



New Hinksey CE Primary School

Vicarage Road Oxford OX1 4RQ

Tel: 01865 242169 Fax: 01865 242169

Email: office.3213@new-hinksey.oxon.sch.uk

Website: www.new-hinksey.oxon.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mrs Charlotte Haynes

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Dear Parents, Carers, Pupils, Staff, Governors and Friends of New Hinksey,

Thank you to Year 1 for their delightful sharing assembly today when they performed the mini musical *Caterpillar Boogie*. What a treat it was for us all to watch and hear their singing.

Important Message about the Access Route Through the Church Drive – Please note that next week the church drive will be having its new surface put down. This entails machinery and hot bitumen. Therefore the drive will be closed to all movement – bikes, walking pedestrians and cars. It is likely to be on Monday and/or Tuesday. It would be safer to assume that it will be closed on both days and leave time for taking another route to and from school as you will need to approach the school from the Abingdon Road whilst the church drive is closed.

News from Classes:

Foundation Stage – The children have been listening to and recreating the story of *The Billy Goats Gruff*. The reception children have been thinking about money, and they have enjoyed writing signs for and playing in our shop in the outdoor classroom. They have also started to write more independently whilst thinking of all the things they need to add to their shopping lists.

Year 1 – We really enjoyed performing our *Caterpillar Boogie* show and hope you liked it too! In English we have been working very hard to write drafts, edit and improve our sentences and use careful handwriting to present the final stories. In maths we have enjoyed exploring weight and capacity. Why not have a go with this at home too? Our self-portraits are finished and will go on display soon.

Year 2 – We have been patiently practising and undertaking our reading comprehension assessments this week. We have been going over our practice maths test. Please help us to remember our number bonds to 10 and to 20 and our 2, 5, 10 and 3 times tables over the weekend. We also need to practise telling the time at home. We have started to create enormous willow butterflies having completed writing our beautiful butterfly stories.

Year 3 – We enjoyed a really interesting science visit from Mia and Eva's grandad, Paul, all about the brain. We learnt how it works and saw some animals' brains – real ones not just pictures! In maths we have worked hard on division. In geography we have learnt how to read map symbols and grid references. We have all been reading for two lots of 15 minutes each day and hope your sponsored reading has gone well at home too.

Year 4 – We have drafted and acted out for the first time in class our Tutankhamun's Tomb discovery plays. They are coming along nicely in preparation for our sharing assembly next week. We have read silently for 30 minutes each day as part of the sponsored read week. We have also welcomed a new member to our class – Alexandria. In PHSCE we have been considering the safe use of medicinal drugs and alcohol. We have done this by thinking about times when we have over indulged when eating and drinking, for example party food or fizzy drinks, and how this has left us feeling. This has enabled us to understand the potential harmful effects on the body and mind of excessive use of alcohol or mis-use of substances.

Year 5 – We have written some lovely poems on the theme 'colours' as a follow up to our recent workshop at the Story Museum. Three of us will be returning to the museum next Tuesday to recite some of the poems in front of an audience at an event called 'Maggie's Day'. Our election campaign is in full swing; we are enjoying the work designing posters and leaflets and making short 'radio' party political broadcasts.

Year 6 – On Monday we enjoyed a beading day with Mrs Smith. The children made lovely wrap bracelets with different beads and cords. On Wednesday we enthusiastically made pizzas at Pizza Express and walked back to school in the pouring rain to eat them, as a post SATs treat! We have begun writing first person recounts from the point of view of a suffragette and policeman. There has been extra reading time for the sponsored read – we hope your child has persuaded you to contribute to their sponsorship and is doing lots of reading at home.

Parents are welcome in our school

FIDGET SPINNERS – Please note that **fidget spinners are banned from school** and we would appreciate parental support in this matter. Staff will take them away from children and return them to parents at the end of the day/week if they are brought into school.

Ready, Steady, Read – We hope everyone has been taking part in the sponsored read this week to help us get more books for our school library. **Please collect the money in and send in to the class teacher next week by Thursday 25th May.**

Wet Weather Clothing – It is truly astounding that so many children do not bring a coat or jacket to school each day even when raining at the start of the day and knowing how changeable our weather can be. There are some days when it is a bit damp and we say every child has to have a coat/jacket on at playtime. If you don't want your child to have to sit inside, not playing with friends at this time, please make sure your child has a coat/jacket/waterproof with them in school.

And finally, please have a last look through your wallets, purses, pockets and bags for any **Sainsbury's Active Kids Vouchers** and hand in to school as soon as possible next week. We will be sending off our vouchers and equipment order soon.

Wishing you all a very happy weekend.

Yours sincerely,

Charlotte Haynes

Dates for Diaries

Friday 26th May – Year 4 sharing assembly in hall at 9.10am

Friday 26th May – school finishes at 3pm for half term break (After School Club as usual)

Monday 29th May – Friday 2nd June – School Holiday

Monday 5th June – School closed for Staff Inset

Tuesday 6th June – Summer term starts again at 8.45am

Did you know the South Oxford Family Room is available for hire as a venue for baby and toddler birthday parties? For further info see our Facebook page, or contact coordinator@sofr.org.uk.