



The Old School Henstead

Newsletter

Autumn Term 2014 Issue 9 21 November 2014



Calendar for next week

Monday 24 November
Tuesday 25 November
Wednesday 26 November
Friday 28 November

8.45 Year 3 departs for Sutton Hoo (*Addition to calendar*)
Year 2 Victorian Christmas Visit
Book Fair Ends
9am Advent Service in Hall

Dates for your diary

Saturday 29 November
Monday 15 December
Tuesday 16 December
Wednesday 17- Friday 19 December

12.30-3.00 PTFA Christmas Fayre
2.00 Junior School Nativity at St Mary's Church, Henstead
7.00 Carol Service at St Mary's Church, Henstead
Holiday Club (bookable via the Office)

Message from the Headmaster



We could not have asked for a greater display of resilience than that shown by the School Choir in Beccles last Friday. Weather conditions were atrocious, but spirits were not dampened one bit! Our choristers brightened up a dreary morning with a wide-ranging repertoire, from the thought-provoking *Remember*, supported by a medley of songs from the First World War, via the cheerful melodies from *Oliver*, to the uplifting *I wish I could be*. So persistent was the rain that it flowed in torrents from the awnings and doused several performers mid-song. It mattered not - they kept going. None of this determination was lost on the passing members of the public and donations kept coming, aided by the tireless efforts of our Pudsey bakers. A splendid total of £450 was raised for this most worthy cause (including funds raised by our non-uniform day).

Mr McKinney



Nursery children get into the spirit of fundraising for *Children in Need*

A Day in a Victorian Workhouse.



On Monday Mrs Hall set the scene for our Victorian Workhouse trip by making us some gruel - both Kate and Addison were definitely asking "for more". The following day, undernourished and all ragged-up, we headed for Gressenhall's Workhouse for a fabulous Victorian day. The day commenced with nit-picking, dusting, sweeping and folding up the laundry before heading on to find out what the boys would be doing in their ten hour workday: picking oakum, which is teasing out fibres from old ropes.

We then went on to the laundry room and helped an inmate wash the bedding for four hundred other inmates, plus the hospital beds. The process was started by grating carbolic soap into a wash tub, then using a 'dolly' to agitate the washing before rinsing and dollying in another two tubs. Using the wooden tongs to carry the heavy wet washing, the children had a tour of the drying and flat-ironing room. By this time, lunch was about to be served for the Guardians of the Workhouse - these are clearly the people with all the money and the food! The children helped to set the table for several courses, and had to use "the rule of thumb" to make sure all the cutlery was in the correct position. After lunch, we went to Cherry Cottage, an on-site cottage for respectable married couples in the Workhouse, and had a cookery lesson using the range. The children made and tasted Drop Scones, as well as completing a challenge set to find the loo, the bath and what the residents did to relax

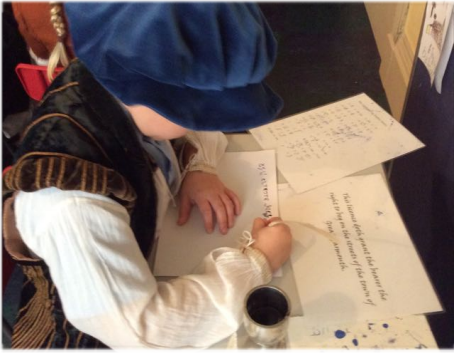
and entertain themselves! Finally it was off to the School House for an afternoon of alphabet practice, maths (we all know how to use an Abacus now!), geography, handwriting on slates and drill. Thankfully, nobody had to wear the Dunce Cap or was struck by the cane. A truly amazing Victorian experience and a huge thanks to all the team at Gressenhall. "Hoorah!"

Miss Kay and Mrs Dakin

See Year 2 being put through their paces in the Victorian classroom on **YouTube** (click on red link below)
<http://youtu.be/ZPIX4gZz058>



Tudor Studies for Year Five.



As part of their studies of a great British dynasty, Year Five visited the Elizabethan House in Great Yarmouth on Thursday.

On arrival the group were welcomed by Mistress Polly and Master Samuel who told them that they were preparing for a Tudor feast provided by the owner of the house, prosperous merchant Benjamin Calper.

First order of business was mastering the intricacies of Tudor costume including corsets and 'bum rolls' for the ladies. Suitably attired, the company moved on to writing licenses for the plague of beggars unleashed by the closure of the monasteries by King Henry. At four groats apiece these quilled mini masterpieces of 16th Century calligraphy were a snip for any vagrant.

Next came a dance practice which included a stately 'pavanne' followed by a lively 'brawl' complete with Tudor twerking. Much invigorated by this graceful exercise Year Five finished the morning with a rehearsal of feast etiquette before moving on to our own refreshments at the 'Time and Tide' museum.

Among the exhibits enjoyed there were a display of toys and other cultural objects from the 1970s (the videos showed that the TV adverts had lost none of their charm – Oh where art thou, Shake 'n Vac ?) There were many other items in the permanent displays which invited wonder and curiosity, particularly in the World War II gallery.

A stimulating day was had by all!

Mr Butcher



What a performance!



On Tuesday we held the first instrumental concert of the year to a large audience of parents and grandparents. These concerts give an opportunity for some of the children who have individual lessons to share their progress with us, and can be a valuable opportunity at the appropriate stage in each child's development. Despite some initial nerves, all the participants performed with confidence and accuracy.

accompaniment to *We Will Rock You* whilst Natalie showed intense concentration as she accurately achieved a complicated series of rhythm patterns to accompany a Hoedown. Singers Polly (*Favourite Things* from *The Sound of Music*) and Tabatha (*Tomorrow* from *Annie*) delighted with secure and confident performances both showing perfect intonation.



Starter pianists Addison, Ewan and Thomas clearly demonstrated that they have begun to find their way around the keyboard as all three gave confident and accurate performances. Freddy's neat and careful finger work demonstrated the makings of a thoughtful guitarist and on the drum kit we were treated to Nathan's powerful

The concert was rounded off with a spirited rendition of *Jingle Bells* from three of the youngest performers, Floriana, Emily and Rebecca, with everyone joining in for the final chorus. Congratulations to all the performers who gave us a most enjoyable and entertaining concert. You have certainly set a high standard for the older children to follow! Miss Sindall



Nursery News



When the big bad wolf came to visit!

Nursery has been getting thoroughly involved with their new fairytale this week - *The Three Little Pigs*. We love this one!

We used bricks, straw and sticks for the pig houses and play dough to cement it all together. We then had to see if the wolf could blow them down! The wolf managed to blow down our stick and straw houses, but no matter how hard he blew, our brick houses stood firm!

We especially enjoyed saying "not by the hairs of our chinny chin chins!" We definitely have some future builders in Nursery!



Star of the Week Award ★

This week's Nursery Star of the Week Award goes to Jackson for playing nicely with his friends. Keep it up Jackson!

Miss O'Mara and Miss Butcher



Resilience Brilliance!



Year Four entertained the school and parents alike with their thoughtful assembly on the theme of resilience.

It all began with them getting stuck and the different strategies they could employ to improve the situation. Each member of the class then spoke of how they had persevered to meet a personal challenge and this was supported by 100 word stories on the theme of resilience, written by Year 6 and beautifully read by our Year 4 performers.

The highlight had to be the masked telling of the tale of Gerald the giraffe, who found that he could dance... This was a splendid performance from Year 4, with a clear message, confidently delivered. Well done!



Operation Christmas Child

A huge thank you to all the families who supported *Operation Christmas Child*, by generously filling shoe boxes full of gifts destined for less fortunate children overseas.



SPORTS ROUND UP

Swimming & Hockey



SWIMMING GALA

On Wednesday morning 20 of the Henstead seniors represented the school at the I.S.A. Eastern region qualifiers. 18 schools participated in the event, with the winner of each race going forward to represent the region at the national competition. This year the final is to be held at the Olympic centre in Stratford. I am sure you will agree, an absolutely amazing opportunity for any young swimmer.

The event started off with the breaststroke races. Solid and determined performances from all members of the team resulted in some excellent results, the highlight of which was George Taylor's win in the Year 5 boys race.

The backstroke events followed, with Sonny swimming a sensational race to finish in fourth. Hopes were high for the Year 4 girls race, as we had our very own Becky Adlington in it! Clara more than lived up to expectation, as for the second time that day, we had another swimmer going to the national finals. But that was not enough for Miss Watson-Flowers, because she then powered to victory in the freestyle event too. There really is no stopping this girl! She was also part of the super quartet that finished third in the relay event.

Although we rejoice in these three fantastic wins, (18 races and our little school won a sixth of them), each and every swimmer can hold their head up high as they more than surpassed what we could expect from them.

It really was a fantastic morning at the pool, made all the more enjoyable by the wonderful behaviour of our children. You were to a man an absolute delight.

A very heartfelt thank you to the many parents and grandparents that helped with transport. Your assistance and very loud vocal encouragement was greatly appreciated.

Mr Hunter

UNI HOCKEY

The Under 9 Uni Hockey team took part in their first tournament and made it all the way to the semi-final before being narrowly beaten by Ringsfield.

The first match saw us up against Crowfoot. Henstead was well on top in this match through some fantastic attacking work from Finney, Bethany, Daisy and Natalie, with Daisy scoring our only goal of the game to win it 1-0.

There was a long wait before Henstead had their second fixture, which was against Reydon. Once this started, Henstead dominated with Jack, Daniel and Thomas showing no mercy and scoring a goal each - however a late fight back from Reydon made it a nervous finish before Bethany found herself through on goal twice and calmly slotted the puck home both times to give us a 5-2 victory.

The final group match was a show down for who would win the group. Albert Pye didn't cause the Henstead defence any problems with Jack a spectator for much of the game due to great work from the whole team, Henstead winning comfortably 3-0, a hat-trick for Harrod!

Semi-finals time and we were up against the eventual champions in Ringsfield. An end-to-end game sadly only brought one goal with Ringsfield somehow finding space to unleash a powerful strike. However Henstead battled on until the end and can count themselves very unlucky not to have won.

A fantastic effort from the whole team who were cheered on by excellent support as always.

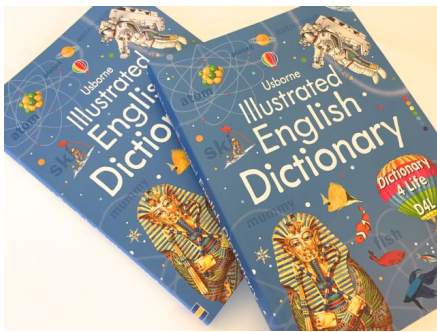
Mascot Winners



This week's mascot awards for the boy or girl in each year most demonstrating the school value of Resilience go to:

R - Sharpy Croc - Charlotte S-A
Y1 - Pete Penguin - Isobel
Y2 - Polo Polar Bear - Matilda
Y3 - Pecker Penguin - Tabatha
Y4 - Oats Horse - Finney
Y5 - Terry Turtle - Charlotte W
Y6 - Hector Hare - Ruby Mc

Thank you



Thank you to our school Governor David Bryant for his kind donation of a set of Usborne Illustrated English Dictionaries to the school.

UNIFORM SHOP

Opening Times
Mondays 0830-0930

Learning Trail



The winners of this week's Learning Trail - on the theme of Mathematical Shapes - are Skye, Boo and Ruby Mc.

Chess Challenge



So far the Mathematics Times Table Challenge has raised £469.75 for the Giant Chess Set. Fantastic effort! Thank you from the School Council.



Poppy Appeal



We are delighted to report that we raised £200 for the British Legion's Poppy Appeal. Thank you to everyone who contributed.

Gold Award



Congratulations to James on his award of a Gold Certificate for 15 outstanding achievements. Well done!

Maths Photo Winner



Congratulations to Alex for winning the school photo competition - "Maths All Around Us". Alex received a book as his prize.

PTFA

News Extra

SAVE THE DATE!

Christmas Fayre Saturday
29 November 12.30-3.00pm.

Tickets for Santa's Grotto
available at the Office.

Many stalls to help you with
your Christmas shopping plus
lots of activities for the
children and light refreshments.

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