



# The Old School Henstead

## Newsletter

Autumn Term 2017 Issue 8 17 November 2017



### Calendar for next week

- Tuesday 21 November  
1.30 Years 2 & 3 Swimming  
2.15 Years 4,5 & 6 Swimming  
2.30 Reception & Year 1 Gymnastics
- Wednesday 22 November  
Book Fair Begins (see Page 9 for opening times & separate parent viewing times)  
Years 1 & 2 visit Henstead Arts & Crafts Centre

### Dates for your diary

- Friday 1 December  
8.50 Advent Service at St Mary's Henstead (*change of date*)  
3.30-6.30 PTFA Christmas Fayre
- Friday 8 December  
9.00 PTFA Christmas Parties
- Wednesday 13 December  
Nursery Nativity
- Thursday 14 December  
2.00 School Nativity at St Mary's Henstead
- Friday 15 December  
12.00 School Christmas Lunch (all pupils invited)  
7.00 Carol Service at St Mary's Henstead



### Message from the Headmaster

This is the time of year when our senior boys and girls really have to step up to the plate. Practising their interview skills is an important part of the transition to senior school and I have been impressed by the mature manner in which they have approached this challenging task. I have no doubt that they will be a credit to their senior schools of choice. Keep at it! *Mr McKinney*



## Pudsey Bear Everywhere.

It was wonderful to see the entire school community get behind today's fundraising for *BBC Children in Need*. Wherever you turned there were children either dressed in Pudsey themed outfits or engaged in a learning activity around the subject at some point during the day. It was also lovely to hear pupils talking about the reason behind the fundraising and thinking about children who face difficulties in their lives every single day and may not be well enough to attend school regularly. Thank you all for your support. See next page for results!





The excitement started early in the day with a live interview with Mr McKinney on Radio Suffolk's *Mark Murphy Breakfast Show*, about our fundraising plans for *BBC Children in Need*. After a rehearsal in the Hall the choir headed to Beccles in anticipation of their performance in the town centre. They were joined by members of the PTFA who set up a cake stall with contributions from so many generous parents.

Shortly after the choir started their repertoire BBC Radio Suffolk's presenter James Hazell was on the phone once again to hear the choir in action, which was broadcast on air.

The boys and girls were in fine voice and under Miss Sindall's direction presented a varied programme of sacred and secular choral music, ranging

from Pacem, reflecting our recent remembrance service, through *Suo Gân*, a charming Welsh folk song, to the Elvis classic *Jailhouse Rock*, accompanied by dance moves from Daisy, Harvey, Harry B and Tom R.

Many thanks as always to Mrs Clayton for her skillful accompaniment. After a restorative hot chocolate, it was back to school to raise more funds. The boys and girls paid for their right to a non-uniform day. **We are delighted to report that we raised over £400 for Children in Need.** Thank you.

You may listen to either of the interviews on iPlayer Radio:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/radiosuffolk>

and select the 17 November date for the *Mark Murphy* and *James Hazell* shows.

# Studies at Strangers' Hall.



On Wednesday Year 1 children set off for Strangers' Hall in Norwich. The aim of this trip was to support and extend our knowledge for our 'Toys from the Past' topic.

Our exciting day started with a treasure hunt in the toy exhibition room to hunt down a selection of different toys from different ages and countries.. Some toys were particularly hard to find, especially the baby's rattle!

Favourite finds included the rocking horse, soldier's castle set and a rather splendid doll's house.



We were then collected and taken to the toymaker's workshop. She had got into a terrible muddle and the Year 1 students ably assisted her by sorting out her toys for her. She showed us some unusual toys including a zyrotrope which revealed a pair of dancers. The Jacob's ladder toy and ball in a cup toy were big hits too.

Our final workshop involved making a string operated gingerbread man toy which climbed upwards by alternating pulling forces. The children decorated them to their own tastes and included a karate kicking Ninja gingerbread man and a climbing up a chimney Father Christmas gingerbread man.



We ate our lunch in the oldest part of the building which was over 700 years old! The undercroft at Strangers' Hall is thought to date from the 1320s when Ralph de Middelton owned a house on this site. The undercroft was used to securely store, and possibly display, goods for sale.

We returned to school tired, but happy with a free admission ticket to a selection of Norwich museums. What a great day!

*Mrs Loader*





# LAMDA Examinations.

Last Saturday seventeen pupils from The Old School Henstead took their LAMDA acting examinations at the school.

For their exam, pupils have to act two contrasting pieces to an external examiner. One of the pieces is set by the examining board and the other scene is an 'own choice' scene which needs to provide a contrast to the first piece. A lot of the scenes are taken from well-known books such as *The Lion and the Witch and the Wardrobe*, *Tom Sawyer* and *The Wizard of Oz*. The children need to be familiar with the stories they are acting, so it encourages them to explore new authors and story lines.

The candidates also have to answer questions about the characters they play, the location of the scenes

and how the characters are feeling in the scenes. This is a very useful pre-cursor to any kind of interview they might encounter in the future.

The chief benefit from doing these exams is that it definitely boosts the children's confidence. They learn to speak out and speak up and be comfortable in front of an audience. Games are my starting point for the younger children.

We won't know the result of the examinations until next term, but I was very proud of the way that all the children dealt with the exam situation on Saturday – which, in itself is a useful life experience.

*Mrs Camplin*

## Second Hand Book Sale.



The School Council and the Old School Henstead PTFA combined forces to organise and run the first Old School Henstead 2nd Hand Book Sale.

With Christmas in mind and the need for making space, donations of loved, but no longer needed books was generous and hugely appreciated.

Able managed by our Head of School Council Rachael Lambert, a pop-up shop appeared in Year 6. The School Council had given careful consideration and much discussion during their weekly meeting to the pricing and settled on 20p per book.

Business was brisk and many a smile illuminated the room as bargain purchases were made.

All funds raised will be split equally between the PTFA and the School Council. This will enable both to add to their funds and to reinvest the profits for the benefit of all the children.

The School Council would like to express thanks to the PTFA, the children who donated books and to those who purchased. Over 100 books were sold!

*Miss Clifton*



# Nursery News.



This week we were inspired by Kasper's weather observations to make weather bottles and weather pictures. The children thought hard about what colours and materials would be appropriate to use.

We were very grateful to Mrs Nicol this week for giving up some of her time and helping some of our children bake Pudsey Bear biscuits.



## Nursery Star of the Week

Nursery Star of the Week goes to Francesca. Well done. Priscilla will be going home with you for a sleepover this weekend because you have been very good at listening to the teachers this week.

*Mrs Vorster and Miss Butcher*



# Reception Roundup.



We had a strong emphasis on friendships in Reception this week to support anti-bullying week. We talked about relationships and what makes a good friend and how we can be assertive and use positive communication skills to help us develop better social skills.

In art with Miss Coxon we enjoyed using our 2D shapes to recreate our own Kandinsky style concentric circles pictures within a square surrounding.



Mr McKinney joined us in our Early Years French lesson on Tuesday. He accompanied our singing, playing his guitar and taught us a new French song 'Bonjour mes amis' (hello my friends!) We look forward to singing with Mr McKinney again soon.

In preparation for *Children in Need* on Friday we joined with Nursery and Mrs Nicol to make our own Pudsey Bear biscuits. We also enjoyed raising money by coming into school in our home clothes for the day.

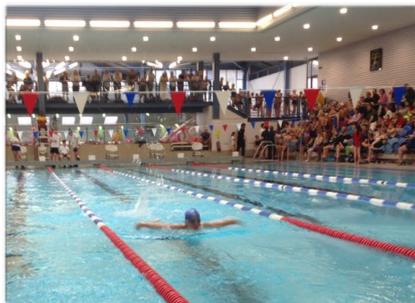
Brace yourself for the glitter - Christmas preparations will be starting next week!

*Mrs Scriven & Mrs Dakin*



# SPORTS ROUND UP

## Swimming



### ISA Swimming Gala

Our swimming team of 21 pupils travelled to Ipswich for the Independent Schools Association (ISA) regional swimming qualifiers on Wednesday. It was a fantastic opportunity for our swimmers to aim for places to represent the Eastern regional at the national final, which will be held at the Olympic pool in London.

Our team was selected from pupils in Year 2 up to Year 6.

There was much excitement as the teams prepared for the different races: back stroke, breast stroke, butterfly, freestyle and relay. Each race required the pupils to swim 50 metres, which is a lot longer than you realise once you're in the water! The tournament ran for 3 ½ hours.

Both Mr Hunter and myself were very proud of our Old School Henstead participants as they all showed determination and resilience in every race.

Overall it was excellent afternoon of swimming from the entire Henstead team, who managed to finish an amazing 8th place overall, doing themselves and the school proud.

Thank you to all of the parents to came and supported our swimmers and well done again to all of the boys and girls who represented our school.

*Mr Hunter and Mrs Jensen*





The Old School Henstead

Toad Row, Henstead NR34 7LG

# Christmas Fayre

Friday 1st December 2017  
3.30 - 6.30 pm

FESTIVE GIFTS  
CHRISTMAS CAFE  
RAFFLE  
SANTA'S GROTTTO  
CHRISTMAS GAMES

# Mascot Awards.

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



Reception: Henry for resilience when learning his tricky words.

Year 1: Ted for always trying his best and never giving up.

Year 2: Jack D for showing resilience and determination as a young entrant at the ISA swimming gala.

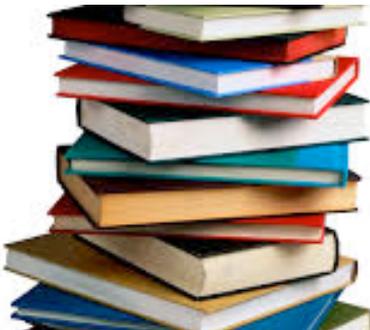
Year 3: George for showing great resilience at the ISA swimming gala.

Year 4: Immy for not giving up during her race at the ISA swimming gala.

Year 5: Thomas for resilience in scientific research.

Year 6: Tabatha for resilience and determination in the practical application of geometry.

## Book Fair



Make a space on your shelves! Our November Book Fair runs from **Wednesday 22 to Tuesday 28 November**. With its potential for Christmas and the holidays and the opportunity for pupils to take part in running the fair, it is an exciting time. The mini brochures should already be with you and the posters are up on the main classroom doors advertising the opening times (Year 6 Classroom) as follows:

Parents only viewing 8.25 - 8.35

1.00 - 1.20 Browsing for children

3.35 - 4.20 Open to all

The school receives a generous commission in the form of books to refresh the classroom libraries once we reach the £300 sales threshold.  
*Mr Butcher*

## New Sports Kit



Our new Canterbury tracksuits and Rugby/Sports tops are now available from the Uniform Shop. We kindly request that **if any parents wish their children to wear skins underneath kit, that they are navy blue in colour.**

## Jeans for Genes Day



Thank you for all your donations to the Jeans for Genes appeal. We received a certificate from the charity for £115.56, as photographed with our oldest and youngest members of our School Council.

## UNIFORM SHOP

Opening Times  
Term Time

Mondays 8.15-9.15  
Thursdays 3.15-4.15

## PTFA News Extra

**Christmas Fayre Friday 1 December 3:30-6:30pm.** Please spread the word. Donations of chocolate, soft toys and general tombola and raffle prizes are appreciated. We would also be grateful for volunteers to help. Thank you.



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