

New Hinksey CE Primary School

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Friday 9th February 2024

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





Such a shame the weather scuppered our plans to do our fundraising run around the park today! We've battled on and completed the laps round the playground instead. Thank you so much for your generous sponsorship, it's so exciting that we can be part of the OxTrail initiative – big thank you to Ms Potier for organising it.

Wishing you a very happy half term!

Tamsin

School Association	Thanks so much to April and all of the parent helpers for running the cake sale last week and thanks to all who baked cakes too, £126 was raised! Thanks also to everyone who filled in our survey: cake sales, fetes and discos are the most popular fundraising activities and people are most keen to spend funds on enrichment activities, supporting all students to participate in events and subsidising school trips. There were also some very useful ideas and suggestions, so thank you for these. We'll be in touch if you mentioned you're keen to get involved in the School Association!
Donate a Plant for our Pots and Boxes in school	After the short holiday, we plan to establish a playground/garden club for a small group of Year 6 children and would appreciate donations of outdoor plants. Local garden centers are often willing to give away plants for schools so if you are visiting one over the holidays, please do ask! Please contact Mrs Nash in the Kingfisher class if you need further information about this. Thank you.
South Oxford Community Centre	At half-term the Community Cafe will be open on Tuesday 13 February between 10.30 and 2pm with pancakes for Shrove Tuesday in addition to our normal savoury and sweet delicacies. The Thursday cafe between 1.30 and 3.30pm will have crafts, games, puzzles available to do while you enjoy a coffee and cake.
School lunches	Jess, our new cook, has suggested some amendments to the lunch menus. These are for Thursdays and for Fridays so please have a look and book your child in. Thank you.
Morning and After School Bills	These went home last week and are due to be paid by Friday 16 February.
Reception/Admin role	Please spread the word that we have an opportunity to join the team in the office. We need someone for 15 to 20 hours per week. It can be made flexible to suit childcare arrangements. So if you know someone who might be interested, do please ask them to get in contact.
TT Rockstars for Owls and Doves	We've invested in Times Table Rockstars for home and in school. It's a fun game-based way to help remember times table facts. If your child has not brought home their log in, please let their teacher know (Owls and Doves)

Living life in all its fullness.

<p>Puffins</p> 	<p>This week the houses, trees, maps and address work has all come together in a classroom map. The children have enjoyed using the new class compasses to work out which direction places are. The Puffins have worked so hard this term on their writing skills and as a class have impressed Polly with their listening skills. The Reception children have been learning how to write short phrases this week and are making impressive progress with their reading. Year 1 have been learning all about the properties of 3D shape and some of them enjoyed being the teacher on Wednesday describing shapes to the rest of the class. The Reception children have been looking at the composition of numbers to 5 and exploring length. There will be no homework over the holiday to allow the children to enjoy the holidays. Please can they read during the holidays their reading book to practice and develop their fluency and understanding of the books. Making a mark in their reading records is useful evidence of how often they are sharing their reading book at home, thank you.</p>
<p>Owls</p> 	<p>This week we have been researching and reading stories about lighthouses. We enjoyed listening to the story of Grace Darling. In art we have learnt about famous female artists including Barbara Hepworth. We were inspired by her sculptures and created our own by sculpting bars of soap. Everyone has worked hard to develop their rounding skills in maths and by completing their termly assessments. We had a wonderful trip to The Story Museum to see a musical about the importance of reading. All pupils have been set up in class with Times Tables Rock Stars. These are online games to increase their speed and accuracy with their tables. Each pupil has their log in information in their book bag if they want to play at home. They need to log in and go to the Garage area where the 2x,5x and 10x tables have been set up. There is no homework this half term, but please can Owls do lots of reading and be ready to share their own Island Presentations on the first Monday back. Thank you to Owls Class for working so hard this term and have a good half term break.</p>
<p>Doves</p> 	<p>What a fantastic final week in Doves class! Children have been writing their own fronted adverbials in English. In maths we've been practising lots of arithmetic and completing our abacus maths tests. The wonderful Ms. Huq took over for a few days while I was training, and the children loved completing spring themed work with her. Also this week we launched 'TT Rockstars' with the children - every child now has their own TT rockstars account they can log into home, and I've set them some work for the half term they can access with their username and password. Please email me if you haven't received the letter we gave them. Have a lovely half term.</p>
<p>Kingfishers</p> 	<p>We have all shown great responsibility in responding to feedback and improving our Hogwarts instructions for students and all our writing tasks this week. Our final display on the staircase looks amazing and we have been adding to our writing displays with diary entry as if the children are a character from Street Child. It has been interesting to share thoughts and concerns during the digital wellbeing unit of work in RHCE lessons. This week we focused on <i>Fake News</i> and how to assess whether something we see online is fact or opinion. Thank you to parents who have read and acknowledged our school guidance on use of devices and social media for the sake of the children's wellbeing. Please make sure the letters are signed and returned if your child intends to bring their phone to school. Homework has been allocated to Kingfishers with the main emphasis on making time to enjoy reading.</p>
<p>Dates for your diary</p>	<p>Event</p>
<p>12th – 16th February</p>	<p>Half Term</p>
<p>Monday 19 February</p>	<p>No After School Club</p>