



The Old School Henstead

Newsletter

Autumn Term 2015 Issue 8 13 November 2015



STOP PRESS... The Year 2 & 3 Concert scheduled for Tuesday 17 November has been postponed until 24 November, when pupils from Years 2,3 and 4 will perform at the same event at 4.15 on that day. We are looking forward to it!

Calendar for next week

Monday 16 November

Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Collection

Tuesday 17 November

8.45 Year 2 visits Gressenhall

Friday 20 November

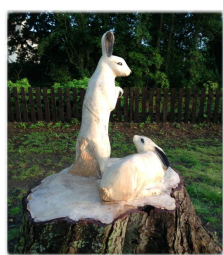
2.00 U11 Girls' Hockey v Saint Felix (H) *(addition to calendar)*

Dates for your diary

Tuesday 24 November

U11 Swimming Gala at Langley Prep *(addition to calendar)*

Message from the Headmaster



There can scarcely be such an example of resilience as that of Private George Ellison, late of the 5th Royal Irish Lancers. Aged 40, he was a pre-war regular soldier; we can tell this by his service number which is consistent with a man who enlisted in the early years of the twentieth century. He may even have been a veteran of the Boer War, considering his age. In November 1918, it must have been odd for Pte Ellison to be back in the outskirts of the Belgian town of Mons again, for his war had started there some four years earlier, as part of the British Expeditionary Force retreating in August, just weeks after the outbreak of hostilities in Europe. We can only imagine the courage, determination and perseverance it must have taken to survive the ensuing four years. George was there when the stalemate in hostilities saw the digging of trenches that were to become a defining feature of the conflict. He fought and survived the offensive on the Somme in 1916. He was there when the first gas attacks came, rendered infamous by Owen's haunting *Dulce et decorum est* - how fitting that one of our children should notice the war poetry in the London Underground last weekend. A million British service personnel had died, yet miraculously George had survived. The ceasefire had been agreed early that morning, the guns were to fall silent at 11 o'clock and George would return to his wife and son in Leeds. He was killed by a single shot with an hour to go, the last British soldier to be killed in the first World War. Resilience? Lest we forget.

Mr McKinney



See page 7 for our *Children in Need* report - and YouTube clip!

We will remember them.



In art last week, Year 1 and Year 2 painted poppies to help them remember those who had lost their lives in war. We started our session with a gentle discussion, keeping it relevant to them at that very moment. They learned that children during the war didn't have many teachers left at school as most had been called up. They imagined working as a farm hand instead of going to school, as lots did to help the depleted farms. We looked at images of poppy fields that grew once the war fields had settled, and how the red poppies resemble the blood lost in the war. So instead of the usual jazz playing in the background, the children painted poppies in quiet concentration. They used various shades of reds and orange to paint the delicate and poignant flower. We looked closely at poppies, noting how their colour changed in the sunshine. One child described this as it being "like liquid gold shining through its petals"... sigh!



After our Remembrance Service, the children in Year 1 and 2 had a special talk from Colonel Hardman. He told us all about his uniform, what his medals were awarded for, the countries he had been sent to, and what his role was in the army. We then marched up the school path, military style (which the children loved!) and fixed our poppies to the hall wall to make our own poppy field.

Mrs Scoggins





Uplifting Concert.

Years Five & Six

The first of this term's class concerts took place on Tuesday after school. Various members of Years Five and Six delighted an appreciative audience with their singing and playing.

Matthew Pelham opened the concert with a gently appealing performance as Oliver singing 'Where is Love?' Tilly's performance of 'Sing!' was sung with great confidence and accuracy whilst George showed just how much technique he has mastered in 'There's a place'. Bethany and Jessica demonstrated growing competence on the treble recorder with lively performances of two pieces from the Red Hot Recorder Book and Ruby showed she understood this term's value of resilience when she bravely overcame an attack of nerves to give us 'Wouldn't it be Lovely'. Charlotte gave us a confident 'Once upon a dream' showing a growing mastery of intonation and phrasing.

Isabelle's bold 'Mexican March' on the piano had been very accurately prepared and, in contrast, she also gave us a most gentle performance of 'Over the Rainbow'. Daisy McDowell concluded the evening with 'Can you feel the love tonight' demonstrating a strong sense of performance as well as accurate technique.

Well done to all the participants.....you have certainly set a high standard for the younger children to emulate.

Many of the performers are studying for exams in December and we wish them every success. Finally thank you to Mrs Clayton for her expressive accompaniments and inspiring teaching.

Miss Sindall



Operation Christmas Child

Once again we will be supporting Operation Christmas Child - the world's largest children's Christmas project - by filling shoe boxes with gifts for children less fortunate than ours. You may watch some children receiving their shoeboxes in Ukraine and Liberia in a short 3-minute film by clicking on the following link: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FIC_sHK4mjs

Leaflets have gone out, but in summary...

- Please wrap an empty medium-sized shoe box and lid separately.
- Fill it with new gifts* - fun toys, non-liquid hygiene items and school supplies (see leaflet for ideas). **No clothing or food items permitted this year.**
- You may include a personal note and photo of you and your family (optional).
- Please do not seal the box, but use an elastic band to keep the lid and box together.
- Affix a label from the leaflet (to indicate the age range and if your box is intended for a boy or girl).

Each box requires a **£3.00 shipping donation**. You can pay this by cash or cheque (using the envelope attached to the

leaflet) and place it in your shoebox, or pay online at www.operationchristmaschild.org.uk. If you pay online, at Follow Your Box, you will generate a barcode to print off and place inside your shoebox. Paying online also means that you will receive an email to tell you the destination of your shoebox.

Shoeboxes should be brought to school *first thing on **Monday 16 November*** (not before please, unless of course your child is not due in school or Nursery that day), when the charity will collect them. Let's try and fill the van!

*No used or damaged items; clothing; war-related items such as toy guns; knives or military figures; playing cards (4 suit variety); seeds; chocolate or food; lotions or liquids; medicines; hand made stuffed toys; anything of a political, religious or racial nature; sharp or fragile items.

Southwold Post Office is generously offering a 10% discount on all purchases for your shoeboxes and is happy to help with suggestions from their range of toys, puzzles, pens, stickers, notebooks and small sports items.



Early Years News.

Diwali!

This week Nursery and Reception have been celebrating Diwali, the Hindu Festival of Lights.

In Reception we shared the famous story of Rama and Sita. We talked about how the festival celebrates good triumphing over evil. The children went on to cut and stick the story in the correct order. We then made some Diva lamps with glass jars and torn tissue paper stuck around them.

Rangoli patterns came next. A rangoli is a colourful design made on the floor near the entrance to a house to welcome guests. At Diwali, Hindus draw bright rangoli patterns to encourage the goddess Lakshmi to enter their homes. The Reception children created their own rangoli patterns on the interactive white board.

Nursery children also made a Diva lamp. They moulded their lamps out of clay and decorated the outside with beautiful beads and gems. Once they were dry, they painted them with bright colours. They have also been making their own rangoli patterns outside on the ground using chalk and painted rangoli patterns using templates.

On Wednesday, Nursery and Reception joined together for a Diwali themed assembly. Amelia brought in some Diwali outfits and accessories to share with her friends. We all dressed up in traditional Indian clothing and tried our hand at some Indian dancing. We used bells and scarves to make our movements graceful. We had a look at some professional Indian dancing on the interactive white board to help us. A big thank you to Amelia for sharing her Diwali belongings with us.

Miss O'Mara and Miss Coxon



Nursery Star of the Week



Nursery Star of the Week goes to Raef, who has settled well at Nursery and now comes in with a smile. *Miss O'Mara and Miss Butcher*



SPORTS ROUND UP

Hockey, Football & Swimming



HOCKEY

On Friday afternoon the Under 9 girls had a double fixture against the visiting Langley Prep School. The first game played was our A team versus theirs. The girls were on fire, if reports from the very impressed parents are to be believed, with excellent teamwork to be seen throughout the match. Of particular note was how they constantly ran into spaces, giving their team mates plenty of choices as to where to hit the ball.

On the other pitch, with me, were the two B teams. It was fantastic to see how much our girls improved over the course of the match, and they thoroughly deserved their victory.

With a mix up of the teams, the girls took to the field for a second match. On the far pitch, Henstead suffered their only loss of the fixture; four matches played, three wins - a most successful afternoon.

Unfortunately this was our last competitive match of the season, but I am sure the many parents who came to support us are already looking forward to next year.

Miss Goddard

FOOTBALL

Victory within defeat.

Friday afternoon and a large Henstead squad headed over to Langley Prep for a football match, which for many was their first taste of a competitive game.

The scoreline does not tell the full story. Of the afternoon, for LPS had one star player who managed to score 5 goals, and clear 2 off the line to prevent

Henstead from scoring. Henstead also did manage to miss a penalty late on.

Once the Langley player had been subbed it turned into a more evenly contested affair, with Henstead creating many chances but just unable to poke the ball over the line.

Each team member battled well throughout the game with some crucial defensive blocks from Harrison, Lennard and Lincoln, tireless running from Hollick, Scott, and Taylor and some neat touches shown from Birchenough, Routledge, Sonn, Lark and Fields.

All of our players should be proud of their performances and let's hope for some victories next term in the Football season.

Mr Hunter

SWIMMING

Our swimming team travelled to Ipswich for the Independent Schools Association (ISA) regional competition yesterday. There was much excitement as the team prepared for the different races. The final timings for individual competitors will be released by ISA soon.

In the meantime, congratulations to George Taylor, who won the U11 50m breaststroke, taking him through to his third consecutive national final at the London Aquatics Centre at the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park in London on 23 January.



The Old School Henstead
ptfa

Christmas Fayre

Saturday 28 November 12 noon to 3pm

Santa's Grotto

Tickets £3 including a lovely present from Father Christmas.

Wood Carving

Games Room

Face Painting

Creative Crafts

Cake Stall

Refreshments

& more!



Make Your Own Crackers

Christmas Coconut Shy

Christmas Wreaths

Christmas Cards,
Wrapping Paper &
Gift Tags

Crock of Gold

Lucky Dip

Raffle

Bottle Stall

Home Produce Stall



Singing for



Thank you to everyone who supported the Upper School Choir in Beccles yesterday as they sang for *Children in Need*. You may watch a clip of one of their songs - "Sing" - on the following link:



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r3akuuXI9WY>

We also wish to thank the PTFA for their tremendous work and support, and to all the parents who baked and bought cakes. An amazing £300 was raised in one hour of singing! The final fundraising sum will be reported after today's non-uniform day contributions are added.

Mascots Awards



Thank You



Email Alert



This week's mascot winners - for best demonstrating the school value Resilience - are:

Reception Jack D
Year 1 George
Year 2 Olivia
Year 3 Rebecca
Year 4 Nathan
Year 5 Lucas
Year 6 Amber

A huge thank you to the PTFA for organising another splendid Bonfire & Fireworks Party last Friday evening. We do appreciate all the hard work that many parents contributed to executing such a successful event.



May we respectfully ask parents to check or adjust their email settings to prevent emails sent to you from school being relegated to Junk Mail folders. It is important to us that you receive all our communications. Thank you.

Learning Trail



This week's Learning Trail winner - on the theme of birds - is Mr Butcher!

UNIFORM SHOP

Opening Times
Tuesdays 8.30-9.30
Thursdays 3.15-4.15

PTFA

News Extra

Christmas Fayre Saturday 28 November 12-3pm. Do you have any good clean cuddly toys, jam jars, cardboard tubes from toilet rolls or kitchen rolls? Also if anyone is making jams, chutneys, or other home produce, we would be grateful for donations to sell on our home produce stall.



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