



The Old School Henstead

Newsletter

Autumn Term 2017 Issue 12 16 December 2017



Calendar for next week

Monday 18 December -

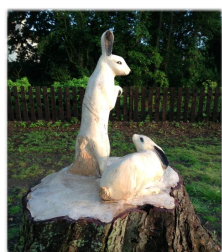
Wednesday 20 December

Holiday Club (bookable via the office)

Dates for your diary

Tuesday 9 January

Spring Term Begins (& start of Swimming & Gymnastics programme on first day)



Message from the Headmaster

May I wish every member of The Old School Henstead family a peaceful and blessed Christmas and New Year.

Mr McKinney

Carols by Candlelight.



A candlelit church, the familiar readings, thought-provoking words from the Reverend Reavil, a mixture of hymns and carols both familiar and new, all beautifully sung by the splendid choir of children and staff. Congratulations to all involved. A fitting end to a lively and productive term. Thank you to everyone who joined us. Your generosity raised over £500 for the Lowestoft Food Bank, which is running an emergency service over Christmas until it resumes early in the New Year. On Monday's assembly we had a visiting speaker from the food bank who explained how it works and the essential food it provides to families in need.

Miss Sindall

Christmas Around the World.



Children from Spain, Hawaii, India, America, China and Africa were conjured from a magical box of Christmas crackers to explain the "true reason for the season".

Each appeared in national costume to tell the next part of the story, from the angel visiting Mary to the visit of the three kings.



During the build up to the performance Years One, Two and Three impressed with how hard they worked and how focussed they were in rehearsal, each one taking responsibility for his or her own part and offering suggestions for the performance.



They had much fun putting this play together, learning the songs and dances and delighted in performing it to parents in St Mary's Church on Thursday.

Thank you to all the families who attended and also so generously gave to the retiring collection in aid of the Lowestoft Food Bank.



Miss Sindall





Reception Roundup.



What a wonderful end to such a fantastic first term at school. We have all risen to the challenges of school life, developed new friendships, and shown amazing resilience in our learning and are already showing how The Old School Henstead can give us a confident start to life.

We were able to demonstrate this confidence in our Nativity performance on Wednesday. Our ability to follow instructions, learn songs and lines as well as role play is a true reflection of the seven areas of learning that the EYFS curriculum promotes. Well Done Reception and Nursery from the EYFS team, we are all very proud of you!

Our singing skills were put to the test as well this week with the completion of the Inter-House Christmas song. Well done!



The week came to a festive end with Christmas crafts, music, movies and games been shared by all. We were treated to a performance of the junior school Nativity and performed some of our own Nativity songs to the rest of the school. This gave rise to much discussion and excitement as we enjoyed a wonderful Christmas lunch.

Thank you to all the EYFS families for your continued support and involvement in your child's learning. We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New year.

Mrs Scriven & Mrs Dakin





Nursery News.



Mail to Father Christmas

It was a very cold, windy and exciting Friday morning for our Nursery. We spent time in the week writing letters to Father Christmas and decided that a trip to the Post Office in Southwold was needed so that we could send them to him. The children bought a stamp each and posted their letter in the post box. Afterwards we took a brisk, chilly walk to The Pier for a delicious hot chocolate.



Christmas Baking

We also enjoyed some creative baking, making peppermint cream stars and gingerbread biscuit houses, to take home for Christmas. The children displayed great dexterity and concentrated very hard on the grand designs of their festive houses. We hope you enjoy them over the festive season.



Mrs Vorster & Miss Butcher



Inter-House Competition.



The much-anticipated end of term finale for the Houses got under way on Tuesday and reverse alphabetical order gave Yare first use of the stage. They gave a tuneful rendition of *Rockin' around the Christmas Tree* and it was a striking tableau, with a range of festive headwear, inflatable instruments and soft toys as dance partners for the younger members of the house. The lyrics had been rewritten on an Old School Henstead theme and all the performers had clearly rehearsed thoroughly, for it was a performance that demonstrated genuine musicality.

chorus. It was an innovative and pleasing performance.

Deben gave us a lively and visually striking rendition of *Jingle Bell Rock*. While the eponymous bells rang out the tempo, there was a strong vocal chorus, a tuneful vocal cameo from Robyn (no slouch for a Year One!) and a jive routine led off by Rebecca and Charlotte, ably supported by Bonnie and Isabelle.

The boys and girls thanked the house staff for their obvious attention to detail and production support. The jury retired for it was genuinely difficult to separate the contestants. In the event Waveney and Orwell were judged joint winners, with Waveney and Deben runners up.

It was a splendid competition and the children showed real house spirit as well as expertise. Well done to all.

Mr McKinney & Miss Sindall



Waveney were next up and had put a very considerable effort into mastering the challenging lyrics and tune of *It feels like Christmas* from the Muppets' Christmas Carol. Every member had a hand puppet to enhance the impact. There was a range of dynamics, a well-managed rallentando and a strong finish to this moving piece.

Orwell had the audience guessing - only one member of the cast in costume, a Christmas jumper, and standing apart from the chorus, which remained silent. As Emily's strong vocals led us into *Merry Christmas Everyone*, we were delighted to note that the house had learnt to sign the lyrics of the song, which they did to great effect, only joining their lead vocalist for the final



Christmas Art.



Year One pupils were busy creating Christmas lanterns in one of their Art sessions. We hope you enjoy them on your Christmas trees.

House Golds



As the Autumn Term comes to a close, we are pleased to report the running total of House Gold Points. We look forward to another term of competitive events.

	House	Points
1st	Waveney	851
2nd	Yare	770
3rd	Orwell	695
4th	Deben	668

Wire Sculpture



Year Three pupils have been busy in art creating wire sculptures.

The above picture shows one made by William, whose work was awarded an A1.

Save the Children



Thank you to all who donated a £1 to wear a Christmas jumper on the last day of term to raise money for Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day.



In the event of the school being closed owing to bad weather, please ensure we have your latest contact details.

If any of your contact numbers or email addresses have changed recently, please email your new details to the office as soon as possible.

Good Manners Awards.

We are pleased to announce the School Council's Good Manners Awards for this term:

Reception - Sebastian

Year 1 - Edward

Year 2 - Tom and Oliver

Year 3 - Marli

Year 4 - Bonnie

Year 5 - Emily

Year 6 - Matthew

The overall winners for the Lower and Upper School are:

Lower School - Edward

Upper School - Marli

Congratulations to all.



Parent & Toddler Group



Our Parent & Toddler group will resume on Tuesday 16 January, with an extended time of 1:30-3:30.

New Arrival



We are delighted to announce the arrival of the latest member of the Henstead family - Florence - Mr Hunter's baby daughter. Florrie made a flying visit to school this week.

Christmas Competition



We are pleased to announce the winners of last week's Newsletter competition - correctly answering that 14 angels featured in the newsletter and that Father Christmas is also known by the name Saint Nicholas. Congratulations to:

Senior Winner: Ebony

Junior Winner: Robyn

We hope you enjoy your Christmas prizes.

Tennis Clubs



Our tennis clubs will be taking a break during this winter weather and will resume with coach Ben Thompson after the Easter Holidays. We look forward to another exciting season of tennis.

UNIFORM SHOP

Opening Times
Term Time

Mondays 8.15-9.15
Thursdays 3.15-4.15



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