



The Old School Henstead

Newsletter

Spring Term 2015 Issue 1 16 January 2015



Calendar for next week

Tuesday 20 January
Wednesday 21 January
Friday 23 January
Saturday 24 January

1.00 Choir Workshop with VOCES8 at Woodbridge School
8.55 Introduction to the Violin: Caroline Clarke
2.30 U11 Football v The Abbey (A)
ISA National Swimming Championships, Olympic Pool, Stratford, London

Dates for your diary

Friday 30 January
Saturday 14 March

Candlemas Service at St Mary's Henstead
Open Morning (Half Day School)



Message from the Headmaster

May I wish every member of the Henstead family a happy and prosperous New Year! The children have clearly been refreshed by the Christmas season and have returned to work full of stories and enthusiasm for the exciting learning opportunities on the calendar of events for the term.

Calendar Dates

The term dates for the academic year ahead are published on this term's calendar and on the school website. Parents will note that, because of the three additional Saturday Open Mornings of teaching and learning during the school year, I feel that we can now revise our Autumn half term dates for 2015, bringing them in line with those of the senior schools attended by our children.

School Values

In this half of term we will focus on empathy, on respecting difference, stepping into another's shoes and understanding his or her point of view - even the briefest glance at the media illustrates how important this may prove to be.

Musical initiatives

I am delighted that we will be reintroducing violin to our music curriculum and look forward to Caroline Clarke's string assembly later this month. We will be looking to see the choir develop its repertoire also, with an exciting workshop at Woodbridge School led by VOCES8 to come.

Calling all Scientists!

We will be celebrating British Science Week in March and I know that Mr Tiley-Nunn would love to hear from any parents who are able to contribute to the programme.

Poetry and Reading

Our librarians will lead the organisation of the class libraries and I would encourage the boys and girls to bring in books and chose a replacement from the swap shelves. Let's get reading... I am most pleased that Andrew Murray, Head of English at Norwich School, has accepted the invitation to adjudicate the Poetry competition at the end of term, in which the Houses will also have the chance to showcase their choral speaking skills.

Swim and Gym

We remain committed to a broad curriculum and the Senior years have made a positive start to developing their gymnastic skills thanks to the splendid facilities and staff of the Waveney Club. Years Two and Three have also taken to Bungay Pool like ducks to water..

Uniform Matters

I am sure that parents will support me in wishing to see the children smartly turned out at all times. With this in mind, may I ask that only regulation hats, scarves, gloves and coats are worn to school. Thank you in advance.

As ever, please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any concerns. *Mr McKinney*



School Council News.

School Council Election

Preparations are well underway for the first ever School Council Election - on Monday 19 January. All pupils have been encouraged to play an active part as a pupil voice, producing campaign posters, manifestos and speeches to rally support.

Polling Day will take place on Monday with the prefects and the Head of School Council taking the lead roles. The Polling Station will be managed by the prefects who will take responsibility as officers, maintain order, confidentiality and issue the ballot papers.

Votes will be placed in a sealed black ballot box. Prefects will complete the first count, the Head of School Council will then check, verify and collate the results. The final result will be announced by Mr McKinney.
Miss Clifton



School Council Members unwrap the giant chess set purchased using funds raised through the recent Mathematical fundraiser.

An Aurora of Polar Bears.



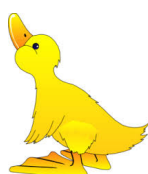
Year Two shared with the school this week why we should all be empathetic about the plight of the Polar Bears in the Arctic.

Empathy is all about understanding what others are feeling because you have experienced it yourself, or you can put yourself in their shoes.

So Year Two, dressed up as a beautiful aurora and told us their story of how the weather is changing where the Polar Bears live, and what effect this is having on the lives of the bears. They explained what Global Warming is, and what we can all do to help. They produced a school Learning Trail of Arctic Animal Babies for the children to take part in at break times and left the children in the knowledge that Polar Bears can indeed play football, and that Year Two are extremely good dancers (Ice Ice Baby!)

Miss Kay

House Round Up



ORWELL

Our first quiz as house leaders was a successful one. Our first win, and it wasn't going to be our last!

The next inter-house competition was a bit messy. We headed to the art room to create a 'masterpiece.' We used loads of different materials, from paint to leaves, and crayons to colours. When we walked in we realised there was a lot of competition as Waveney had a good piece, but they were short on trees. We were relieved to hear our name in 1st place. Win number two!

Even though we lost we gave loads of effort into the inter-house Hockey, as we had Ruby with an injured arm and Grace away ill. That didn't stop us banging in goals against Waveney 5-1 as Nick scored an incredible four and set up Natalie for an easy tap in. What a game! We managed 3rd place.

The last event of the term was the Christmas songs competition. We were so close to victory as we lost to Deben by one point! Congratulations and well done to all Orwell members. What a brilliant term.

Written by Nick Saunders and Ruby McDowell.



YARE

We were very pleased when we knew that we could sing *Rudolf the Red-Nosed*

Reindeer as our Christmas song, and the whole House set to, to learn all the words. Oscar and co introduced some cheeky echoes for the second verse and, on performance day, it was good to see the singers performing in two parts, and our youngest members jumping up at exactly the right time as Santa's helpers were all introduced. Good team work, Yare Bears.

Earlier in the term we had already worked as a team to produce our huge collage; all hands on deck to cover every bit of paper, with inspiration from Sonny, who gave an excellent lesson on how to make butterflies, and Oscar, who could hardly be glimpsed when he brought his own mobile 'jungle' to school, harvested freshly from his garden. Honey and Peppa helped to stick insects and all manner of exciting creatures on the parts of the picture the smaller Yare Bears could not reach.

Although we did not win these competitions, we were triumphant in the hockey and are doing our best to get stacks of golds for Yare. A great term of team spirit, Yare; now for the bears tackling *Three Little Pigs*!



DEBEN

The red Deben foxes are still smiling from their House Music victory at the end of last term - the first inter-house competition we have won in a very long time! We're hoping this will set off a winning streak for 2015, as we get to grips with *Chicken Licken*, our entry for the Drama Competition this term.



WAVENEY

We enjoyed working on our art piece - *Rainforest on the Edge* - last term and were delighted with the strong feedback on the end result, although we were pipped at the post by Orwell. The Christmas song competition was a great end to the term, with everyone in strong voice, despite not bringing home a win. So we are hoping to have the edge in this half term's drama competition. We are planning to be able to work our current school value 'empathy' into our production of *The Three Billy Goats Gruff*. Go Waveney!

Nursery News.



New term, new topics.

Happy New Year to everyone at Nursery! We would like to welcome everyone back for a new term and especially some new faces - hello to Amelia, Robyn and Jessica.

The children have settled back into Nursery life and have been enjoying our new topic of Weather.

On Thursday we had a visit from Sarah from Beccles Library. She read us some stories and we sang songs. The favourite story was *Mrs Vickers Knickers*. Poor Mrs Vickers lost her knickers on the washing line! The children searched for them in the garden but weren't successful.



Nursery Star of the Week ★

Nursery Star of the Week goes to Jack for his continued fantastic behaviour. Well done Jack - enjoy having Harry Henstead for the weekend!

Miss O'Mara and Miss Butcher

SPORTS ROUND UP

Cross-Country & Swimming



CROSS-COUNTRY

Congratulations to Grace - the newly awarded Suffolk county Cross-Country Champion 2015 (Under 11 Girls).

SWIMMING

Clara and George are through the finals of the ISA (Independent Schools Association) National Swimming Championships. They will swim in the finals to be held at the Olympic Pool, Stratford, London on Saturday 24 January. It will be a special experience to swim in the same pool as the best Olympians in the world. We wish them well and look forward to hearing all about it.



This Term's School Clubs.

After School Clubs

We're pleased to offer the following After School Clubs this term:

Arts Project
Spy School
Hockey
Netball
Dodgeball/Benchball
Multisport
Football
Wii Sports
Racquet Sports.

If you wish to sign your child up for any of these Clubs, kindly ask at the Office. Numbers may be limited for some Clubs.

Lunch Time Clubs

In addition to After School Clubs, we also offer a number of (free) Lunch Time Clubs:

S.T.E.M.
Chess
Computer Programming.



Spy School pupils get active learning some James Bond skills!

Brayden Day Fundraiser

Our Brayden Day fundraiser events raised £245.30 for Addenbrooke's Hospital, where Brayden was treated successfully last year. The photograph shows Brayden with the certificate of appreciation received from the hospital this week. Thank you to all the parents and pupils who contributed.

We are very grateful to the wonderful doctors and nurses at Addenbrooke's for nursing Brayden back to health so that he was able to return to his many friends at The Old School Henstead.



Mascot Winners



This week's Mascot Winners, for best demonstrating the school value *Empathy*, are:

R - Phillip H
Y1 - Matthew J
Y2 - Joe
Y3 - Alex L
Y4 - Finney
Y5 - Isabelle R
Y6 - Honey

Learning Trail



The winners of this week's Learning Trail - on famous buildings - are Bethany, Daisy & Ruby McD.

Gold Awards



Congratulations to Matilda, Louis, Skye and Joe on their award of Gold Certificates for 15 outstanding achievements. Well done!

UNIFORM SHOP

Opening Times
Mondays 0830-0930

PTFA

News Extra

Next PTFA Meeting
Monday 23 February at 7.30pm

Gig in a Barn 7 March
£10 per head

Family Fun Bingo Friday
Evening 20 March

Easter Egg Hunt, Easter Bonnet Competition & Cream Teas Monday 30 March at 2.30pm

Christmas Fayre Success
Our Christmas Fayre raised £1,560. Thank you to everyone who contributed to the planning, crafting, baking, manning stalls and making purchases on the day.

Competition Winners



The winners of the Christmas Newsletter Competition, with book prizes of *A Child's Christmas in Wales* and *The Night Before Christmas*, were Nathan and Matilda.

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