



The Old School Henstead

Newsletter

Autumn Term 2017 Issue 1 15 September 2017



Calendar for next week

Monday 18 September
Tuesday 19 September

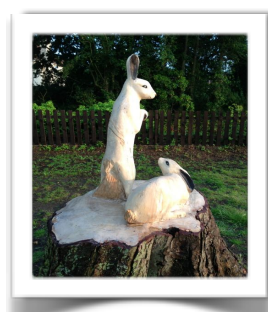
School Photographs (for those not photographed last week)
1.30 Years 2 & 3 Swimming
2.15 Years 4,5 & 6 Swimming
2.30 Reception, Year 1 & Nursery Pre-School Gymnastics
2.00 - 3.30 Parent & Toddler Group (in Nursery) **STARTING TUESDAY!**
8.50 Harvest Festival at St Mary's Church, Henstead, followed by our
Macmillan Coffee Morning at School
School Council Jeans for Genes afternoon

Friday 22 September

Dates for your diary

Saturday 14 October

Open Morning



Message from the Headmaster

A warm welcome back to all members of The Old School Henstead Community. Term has started with alacrity and a full programme of lessons from the first morning. I much enjoyed viewing the entries from the holiday literary competition and the children can be very proud of the volume of reading they achieved in locations both exotic and familiar - it is cool to read at Henstead! AIs are already being brought to my study, music lessons are in full swing and the choir is preparing the Harvest Festival. It is like we have never been away...
Mr McKinney

Speech Day.



On Speech Day we were delighted to welcome our guest speaker Rachel Elson, Vice-President Inflight Services, Virgin Atlantic Airways, who inspired us with her vision and the importance and relevance of core values much like our own. She also gave us a fascinating behind the scenes glimpse of aviation, enlisting the help of pupils and parents alike. It was also a day to celebrate the achievements and successes of the year. Congratulations to all our prize-winners.

New...Parent & Toddler Group



We are delighted to launch our new Parent & Toddler Group starting next Tuesday 19 September in our Nursery building. We warmly welcome all parents, bumps, babies and toddlers to an afternoon of toys, stories, singing, snacks and fun. An opportunity to play with your children and meet other families.

Tuesdays 2.00-3.30 from 19 September.

Summer Selfie.

Reading Competition



Well done to all the boys and girls who participated in our Summer Selfie Reading Competition.

We received some fantastic reading projects and thoroughly appreciated seeing all the amazing locations where you enjoyed reading.

The winners of £20 vouchers go to...

Robyn (Year 1)

Francis (Year 4)

Keep up the excellent reading.

Mrs Jensen



Early Years News.

Nursery.



What a wonderful start to our week in Early Years.

A baby Australian Owl called Perth came to visit us from The Fritton Owl Sanctuary.

His handlers gave us lots of interesting facts about owls, for example, did you know that if an owl has yellow eyes it is a daytime owl and an owl with dark brown eyes is a night owl?

We were so proud of the children. They were an attentive audience and asked some very sensible questions.

Everyone got a chance to stroke little Perth and he was quite happy to sit on Miss Butcher's arm.



In Nursery we are getting stuck into some learning around the theme of owls and are enjoying using *Owl Babies* by Martin Waddell as a starting point for lots of activities in art, English and maths.

Mrs Vorster and Miss Butcher



Nursery Star of the Week ★

Nursery Star of the Week goes to Kasper, for his confidence and enthusiasm at gymnastics this week and for generally being a good friend to everyone in Nursery. He is the first person to take the new Nursery mascot - Priscilla the Owl - home for the weekend. Well done Kasper.





Reception Roundup.

Welcome to Reception 2017!

We have had a fantastic start to the year with all the children settling into routines of school life. Special thanks for the wonderful preparation and smooth transition that our Nursery class has provided for some of the children.

New challenges have been welcomed by all the children with great confidence. We are especially pleased to see their enthusiasm during music, French and gymnastics lessons.

This week we started the preparations for reading and the children have been working very hard at saying and writing their first set of sounds. We also started our reading books and learning how to share, predict and discuss stories.

As well as the routines of Reception we are working alongside Nursery and encouraging the children to develop their learning through play and different experiences that are on offer at The Old School Henstead. A special treat this week was a visit from Fritton Owl Sanctuary to learn all about owls and have the chance to stroke Perth.

Thank you to the school community, in particular Year Six, for their care and consideration for the Reception children as they embark on exciting times and new experiences in school.

Mrs Scriven & Mrs Dakin





Pony Club

Camp



The Old School Henstead Pony Club Camp took place during August.

On their arrival participants set up tents, followed by their first lesson and a hack back to camp. Mini gymkhana games were held afterwards, before a tasty barbecue and games by torchlight before bed time.

Everyone was up early the next morning and after a hearty cooked breakfast another lesson began.

The team achieved two further badges, for Road Safety and Nutrition. Pony Club Camp rosettes were awarded before everyone packed up and headed home.

We are most grateful to Mrs Freeland, Mrs Blois, the Barrett family and Annabelle for creating such a wonderful camp, and to the many parents supporting it and bringing ponies.

The Pony Club continues this term on Fridays after school.



New School Officers.

Heads of School



The Old School Henstead has appointed Olivia as Head Girl and Archie as Head Boy. Such is the importance of the roles that a job description is attached to it. For those aspiring to follow in their footsteps, the criteria are stringent.

Expectation of Personal Qualities:

Leadership · Work well in a team · Time-management and very good organisational skills · Ability to talk confidently and appropriately to parents and staff · Ability to talk confidently and appropriately to other pupils · Willingness to get to know the pupils in the lower years · Politeness · Maturity · Clear judgement · Reliability.

Main Duties:

- To support the ethos of The Old School Henstead
- To be a positive role model for peers and younger pupils
- To be a listening and helping friend to all pupils
- To represent the school
- To meet with the School Leadership Team every half term
- To take responsibility for the supervision of duties carried out by other prefects and assistant prefects and to lead by example
- To lead the school in Assembly, Church services and other main school events
- To perform duties of rank and consequence among her peers.

Congratulations to Olivia and Archie.

House Captains & Vice Captains



The House System is central to our core values and we rely heavily on the quality of our House Captains and Vice Captains to lead from the front. The four houses have elected their leaders and the following have bravely stepped forward to face the challenge.

Deben House

Captain Olivia
Vice-Captains Honor & Tom R

Waveney House

Captain Archie
Vice-Captain Daisy

Yare House

Captain Tabatha
Vice-Captains Sophia & Rachael

Orwell House

Joint Captains Matthew & Alex



We look forward to their guidance and encouragement as they take on the demands of the position as outlined below:

- To be a role model in terms of attitude, work ethic, manners and appearance to younger members of the house, providing inspiration and motivation to all pupils in their house.
- To help organise and plan competitions and events throughout the year, selecting teams or individuals for these and ensure that all pupils have an opportunity to compete.
- To help supervise house activities and competitions.
- To ensure fairness and equal opportunity for all, irrespective of ability.
- To take responsibility for house assemblies on a weekly basis and organise meaningful activities for these assemblies.
- To report back results or news to the house.
- To receive trophies at end of term assemblies.

We believe that these roles will develop invaluable leadership, organisational and decision-making skills. We wish all the appointees a successful year in post.





School Council Election.

The children have their say...

Article 12 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) clearly states that children should have a say in decisions that affect their lives.

This week's School Council Election provided a valued and meaningful way for pupils to voice their opinions and have their views considered in decisions which impact upon them. It is important that our children are provided with leadership and development opportunities, that they 'learn for life'.

With a 100% attendance at the polling station, our boys and girls clearly and whole heartedly embraced this opportunity.

Thank you to the Year 6 pupils who ably ran the polling station and confidently led the democratic process. I look forward to working with the successful candidates who will now represent the pupil voice.

The results:

Reception: Henry and Raef

Year 1: Christabel and Jackson

Year 2: Isla and Jack D

Year 3: Evelyn and James

Year 4: Bonnie and Imogen F-T

Year 5: Thomas and Rosie

Year 6: Matthew and Alex

Congratulations to all. We wish you a successful tenure in the term ahead.

Miss Clifton



Holiday Club Fun in the Sun.



This year's Holiday Club was held during the first two weeks of the summer holidays. The weather was beautiful, with sunshine almost every day.

As always Mr Hunter and Mrs Jensen created an exciting programme of activities and excursions, which included:

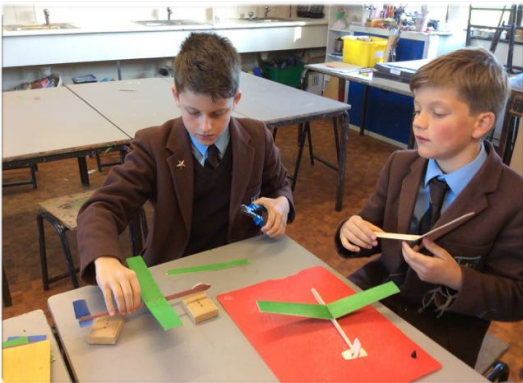
- Science Day
- Wheels Day (cycles and scooter activities)
- Trampoline Day
- Visit to the Southwold Maize Maze
- Water Activities
- Arts & Crafts
- Sports
- Spy Games and more.



The next Holiday Club will be held between Monday 23 and Friday 27 October (during half term).



Model Gliders Club Takes Off!



How much dihedral do you need to avoid a barrel roll? Is this enough counterweight to stop my plane stalling? These and other knotty problems occupied our balsa wood pilots in the first session of Model Gliders Club before our initial venture onto the field for experimental launchings. Happily the grass was just



dry enough to prevent these high performance machines from being grounded. Back in the control tower the exploits and refinements were discussed at length. See you next Monday aviators!

Mr Butcher



Jeans for Genes.

Year Six presented a powerful assembly ahead of our 'Jeans for Genes Afternoon'. Their aim to encourage understanding and acceptance of the differences between us.

The consequences of Lego building having lost or failing to follow the instructions provided the perfect comparison to the genetic development of a foetus. When the children wear their jeans on Jeans for Genes Afternoon they will now have a better understanding of the importance of their gesture. The jeans the children wear will be a reminder of the genes they're raising money for

Every penny raised will help transform the lives of children affected by genetic disorders, funding the care and support children, and their families need.

£10 will pay for 60 minutes of specialist telephone advice for parents caring for a child with severe neurological genetic conditions.

£50 will pay for a mother to attend a support day, giving her the help she needs to care for an extremely rare and profoundly disabling genetic condition.

£100 will help fund an educational booklet, helping teachers to maximise opportunities available to children with inherited learning disabilities.

£350 will pay for a child with a genetic disorder to spend a weekend away with other children like them, supported by trained medical staff.

£1,000 will help fund a film for teenagers with a life limiting condition, helping them to come to terms with, and encouraging them to begin to take responsibility for, their condition.

£1,300 will give a child who has lost the ability to speak access to a Tobii Eye Gaze machine, so that they can communicate with their eyes.

£2,000 will pay for a specialist nurse to support families affected by genetic disorders.

New Faces

Mrs Sarah Vorster
Nursery Manager



We are delighted to welcome Mrs Sarah Vorster to the role of Nursery Manager. A qualified teacher with experience of teaching junior school children of all ages for over 20 years, Mrs Vorster is a specialist in Early Years education.

“I am very excited to be a part of the team here at The Old School Henstead. The warm welcome I have received from the staff, the children and their families in our community has been wonderful. I feel truly blessed.

I have been teaching primary aged children for the last 21 years in London and have to keep pinching myself that this is a real job! Where is the concrete? Why are the staff smiling all of the time? Are those boys and girls in Year Six really skipping and singing?

I have lived in Beccles for three years now, with my husband David, Penelope (eight) and Francesca (two). We left north west London to be closer to

family in Southwold. and to try out a new family lifestyle.

When the nursery position was advertised I jumped at the opportunity to work here. The sounds, smells, scenery and setting are in stark contrast to the schools I have worked at in London but the children here are just as eager and ready to learn, full of energy and ideas, and brimming with personality.

I am looking forward to being part of the Henstead family.”

* * * *

We are also pleased to welcome Mrs Dana Sonn to the teaching team. A qualified teacher, who also holds an honours degree in English and American Literature, Mrs Sonn brings a wealth of experience from her working career in London and Chicago.

Mrs Dana Sonn
Year Three Form Tutor



“I share the aims and core values of The Old School Henstead in that my central philosophy of teaching is to inspire, motivate and challenge pupils to achieve their maximum potential, so they can become confident, compassionate and purposeful members of society, and life-long learners. This desire forms the backbone of my endeavours both in and out of the classroom and is the reason I became a teacher.

I am delighted to join the staff as the Year 3 Form Tutor and am excited to be a part of the children’s school journeys. I am looking forward to inspiring, motivating and challenging them to achieve their maximum potential, and of course, having fun on the way. Let the adventure begin!”

Meet the Mascots.



Before the start of every academic year each year group decides on an animal they wish to choose as their mascot. Every week the mascots are awarded to the pupils who best demonstrate the school's values: **Confidence, Resilience, Empathy, Adventure, Teamwork and Excellence (C.R.E.A.T.E.)**. Each half term we focus on one particular value. This half term we are focussing on Confidence. On Speech Day at the end of the year the mascots are awarded to the pupils who have best demonstrated all the values over the course of the year, and the pupils get to keep them and take them home - permanently.



This year's mascots are:



Nursery: Priscilla the Owl



Reception: Buzzy the Bee

Year One: Percival the Peregrine Falcon

Year Two: Stanley the Seagull



Year Three: Herbert the Komodo Dragon

Year Four: Copper the Peacock



Year Five: Siri the Snake

Year Six: Fang the Bat.

Every week the recipients write a diary about what the mascots have been up to over the weekend at home. We look forward to reading all about their adventures this year!



Summer Show Snapshots.



Thank you to everyone who supported our Summer Shows *Dazzle and Spinerelli Cappuccelli*.

And congratulations to all the pupils who once again impressed us with their vocal and acting talents.



School Calendar



The School Calendar, giving day-by-day details of key school events, trips, sports fixtures, musical and social events, is viewable on our website, via the following link:

<http://www.theoldschoolhenstead.co.uk/calendar/>

It is kept up to date, with additional events and fixtures added from time to time during the course of each term.

Lunch Menus



You may view the menus for this half term on our website, via the following link:

<http://theoldschoolhenstead.co.uk/lunch-menu/>

The menus operate on a four week cycle and will change again after half term to include more delicious winter dishes.

Freshly prepared every day by our wonderful Catering Manager Mrs Guilda, the tasty menus have been designed to provide great nutrition for active pupils and use quality fresh ingredients, locally sourced wherever possible, including organic seasonal produce from the school garden. If you have not yet signed your child up and wish to do so, kindly email the office.

Emergency



Emergency Closure Procedures

In the event of the school being closed owing to bad weather (or any other cause, for that matter) the following procedure will be followed:

The Headmaster or his representative will contact staff and parents as soon as possible (ideally before 7.30 a.m.)

This procedure will operate on each and every day the school is closed.

Harvest Festival



For our Harvest Festival service, which will be held next Friday 22 September at St Mary's Henstead (to which all parents are invited), we would be most grateful if pupils would bring donations of produce to the service. All items will be distributed to a local charity helping those in need. Non-perishable items or fresh produce with a long-life would be appreciated: tinned goods, food in jars, pasta, coffee, tea bags, potatoes, cereals, apples and the like would be welcome.

Macmillan Coffee Morning



Bake a cake and help those suffering with cancer.

The World's Biggest Coffee Morning is Macmillan's biggest fundraising event. Every penny raised will help Macmillan nurses to give medical, emotional and practical help to someone living with cancer.

We will be holding our annual event on **Friday 22 September** in the school hall after the Harvest Festival Service at St Mary's Church. Please join us and help us support this vital work.

We would appreciate any donations of cakes and baked goods, which may be brought into the office at end of day Thursday, or on Friday morning. If you are not a baker, we hope you will come along and perhaps buy a coffee or slice of cake for the cause. Also, if any parents are free to help with this event, especially decorating the hall or setting out the cakes or serving teas and coffees, please see Mrs Scriven.

We do appreciate your support as we fundraise for the wonderful work of *Macmillan Cancer Support*.

Mascot Awards.

Mascots were awarded this week to the pupils best demonstrating our school value for this half term - **Confidence**:



Reception: Autumn, for confidence in adapting to school routines

Year 1: Christabel, for showing confidence when starting tennis club

Year 2: Oliver, for confidently engaging with lessons and contributing his opinions

Year 3: Evelyn, for confidence in adapting to life in a new school and confidently taking part in her first swimming lesson

Year 4: Harry D, for confidently stepping up to the expectations of Year 4, improving on his times tables and getting 100% in his spelling test

Year 5: Harvey, got confidently seeking to make good choices and settle into Year 5

Year 6: Rachael, for confident preparation of the School Council elections and register duty with the Nursery.

Making a Splash



Year 2 and 3 had a wonderful first visit to the swimming pool this week. Jumping, gliding, dipping and splashing, they maintained an excellent attitude to water safety with enthusiastic smiles as they listened carefully to the instructors. Yet again, the children didn't fail to make their teachers proud as they displayed an excellent conduct while representing the school. A great first week to pave the way for the rest of the term, I'm sure.

Mr M Hunt and Mrs Sonn

Twitter



To keep up with school news, events and sports results between newsletters, do follow us on twitter: <https://twitter.com/OldSchoolHstead>

Reluctant twitterers need only open a (free) twitter account and follow us, without posting any of their own tweets.

Photographs



Our school photographer will resume taking individual and sibling group photographs on Monday.

UNIFORM SHOP

Opening Times
Term Time

Mondays 8.15-9.15
Thursdays 3.15-4.15

PTFA News Extra

Next PTFA Meeting AGM
& Meeting Wednesday 27
September 7pm



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