



# The Old School Henstead

## Newsletter

Autumn Term 2015 Issue 6 16 October 2015



### Calendar for next week

19-30 October

Half Term

26-28 October

Holiday Club (bookable via the Office)

### Dates for your diary

Monday 2 November

Term Resumes

Friday 6 November

8.50 Remembrance Service at St Mary's Henstead (note revised start time)

### Message from the Headmaster



In this final week before the half term holiday, we continue to focus on our value of confidence. How then do the examples set by such as Edith Cavell, the anniversary of whose heroic death we marked in assembly, or the preparation of shoeboxes in aid of Operation Christmas Child support this? The answer must surely lie in the intrinsic nature of service, or, more precisely, being of service. It is sometimes remarked that schools such as ours engage in such activities as fundraising for charities in order to tick some regulatory box, or even salve conscience. In real terms, we do so because we seek to assist in the upbringing of decent, reflective young people who wish to make a difference. The difference lies in action to help those who need it, but it is also our children who benefit from so doing. In being of service they feel that their efforts count, that they are needed - being needed is the mother of self-esteem, of confidence in a task begun, seen through and brought to completion, in spite of difficulties encountered along the way. *Mr McKinney*

*"Someday, somehow, I am going to do something useful, something for people. They are, most of them, so helpless, so hurt and so unhappy." Edith Cavell*

## Letter from Buckingham Palace.



Following our Assembly on 9th September to mark The Queen becoming the longest reigning British Monarch, pupils in Year Five held a discussion in an English lesson with their Form Tutor Mr Jensen and decided they would like to write individual letters to The Queen, expressing their admiration and thanks for her dedication and long service. Many letters also included questions. For example Daniel asked her about the challenges of her job, her favourite pet and what she liked about living in Buckingham Palace.

The children did not expect a reply, given the volume of mail that The Queen receives on a daily basis. So you can imagine the surprise and sheer delight that appeared on faces when a letter bearing the Buckingham Palace postmark arrived at school this week. Tilly said "Wow! She actually wrote back!"

It is indeed an honour.

# House Competitions.



House Quiz Winning Team

## House Art Competition

The House Art Competition was a superb way to round off the first half of term. Our theme was 'London' and it was clear that the four houses had invested a great deal of creative thinking and effort in their exhibits. Deben produced a strongly coloured quadryptic, layering the silhouetted profiles of the house members with famous landmarks. Waveney also focussed on recognisable features of the London skyline, presented in bright and varied textures and materials. Yare had been inspired by the regal celebrations in the Capital and constructed a pleasing three dimensional display of royal crowns, whilst Orwell chose the journey to London as a part of their theme, with a futuristic representation of the London Eye as their centrepiece by the side of the duck-filled banks of the Thames. The judging was based on the involvement of all members of the House in the project, the ingenuity of the idea, how successfully it fulfilled the brief and, of course, the enjoyment that the piece created. It was Orwell who were deemed to have done so best, but congratulations to all

the boys, girls and House staff for their ideas, work and involvement.

## House Quiz

The House Quiz was a mixture of spelling challenges, number puzzles, general knowledge, including famous landmarks and the much-awaited 'name that tune.' The final round saw a late surge from Deben, who took the title with a wonderful range of words based on the letters in 'Henstead.' There was enthusiastic support for the teams from the Houses and thanks as ever to Mrs Dakin for organising the event and to Miss Clifton for keeping the scores on the doors.

## House Points

Following today's competitions, the current House Points now stand at:

Orwell	1108
Deben	1052
Waveney	971
Yare	891

Mr McKinney



Orwell



Waveney



Deben



Yare

# Early Years News.

## Reception's Clinic & X-Ray Room

We welcomed Reception parents to our Stay and Play session on Wednesday to learn all about our skeleton. Our role-play hospital area became an x-ray department for the morning to help us check that our bones are healthy. We know that our bones are very important as they help to support and protect our bodies and help us move.

Children and parents were set four tasks to complete together. These included:

- 1) Skeleton game - we had to take turns to roll the dice to collect parts of the skeleton. The winner was the person who completed their body first.
- 2) Skeleton drawings using chalk - we completed full body X-rays using black paper and white chalk. The children showed mums and dads how to smudge the chalk using their fingers.
- 3) The X-ray machine - the children took X-rays of mummy's or daddy's hand using our X-ray machine. We then sprayed watered down white paint over the hand and on to black paper to leave a hand print. Cotton buds were then added to make the bones.
- 4) Writing - the children completed a short writing task about our story "Presents for Dad". Poor daddy was in hospital with a broken leg. The children bought him chocolate and grapes but somehow they all got eaten up!

A big well done to all of the children and thank you to the parents for joining in with some rather messy activities! Everyone is invited to come and look at our skeletons and X-rays.

*Miss Coxon and Mrs Scoggins*

## Nursery's Autumn Project

Nursery opened its doors on Wednesday morning and let parents in for an Early Years Stay and Play. The parents soon got stuck in with the Nursery's theme of the week - autumn! There were clay hedgehogs with prickly stick backs being made and autumn pictures involving lots of glue, conkers, leaves and acorns! We finished with a good sing song in Reception with Mrs Suffolk. Thank you to the parents for sharing our Nursery session with us. Please feel free to come and look at our wonderful autumn display.

*Miss O'Mara and Miss Butcher*



# In the footsteps of Sir Isaac Newton.

This term Year Five has been studying forces through the work of Sir Isaac Newton. This week we were looking at the force of air resistance on objects and experimented with parachutes. The objective was to create the parachute with the slowest descent, therefore offering the most air resistance.

Mr Jensen



## 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](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).

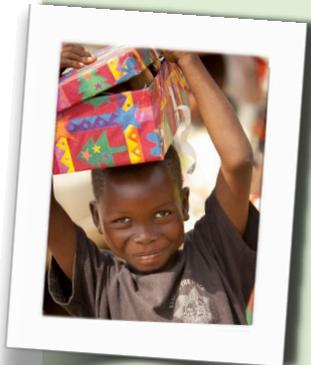
Each box requires a **£3.00 shipping donation**. You can pay this by cash or cheque (using the envelope attached to the

leaflet) and place it in your shoebox, or pay online at [www.operationchristmaschild.org.uk](http://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.



# Maritime matters.

Year Two



Year Two made the short trip to Southwold on Monday to see examples of the sea defences they have been learning about in our current topic. We have been talking about the energy of the sea, and the destruction it causes along our coastline and have been looking at coastal management. The sea was raging and we thought the man-made sea wall, groynes and huge rocks were doing a pretty good job! We dodged the spray of the waves all the way to the pier, where we did some group map work, adding symbols to the key and map to show what you can do on Southwold pier.

We then moved on to a very windy beach and flew our home-made kites. They flew extremely well; every child was able to get theirs soaring into the air, with Darcey and Imogen moving on to stunts and Harry S and Isobel definitely flying theirs the highest.



Following a delicious ice cream and an investigation of beach safety signs (also something we have been learning about) we had a tour of the harbour, looking at all the fishing boats and marine workshops - Southwold is so much more than ice creams and buckets and spades! We have been learning about employment in seaside resorts, both historically and nowadays.

Al fresco lunch followed, before a very entertaining workshop in the Alfred Correy Museum, in which Francis and Harry D were the bearded stars of the show. The children learnt all about the Victorian lifeboat and the amazing stories surrounding the heroic rescues and terrifying conditions faced by the lifeboat men out at sea over a hundred years ago. It started us thinking about life during the Victorian era...right on cue for next term's topic.



A huge thanks to Mr and Mrs Hunt for showing us around the museum and telling us all those interesting facts.

*Miss Kay and Miss Newnham*



# SPORTS ROUND UP

## Hockey



### HOCKEY

#### Under 9 Hockey

Friday afternoon saw the first match for our girls, as the Under 9 hockey team took to the pitch, hosting Saint Felix. A slightly hesitant start allowed our visitors the first goal and although we made many excursions into their D, we were unable to find the equaliser. A quickly taken free hit by Saint Felix caught the Henstead girls slightly by surprise, and they were able to double their score. Did this dampen our young team's spirits? Of course not, these are Henstead girls after all!

A quick re-jig of positions at half time saw Matilda move to centre forward, and what a difference she made. She sashayed her way through the field, and in partnership with Daisy, scored a thoroughly deserved goal. Excellent defence by Skye and Honor, the latter impressing with a magnificent goal line clearance that denied our guests the opportunity to add to the score. Every single girl tried her hardest throughout the match and it was wonderful to see them all gain confidence and improve. Particular mention must be made to the team captain, Olivia, who led by example throughout, even though she was nursing a broken finger at the time.

With a score line of 1-2, the Henstead girls collected their opponents and hand in hand went off for tea.

Many thanks to you parents for the fantastic support and for the magnificent tea.

#### Under 11 Hockey

On Wednesday afternoon it was the turn of our older girls to start their season, as we jumped in the minibus for a trip down the A12. This annual friendly tournament at The Abbey is a great way to start our season as it gives the girls a chance to practise new skills in a competitive yet supportive environment. With the girls divided into four teams, each playing three matches, there was plenty for our vocal supporters to enjoy.

The downpour half way through the afternoon was less enjoyable, but a bit of rain did not dampen the girls' enthusiasm and I was delighted to see how they have all progressed since last year. With all competitions, there must be a winner and this year the red team, comprising Isabelle and Tilly were victors. Both of the girls added to their team's scoreline - Isabelle's goal will live long in memory.

*Miss Goddard*

# Bonfire & Fireworks Party!

The school PTFA will host its annual Bonfire and Fireworks Party on Friday 6th November from 6.30pm.

Tickets (available soon) will be priced at £5.00 for adults and £3.00 for children and include entrance and a hot dog.

The evening will include PTFA-run stalls selling hot and cold drinks, snacks, toffee

apples, sweets and the all important glow sticks!

The event is one of the best nights of the year and so we do hope as many of you as possible will be able to join us and share the fun.

Anyone interested in helping with the event planning, or on the night with car park allocation, please speak to Jenny Hadingham or a member of the PTFA.

## Mascots Away



There were no mascot winners this week, as the mascots are preparing for their half term holiday - their suitcases and trunks are packed! I wonder where they are going?

## Learning Trail



The winners of this week's Learning Trail - on the subject of books and authors - are: Bethany, Kate, Honor and Daisy McD. Well done!

## Children in Need



Our Upper School choir will be singing in Beccles town centre (opposite HSBC Bank) on Thursday 19 November at 2pm, to raise money for *Children in Need*. There will also be a PTFA cake sale adjacent to the choir. Please come along and support the children and a great cause.

Friday 20 November will be a non-uniform day. For a donation of £1 to *Children in Need*, pupils may come to school dressed in spots for Pudsey Bear.

## PTFA

### News Extra

**Bonfire & Fireworks Evening** Friday 6 November 6.30pm. Tickets £5 adult/£3 child, including hot dog.

**Pampered Chef Evening** Tuesday 10 November 7.30pm. £5 including light refreshments.

**Children in Need** Thursday 12 November 2pm. Choir singing in Beccles town centre, plus cake stall, all in aid of *Children in Need*. Cakes and help required please!

**Christmas Fayre** Saturday 28 November 12.30 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.

## UNIFORM SHOP

Opening Times  
(Term Time)  
Tuesdays 8.30-9.30  
Thursdays 3.15-4.15



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