



The Old School Henstead

Newsletter

Autumn Term 2014 Issue 1 12 September 2014



Calendar for next week

Monday 15 September
Tuesday 16 September
Wednesday 17 September
Thursday 18 September
Friday 19 September

4.15 Parent Seminar: Curriculum Development
Year 2 Lydia Eva Seaside Project Visit
Nursery Non-Uniform Day in aid of *Children in Need*
4.15 Parent Seminar: Curriculum Development
Year 6 Assembly
2.30 U9 Mixed Hockey v Saint Felix (A)

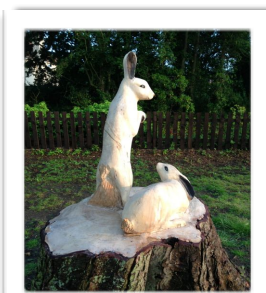
Dates for your diary

Tuesday 23 September
Friday 26 September

Saturday 18 October

Trinity College Music Examinations
9.15 Harvest Festival at St Mary's Church, Henstead
followed by Macmillan Coffee Morning at School
Open Morning (Half Day School with Special Timetable of Lessons & Activities)

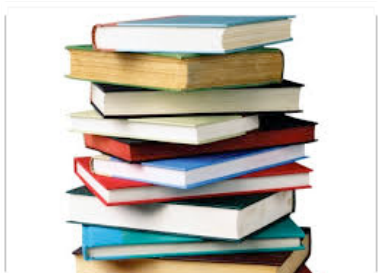
Message from the Headmaster



It has been a thoroughly positive and productive start to the new school year. The staff enjoyed the pre-term training at the Warden's Trust Centre and our focus for this term is firmly on literacy, both mental and physical, through as broad a range of activities as possible. Our value for the term is that of confidence, for we strive to see all of the children develop as independent learners. With that in mind, may I ask parents to say their morning farewells and allow children to go into class to begin work under their own steam wherever possible. This is particularly essential in Years Four to Six. Thank you in advance for your support in this matter.

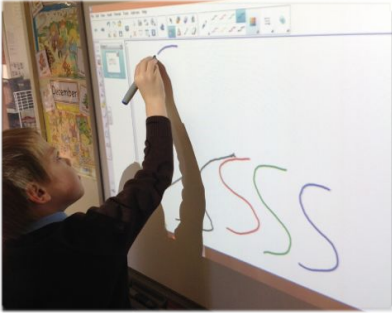
Mr McKinney

School on Saturday *One Half Day Per Term*



In line with practice in other independent schools in the region, we have introduced a half day school on a Saturday - only on one day a term - starting with Saturday 18 October. This will be part of our formal term, with a special timetable of lessons and activities, finishing at lunch time. On these Saturdays we will also hold our Open Mornings.

Early Years Pupils Get Off to a Great Start.



It has been a busy first week for all our Nursery and Reception children. They are all settling in well and learning the daily routines at The Old School. It's been lovely getting to know the new children and we have all had a very enjoyable week.

In the Nursery the children have started their topic on Superheroes and we look forward to seeing their superpowers!

Reception children have already been learning lots in their ICT lessons, practising their numbers and sounds, and been deep in paint, glue and glitter!

A great start to the year.

Miss Coxon



Wonder Wall.



The boys' changing room has been superbly decorated by a thoughtful and inspiring mural, combining the sports our boys enjoy so much and the amazing African landscape.

Do please ask a member of staff to escort you into the changing rooms to view Mr Butcher's chef d'oeuvre.

Blow your own trumpet.

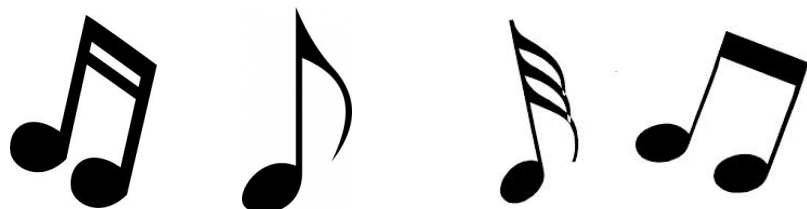


On Wednesday we were delighted to welcome Mr Paul Beer, who introduced the children to a range of brass instruments.

He explained the technique needed to make a good sound and a number of boys and girls were soon making tuneful sounds on a cornet, a trumpet, a trombone and a euphonium. Mr Beer then explained the mechanics of playing the trombone and treated us to a range of popular tunes - his audience was soon singing along, with *Teddy Bears' Picnic* a particular favourite.

Starting to learn a brass instrument will take daily practice and Mr Beer advised that this should be no longer than five minutes per day initially.

Anyone interested in having lessons should contact Miss Sindall, who will provide further details.



SPORTS ROUND UP

Sports Drills



SPORTS SEASON DRILLS

Since the first sports fixtures of the new academic year start next week, the children enthusiastically returned to sports drills and practice on Wednesday. The sun shone and spirits were high as Mr Hunter and Miss Goddard put the children through their paces.

Here's to a great season of sport for all the teams. Watch this space for match reports.

Holiday Club Fun.



Summer Holiday Club started with a somewhat international flavour as we welcomed back some members of the Le Quesne family for one of the days. Monday was a sports day - dodgeball, benchball, football, tennis and numerous other team games ensured that both children and adults finished the day exhausted.

Tuesday, after opening with the perennial favourite 'quiz/ ball search', continued to be busy and noisy. The children had the opportunity to do cookery with Mrs Hall, a drumming workshop with Jack Baxter, or try their hand at archery, as well as see how much mess they could make with the overflowing treasure chest of art materials.

On Wednesday we bid goodbye to school for the day and headed for Lowestoft. With a morning spent bowling and the afternoon in mayhem, (it is called that for a reason you know!). Nathan had a 7th birthday he is unlikely to forget.

There was no let up from the fun on Thursday. The morning was spent constructing the longest assault course ever, whilst the afternoon was taken care of by the arrival of a bouncy castle and slide.

So finally Friday came around. Splash and barbecue, need I say more? Just a word of warning to the children who plan on hitting me with water bombs next year - I have found a contraption that can fill 100 bombs in under one minute. Be afraid! Be very afraid!

Many thanks to Mrs Hall, Miss Coxon and the Baxters, without whom none of this would have been possible. Thank you to the former pupils who came back to help and finally to the children themselves, superbly behaved and full of fun as always.

The next Holiday Club will run on Thursday 23rd and Friday 24th October.

Mr Hunter

Staff INSET



We had a packed schedule for our pre-term staff training - meetings, briefings, new teaching methodologies and brain training. There was something for everyone – staff teams had to imagine a tale of a shark and a sailor, make pictures from natural outdoor materials and complete a mathematical treasure hunt. Always the focus was on how best we, as teachers, can support the needs of every child. The coastal climate was kind and it was a valuable opportunity to get together as a team – and to have Mrs Hall's delicious lunches travel with us! *Mr McKinney*

Parent Seminar



There will be a Parent Seminar on Curriculum Development at 4.15pm on Monday 15 September and repeated on Thursday 18 September. Mr Tiley-Nunn will outline the changes that have been made to our curriculum to increase our opportunities for teaching and learning. All parents welcome.

Website



Don't forget that you can find lots of practical information on our website - from details of the curriculum and pastoral care to lunch menus, calendar, uniform, after school clubs and more. Click on the following link to view the website: www.theoldschoolhenstead.co.uk

Message from Mrs Read



"Many many thanks...I am so very grateful for all the kind words, good wishes and gifts I received last term to celebrate my retirement.

The gift vouchers enabled us to buy an i-pad, which proved invaluable on our trip to Singapore to visit daughter Lucy.

We especially look forward to using it to 'face time' baby Read when she arrives at the end of this month. (That's Tom's baby!)

With my love and thanks to all, Mrs Read"

UNIFORM SHOP

Opening Times
Mondays 0830-0930

New onsite location.

PTFA

News Extra

PTFA AGM & Meeting Monday
22 September at 7pm.



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