



The Old School Henstead

Newsletter

Spring Term 2018 Issue 1 19 January 2018



Calendar for next week

Monday 22 January

Tuesday 23 January

Year 2 visits Ringsfield Hall

1.30-3.30 Parent & Toddler Group

1.30 Nursery, Reception and Year 1 Swimming

2.15 Years 2 & 3 Swimming

2.30 Years 4,5 & 6 Gymnastics

Governors' Meeting

Thursday 25 January

Dates for your diary

Friday 2 February

Saturday 3 February

8.50 Candlemas Service at St Mary's Henstead

Open Morning (half day school & activities)

Message from the Headmaster



In this newsletter you will see our Open Morning poster, based on a photograph taken during a school science lesson by a member of staff. I am impressed by the expertise of the photographer and the excellence of the production, yet this is not the most striking feature of the image. For here we surely have one of the most rewarding reasons to be a pupil (or indeed a teacher) - the capacity to wonder, to dream, to throw leaves in the air. In this season of Epiphany, it is appropriate that our school value is that of empathy, as our journey of learning leads us, in the shoes of the Magi, to ponder things beyond current knowledge and experience.

Mr McKinney

Open Morning.

Our next Open Morning takes place on Saturday 3 February. Pupils' registration will take place at 9.30. We encourage family, friends and other visitors to arrive between 9.45 and 10.00 so that they may choose their options for the morning. It is also an opportunity for parents and grandparents to join their children in school for the morning.

Pupils should arrive in usual full uniform, including blazers for registration at 9.30.

We appreciate your support in spreading the word. If you are able to display a poster or would like a postcard invitation to pass to a friend or colleague, please pick one up from the office.

The Old School Henstead
An independent prep school & nursery
for boys & girls aged 2½ to 11.

Open Morning

Give your child a confident start.

Saturday Arrivals
3 FEBRUARY 9:45 - 10:00AM T. 01502 741150
Toad Row, Henstead, Nr Beccles NR34 7UG www.theoldschoolhenstead.co.uk



School Council Election.

The Pupil Voice – School Council Election



The School Council provides a valuable opportunity for pupils to have a real say in issues that affect them and to know that their opinions count. As a school we firmly believe that it is an important and useful way to provide leadership and development opportunities for our pupils. Every term two members of each year group are elected by their peers to represent them and their views. Weekly meetings act as a platform, facilitating a meaningful way in which pupils can voice their opinions and have their views taken into account in decisions which impact them.



The time has come to thank the retiring Autumn Term representatives who worked extremely well as a team to raise funds and brought forward to the table many excellent ideas. Following this week's election, we have a mixture of new representatives and experienced returning representatives. I look forward to working with them all.

The results:

Reception: Henry and Sebastian

Year 1: Elliot and Samuel

Year 2: Isla and Jack W

Year 3 George and William

Year 4 Penelope and Kitty

Year 5 Thomas and Rebecca

Year 6 Sophia and Matthew



Congratulations to all. We wish you a successful tenure in the term ahead. *Miss Clifton*



Turning up the Heat.



Year 5 pupils have settled well into their studies after the Christmas holiday.

As is often the case, science is the subject area that is creating the most buzz. This term we are examining reversible and irreversible changes (also known as physical and chemical changes). Our first experiment last week was making scientific observations around what happens when we melt chocolate.



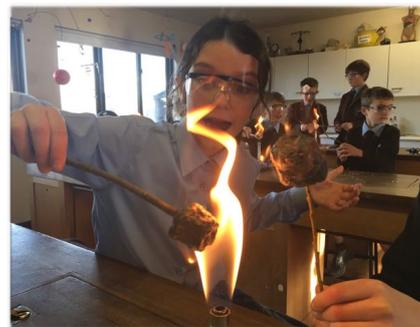
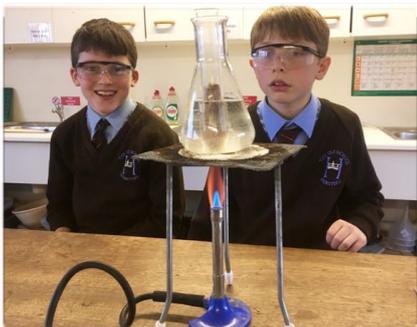
We all hypothesised that this would be a reversible (physical) change, and we were correct. We noticed where the chocolate began to melt first - at the bottom and on the sides of the test tube - closest to the heat source (boiling water, heated by a Bunsen burner).



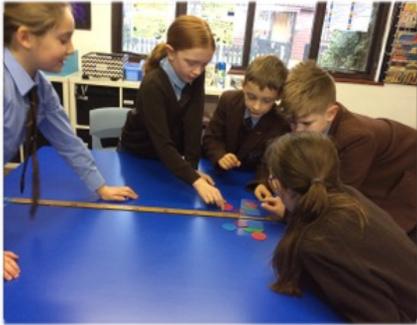
Next we were burning marshmallows to observe, what we believe to be, an irreversible change (chemical change).

In this unit, too, we will be talking about ways that we can reverse a process, and a home project for us will be to create a survival water filter.

Mr Jensen

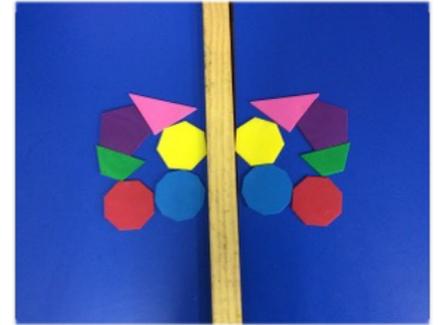


Exploring Lines of Symmetry.



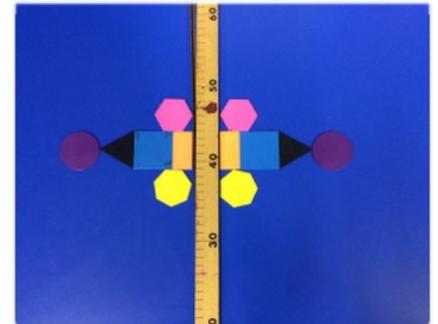
This week, Year 4 has been exploring lines of symmetry in mathematics and has enjoyed finding different examples around school and in the real world.

The pupils have discovered that the lines of symmetry in some shapes are easier to identify than in others and have mastered the use of a mirror to aid them in this process.

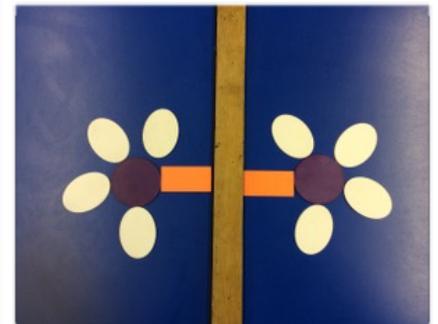
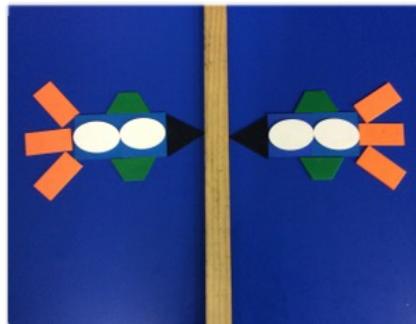
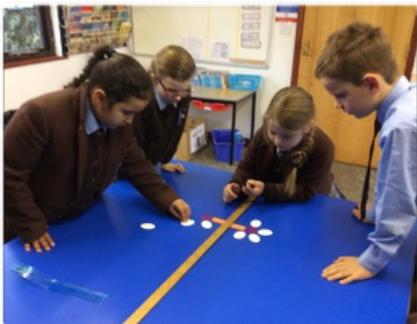
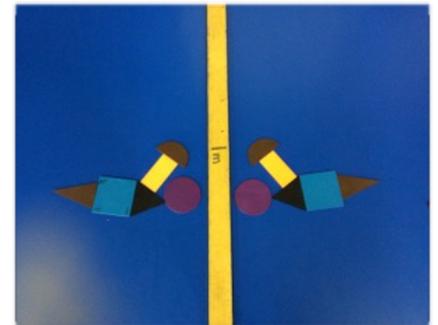


However, the biggest challenge that Year 4 has come to understand when exploring lines of symmetry is in patterns. How does it reflect?

What angle does the shape need to be on and what way round do the shapes go? Have a look at some of the designs the boys and girls have created.



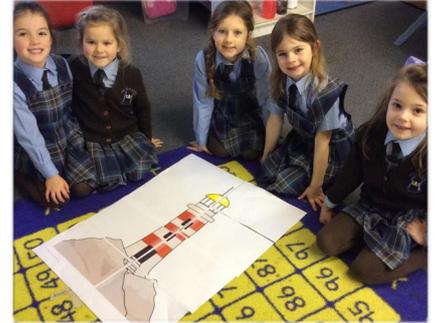
Mrs Jensen



Got it in one!



The Year 1 pupils have started 2018 with great verve, gusto and an extremely positive attitude to their learning. In phonics we are tackling the challenging long vowel split digraphs and trying to identify them in the texts we read and in the world around us.



In maths we are learning to identify coins and understand the different values of each coin. We have also practised making the same value using different coins - for example, 10p can be a 10p coin, 2 x 5p coins, 5 x 2p coins etc. Please encourage your child to identify and count loose change at home for greater money handling experience and understanding.

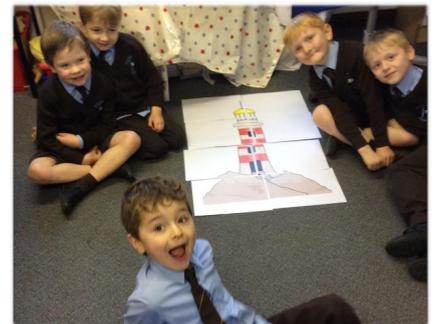


The children are also making some terrific lighthouses in Art.

We are looking forward to two field trips this term: one to Southwold Lighthouse to learn about lighthouses (relating to our literacy and science topics) and one to Norwich Castle to learn about how people lived in the castle in the past (relating to our humanities topic).



Mrs Loader



The Learning Went on Two by Two.



This week the children have had the opportunity to consolidate their learning about la maison. During which, Year 2 have studied new vocabulary for the names of rooms in their homes. Their tremendous hard work has enabled them to maintain and retain a variety of vocabulary which has been exciting to witness. Moving on, the children will continue to build house-based vocabulary and extend their growing thirst for French.



In Maths, the children have started learning about money. This has been a nice opportunity not only to consolidate their addition and subtraction skills from previous terms, but also one to explore the real-world applications of learning about the four operations and their uses beyond the classroom.



Meanwhile, in English, the children have started exploring the Roman myth of Romulus and Remus. Studying the story in depth, the children displayed a lively interest in learning about the beginnings of Rome and the unique history which initiated one of the most successful empires. Their awe and wonder was particularly noticeable when we studied how quickly their empire grew which bred some interesting suggestions about how its downfall came about.



Mr Hunt



Threestyle Measurements.



We began our maths lessons this term by exploring money and measurement.



Last week the children counted money in jars, discussing the different ways of adding coins and which methods were the most efficient to ensure that the total was correct. They then set up shop, taking turns to pay for items and ensuring that they received the correct change. There were lots of eagle-eyed customers watching to make sure that the shopkeepers didn't overcharge!



This week we have been focusing on finding the perimeter of shapes, from the desks in our classroom to the boundary of the school football pitch. The boys and girls have learnt that this is a very useful skill to learn for use in everyday life.



Well done Year 3 on a great start to the Spring Term.

Mrs Sonn





Reception Roundup.

Happy New Year! We have all settled back into school routines with great enthusiasm and focus. Swimming has been welcomed with much excitement and confidence and we have now started to have weekly spelling tests. Well done on top marks from the whole class!



We have been broadening our knowledge of the world through exploring cold lands. This week we focused on penguins and Antarctica. This has been part of our literacy, art, language and communication lessons.

In French, we have been revisiting our understanding of colours and counting to five. We are now learning a new topic - Parts of the Body - starting with our faces. Please ask your child what their mouth, nose and head is called? Bravo!



Reception children are getting very involved with the whole school this term and have already nominated and voted for class representatives for the school council. House assemblies are focused on Greek mythology and we are all busy rehearsing for the inter-house drama competition. Bed sheets at the ready.

Buzzy Bee is excited to be visiting all your homes this term as the children continue to demonstrate this term's value, Empathy.

Mrs Scriven & Mrs Dakin



Nursery News.



Busy Week

What a busy week we have had. The children have been enjoying phonics games, where they have been finding objects that rhyme, looking at the letters of the alphabet and listening out for particular sounds in words.



In maths they have been hunting for two digit numbers in the garden, singing and acting out number songs, matching shapes and colours and hunting for particular coloured objects. As always, the water tray is a popular activity and we are enjoying pouring, filling containers and seeing how the water turns the wheels. We have also been involved in hairdresser role play.



Have a good rest this weekend children because your teachers have another busy week ahead planned.



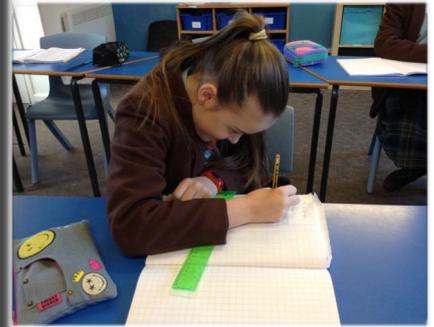
Mrs Vorster & Miss Butcher



Nursery Star of the Week

Nursery Star of the Week goes to Leo. Priscilla will be having a sleepover at your house this weekend because she has been very impressed with how you have been joining in with your friends and listening to your teachers.

Life is a Journey.



Year 6 pupils have returned to school with a focused mindset and excited anticipation of the journey ahead. The future school application process is gathering pace with interviews and entrance examinations lurking on the horizon. The Year 6 pupils are looking forward positively to new opportunities, whilst understandably feeling slightly insecure at leaving a familiar environment. The substantial transition preparation throughout this final year at Henstead provides the essential confidence and reassurance they will need as they move from the security of our small and beautiful school. Recent mock interviews and mock examinations have laid the foundations and equipped them to show themselves at their best and to give of their best.

With two terms remaining, pastoral support will further develop the ongoing transition process. PHSEE sessions will provide the platform for

concerns to be voiced and to constructively address any insecurity. We will reflect on past experiences and look forward both to opportunities and challenges. We will explore ways to make new friends and who they can speak to at their new school if they are worried about anything once they start.

Independence, taking responsibility and sensible decision making will be key areas of targeted preparation.

New experiences and challenges stretch out before them and we are confident that these amazing young people will be ready and able to grasp every opportunity to achieve and find their place in wider society.

Miss Clifton



SPORTS ROUND UP

Football



WIN FOR GIRLS FOOTBALL TEAM

Our senior girls had taken the preparation for this game seriously. Mr Hunter had been required to bring his lunch with him to coach the side and a warm up game against the boys earlier in the week had helped to sharpen the skills.

As soon as we left school, it was also clear that the standard of singing was of a higher calibre. There were some nerves, but we started strongly, with Olivia hitting the woodwork twice early on. Undeterred, she provided a skillful assist after a strong clearance upfield by Ayla, who, together with Rachael, were strong at the back all afternoon. Kate finished off the move and we were away. Further pressure led to a drive from our skipper Ebony to consolidate the lead. Beccles came back at us and we saw the first of a number of strong saves from Imogen. The game changed for good when Ebony produced a world class strike to score from midfield, for by the time Beccles had got over the shock, Kate and Daisy had both scored - our fourth and fifth.

Our high press led to more chances, but steady work from their 'keeper kept us at bay. Imogen, like Gandalf on the bridge of Khazad Dûm, was letting nothing past her in our final third. There was good pressure

from Beccles and a deflected shot finally got them on to the score sheet, but a long clearance was pounced on by Emily and taken forward by Rebecca who beat the keeper with a long range shot. The half ended with a defensive clearance from Daisy, from which Rebecca got her second.

Mr Hunter gave his half time talk. Olivia changed boots and was seen dancing on the touchline. We stopped scoring. None knew why. A cagey second period unfolded as the sun went down. A canny scoop provided a scoring opportunity for Beccles but Imogen was immovable. Poppy, their taliswoman, finished with a sweet strike for Beccles for the game to end 7-2 in our favour. We look forward to the return fixture.

Siobhan Shinpads, roving football correspondent

Today's Cross Country Event will be reported in next week's newsletter.



Mascot Awards.

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



Reception: Sebastian for showing empathy towards his teacher.

Year 1: Samuel for empathy towards his class friends.

Year 2: Lola C for showing empathy for her classmates wellbeing.

Year 3: James for offering to help other children in class when they are finding work difficult.

Year 4: Kitty for having an empathetic and encouraging heart when helping others.

Year 5: Louis for showing empathy when reading about characters in a story.

Year 6: Alex for demonstrating empathy to younger voters at the School Council elections.

Parent & Toddler Group



Our Parent & Toddler group continues on Tuesdays, with an extended time of 1:30-3:30.

Hats, Gloves & Scarves



Just a reminder that only uniform coats, hats, scarves and gloves are permitted to be worn at school and on trips. These items are all available from our Uniform Shop.

House Drama



The House Drama Competition or Some Questions Answered.

How long is a piece of string? Long enough to reach the Minotaur's lair - if you are Theseus, that is. How do we glue these feathers to the wings we are making? With beeswax, naturally, but Icarus, my friend, read the instructions carefully before takeoff! There is much to be learned from these ancient tales of hubris and skulduggery. Not much has changed in the corridors, or should one say, labyrinths of power as we have been finding in our return to the very origins of drama itself. Our Greek myth-themed House Drama Competition has got off to a flying start!

Mr Butcher

UNIFORM SHOP

Opening Times

Term Time

Mondays 8.15-9.15

Thursdays 3.15-4.15

PTFA

News Extra

Next PTFA Meeting Friday
26 January, 2:30pm at
school. All welcome.



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