



Dates for your diary

Wednesday 8 January 2014

Spring Term begins

Message from the Headmaster

May I take this opportunity to thank every single member of the Henstead community, children, staff, parents, families and friends alike for their support during this wonderfully successful term. The boys and girls have achieved so much. I wish you all a blessed Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Mr McKinney



The Watering Hole



There was a great deal of expectation in the run-up to the Junior Nativity this year. Reports from the class teachers in rehearsals were very positive - there was tuneful singing and well portrayed characters in prospect. We were not disappointed. *The Watering Hole* charmed the packed audience in St. Mary's with a traditional Nativity storyline, hugely enhanced by curious Kings, cheery camels, a weary innkeeper and his wife given no peace by the

Roman legion and its demanding officers. The Holy family was welcomed by angels who acted as a chorus, smartly turned out shepherds and their sheep who were keen to avoid being mutton stew!

It was an excellent performance and a moving introduction to the Christmas season. Special thanks to Mrs Suffolk for her inspiration, her direction and her libretto.

Egyptology studies with Year Four.



The date is 1922. Year Four Egyptologists arrived at Norwich Castle to find a debate raging between two Archaeologists fresh from the discovery of Tutankhamun's Tomb and two outraged women from 1500 BC, Meryt Amun and Amunet. We were asked to judge and consider during the day whether to allow the young king to rest for eternity or deliver his secrets to science. With that in mind we dispersed to our activity session - for us embalming and mummification came first. Although we hadn't covered the topic yet, Year Four were beginning to show their poise and confidence in the public arena. Having honed our wrapping and binding skills we went to see the impressive 'Mummy in the Wrong Coffin' display with a detailed commentary provided. From there it was jewellery making, with due attention given to the symbolic meaning of colours.

After our Ancient Egyptian lunches (many thanks for your enterprising menus) we went to examine some artefacts in detail and finally to re-enact the coronation ceremony of the young Tutankhamun. 'Rattle your cistrum vigorously dear!' What was the vote? Leave the royal remains undisturbed!

Mr Butcher



Nursery Nativity



On Thursday the 12th December Christmas truly arrived at The Old School Henstead.

With the Shepherds herding the sleepy little sheep and the Angels dancing, the scene was set for a truly magical nativity.

After a rousing chorus of Jingle bells everyone joined with us in Reception for some well deserved mince pies. Happy Christmas! Mrs Rawlings and Miss Butcher



Christmas Fayre



It was a marvellous day, with so much to do, to see and to buy. The stalls were busy throughout the afternoon and the children were eager to relieve their parents of as much change as they could get away with. Peppa's performance at the tombola and raffle will ensure that Dad has a very merry Christmas! There were splendid festive crafts, jams and pickles, teddies galore, silver carrots to find, not to mention reindeer produce of every imaginable (and some unimaginable) kind. All of which greatly pleased The Kindly Old Gentleman himself, who had a string of expectant visitors, ably marshalled by his elf helper. Many thanks to the PTFA who worked so hard to make the event run smoothly. Ho! Ho! Ho!



Gold I bring...



Congratulations to Ruby McDowell on the award of a Gold Certificate for 15 A1's. It is the first Gold Certificate to be awarded this academic year. Well done Ruby.

Mr McKinney



Reception boys get into the party mood over Christmas lunch today.

SPORTS ROUND UP

Rugby, Swimming, Cricket & Inter-House News



RUGBY FOOTBALL

School Report

Term: Christmas 2013

Subject: Rugby Football

Name: Henstead O.S.

Effort: Excellent

Attainment: Good

Henstead can look back on an encouraging term and one in which genuine progress has been made. He has applied himself to the improvement of his skills and handling has become more positive and more assured. It is pleasing to note the impact that SAQ drills have had in this area. There has been genuine teamwork to admire and defensive resilience, whilst still an area for development, is becoming more secure. If he continues to apply himself, we can look forward to next season with confidence.

SWIMMING AWARDS

Congratulations to everyone who was awarded a swimming certificate or badge in this morning's Assembly. Well done.

JOE WICKS SELECTED FOR NORFOLK CRICKET SQUAD

Joe Wicks has made it into the squad for the U10 Norfolk Cricket team. Congratulations!

INTER-HOUSE CHAMPIONSHIPS

This year the Inter house sports competition has been brought back, pupils from Year One to Year Six will compete in in their houses in sports such as, hockey, netball, football, rounders, the swimming gala, sports day and cross country. Points will be awarded for each position whether it is first place or fourth place; each pupil will participate in every sport, giving them a sense of competition and new experiences. Over the past two weeks Senior hockey for Years Three to Six and Junior Uni hockey for Years One and Two.

Orwell won the Senior competition and Deben won the Junior competition. Top goals scorers for the games were: Felix – 11 Seb – 4 George – 4 Nick – 4. Both competitions saw some superb hockey being played by everyone involved.

Overall scores:

Deben – 175

Orwell – 175

Waveney – 100

Yare - 50



Newsletter Snowman Competition Results

Last week's newsletter challenge was: **How many Snowmen can you count in the newsletter?** The answer was 13! Five pupils guessed correctly to win one of the lovely Christmas prizes shown in the photograph:
Harry Lennard (Reception)
Ewan Lennard (Year Two)
Louis Davey (Year Three)
Poppy Le Quesne & George Taylor (Year Four)



Email Communication



As we encourage the pupils to consider the impact of our lives on the environment, we want to set an example in our communications to parents by keeping paper notices to a sensible minimum (except where signatures or forms are required to be completed) and for selected other letters and reports. Other notices will continue to be communicated by email and therefore we appreciate parents' support in checking all emails from the school.

Please let Mrs Mills know urgently if your contact details have changed.



Nativity News



We welcome Harper, Mrs Hall's new granddaughter, who joined the Henstead family at 6 pounds 11 and a half ounces on the day of the Christmas Fayre. Mother, baby and proud Gran are all doing well, if a bit tired.



Christmas Holiday Club



The Christmas Holiday Club will run for three days after the end of term, from Wednesday 18 December to Friday 20 December. The Club will consist of a variety of different sports, including dodge ball, uni-hoc, bench ball, handball, badminton, basketball, ten pin bowling and more. There will also be cookery and a variety of Christmas inspired art and crafts. Parents may book their children to attend all three days or individual days. There will be a half day option on Friday 20 December for members of the choir performing at the external event later that day. Kindly return a booking form to secure a place.

Mr Hunter



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