 th September 2023 Come and learn more about the history of this fascinating but often overlooked part of Oxford, with local historian Liz Woolley The history of South Oxford goes back to Saxon times, when south of what is now Folly Bridge was open marshy meadowland, bisected by a huge causeway or grand pont of forty arches, the site of the original oxen ford which gave the city its name. Later the area was home to Oxford's first railway station, waterworks, and football ground, and was a hive of industrial and commercial activity. There are two walks to choose from: Folly Bridge and Grandpont Sunday 24th September, 2:00-3:45pm New Hinksey Sunday 24th September, 4:00-5:45pm £5 per person. Places limited, so please book by contacting: liz@lizwoolley.co.uk; 01865 242760.