



# The Old School Henstead

## Newsletter

Autumn Term 2014 Issue 12 12 December 2014



### Calendar for next week

Monday 15 December

2.00 Junior School Nativity at St Mary's Church, Henstead  
Bags2School Collection

Tuesday 16 December

9.00 End of Term Assembly  
12.00 School Christmas Lunch  
7.00 Carol Service at St Mary's Church, Henstead, followed by mince pies and refreshments at school after the service.  
Term Ends

Wednesday 17- Friday 19 December

Holiday Club (bookable via the Office)

### Dates for your diary

Wednesday 7 January

Spring Term Commences



### Message from the Headmaster

I was pleased to receive a letter from the staff of the Waveney Centre this week for, in this last full week of the Christmas term, it seems to sum up the joy and the enthusiasm that all of the children have put into their work here at The Old School...

*"All of us at the Waveney Centre would like to thank you all so much for performing your Nativity Play for us this afternoon. You all did so well and we are sure to see some of you on the stage some day. Thank you for giving us your time - it means so much to our patrons and what a lovely finale to our Christmas party. We all hope that Father Christmas is good to you. With much love"*

Cara and I would like to wish every member of the school family a peaceful Christmas and every blessing in the year to come.

Mr McKinney

### Nursery children take to the stage for their Nativity performance.





# A fine festive performance

On Tuesday afternoon we held the last of this term's class concerts. Years Five and Six gave us a most entertaining thirty minutes or so and I must congratulate all the performers.

Peppa set the festive tone making her debut playing *White Christmas* in duet with Mrs Clayton and showed excellent concentration. It is always good to watch the individual's growth over the years and Oscar's spirited drum solo revealed just how far his co-ordination skills have developed, while Isabelle demonstrated growing skill and accuracy of intonation in both Beethoven's ever-popular piano piece *Für Elise* and her song, *The Sound of Music*.

James' growing confidence in performance was apparent in *Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer*, George sang *Silent Night* with great care and clarity, May revealed an impressive ability to hold her audience's attention with *Snowman* and Charlotte confidently invited us to join a very rhythmical *Jingle Bell Rock*. Sonny played both drums and piano confidently, but it was his singing of *I Dreamed*

*A Dream* which impressed, with excellent intonation and mature use of dynamics.

Ella wished us all a *Merry Christmas Everyone* and her clearness of diction ensured that we heard every word. *Once Upon A Dream* was Sarah's choice. Despite some initial worries, she proved to us all that she had indeed memorised all the lyrics and she gave us a gentle and lyrical performance.

The vintage song *Santa Baby* was introduced by Eartha Kitt in 1953 and has been sung by many artists since then, including Madonna and Kylie Minogue. Now it has a new performer...Ruby gave a characterful interpretation, enhanced by sureness of intonation.

Many of these pupils are preparing for music examinations in the near future and judging by these performances I am sure they will be very successful. Our thanks to our dedicated, enthusiastic and growing team of peripatetic music teachers.

*Miss Sindall*



# Nativity players go out into the community.



A quick change into costume after lunch and the Year Three cast members of the Junior School Nativity, ably supported by Ebony and Thomas, as Mary and Joseph, were off to the Waveney Centre in Beccles, for a special performance of their Nativity play - *The Magical Christmas Jigsaw*, by Mary Green and Julie Stanley.

There were second glances as Victorian children, stall holders, Herod, the Three Kings, some shepherds, a cohort of Roman soldiers and the Holy Family spilled out of the minibus, followed by the manger, gifts and the eponymous jigsaw of the title.

This was very much a troop of strolling players, as a range of parts had to be played by everyone.

It was an excellent performance and the children were quick to adapt to an unusual performance area, seemingly unfazed by the audience of 110 senior citizens, who applauded enthusiastically throughout.

We are really looking forward to the full cast performance in St Mary's.



# Behind the scenes of Nativity rehearsals.



A glimpse behind the scenes as the Junior School rehearses for next week's Nativity Play.



## Ho! Ho! Ho!

Santa's Elves have arrived in Year Two to help deliver the school Christmas post. 'Team Claus' started the delivery action this week, alternating on a daily basis with 'Team Rudolf'.



It is very important to sort the post and deliver it correctly and it takes a lot out of the busy little Elves, so the rest day is essential! Listen out for the jingling of bells and Christmas cheer as your post wings its way to you!



# SPORTS ROUND UP

## Football & Hockey



### FOOTBALL

Friday afternoon saw the Under 9 boys football squad travel to Saint Felix with some new players in the ranks.

The game started with Henstead domination and this was rewarded with a thunderbolt strike from Jack from a full 25 yards. It wasn't long before Saint Felix had drawn level from some nervous Henstead defending, however the scores weren't level for long. Some good dribbling skills from Davey (Angel Di Maria style) led to him firing the ball low and hard into the far corner 2-1. However history repeated itself with some more nervous defending allowing Saint Felix in to score to level things up. Just before half time a fantastic flowing move allowed Archie to tap in at the back post, meaning the scores were 3-2.

After the break it was one-way traffic for the majority of the half. Constant hard work from Finney and Jasper allowed Jasper to batter his way through defenders with the ball flying into the net courtesy of his left knee. A thunderbolt free kick from Davey gave us a cushioned lead before Saint Felix closed the gap. A fantastic final goal from Thomas meant the Henstead boys won 7-3.

This was a fantastic team win as all ran for each other and tried new positions. What was also pleasing to see was how they all tried to pass and move throughout the game. Thank you to all parents for their support this term.

*Mr Hunter*

### HOCKEY

As if in a blink of the eye, the hockey season came to an end last Friday, with a home match against Saint Felix for the U11 girls' team. Injuries and illness had taken their toll on the team, particularly our defence, so it was a somewhat new look team that took to the field.

As usual, we were hesitant at the start of the game. It was not until the second quarter, finding themselves 4 goals down, that the girls managed to put together a string of passes that resulted in a goal.

Half time came and the girls managed to keep up the momentum, scoring again. Unfortunately in the final quarter, it all went a little bit wrong! I think the girls would agree that this was not their finest day on a hockey pitch, and for many of them, not how they would have liked to finish playing their final match for the school. But a loss only becomes a failure if we do not learn from it, and hopefully they all will have learned some valuable lessons.

Whatever the result, it has been another wonderful season with the girls. Netball here we come.

*Miss Goddard*

# SPORTS ROUND UP

## Senior Inter-House Hockey



### SENIOR INTER-HOUSE HOCKEY

On Wednesday afternoon it was the seniors turn to take part in their first inter-house sports competition of the year.

First round matches saw Yare face Waveney, with Yare winning comfortably 5-0, with goals from Sonny and Honey. On the other pitch Deben beat Orwell 3-0, with George and Isabelle scoring the goals.

Second round matches had Yare matched against Orwell, with the Yare Bears putting in a dominant display, winning 7-0. Deben continued their winning run with another 3-0, this time against Waveney.

The final round was a title deciding game between Deben and Yare - a superb game to watch with goal

mouth scrambles, end-to-end play and some heart-in-the-mouth moments. The game ended an even 1-1.

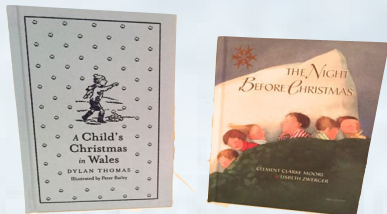
Battling it out for third and fourth positions were Orwell and Waveney, with goals galore both ends, giving a final score of 4-2.

Overall winner of the hockey competition was Yare - only by goal difference - with Deben second, Orwell third and Waveney 4th.

A great afternoon's hockey with some impressive performances on show.

# Christmas Competition

It is time for our annual Christmas Newsletter Competition. We have two beautiful books to award as prizes: *A Child's Christmas in Wales*, by Dylan Thomas (Senior Prize); and *The Night Before Christmas* by Clement Clarke More and Lisbeth Zwerger (Junior Prize).



All you have to do is read through this week's Newsletter to find Nativity character names in the text. (Note Santa and Elves don't count!) Children must write out the list of names themselves on a piece of paper together with their name and class and drop it in the Christmas hat on the way into Assembly on Monday morning. Happy reading and writing!

## Gold Awards

## Rehearsal Gallery

## Christingle



Congratulations to Rebecca, Isabelle and Addison on their award of Gold Certificates for 15 outstanding achievements. Well done!

## Rudolph Reindeer



**UNIFORM SHOP**

Opening Times  
Mondays 0830-0930

**PTFA**  
News Extra

Next PTFA Meeting  
Tuesday 13 January at 7.30pm

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