



The Old School Henstead

Newsletter

Summer Term 2016

Issue 1

22 April 2016



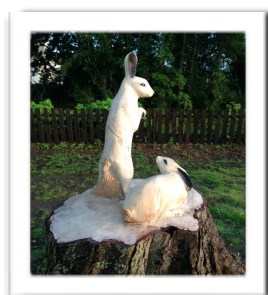
Calendar for next week

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| Sunday 24 April | 8.45 Year 6 departs for Snowdonia |
| Monday 25 April | 10.30 Year 5 departs for Kingswood |
| | 9.15 Year 3 visits Ringsfield Hall |
| Tuesday 26 April | 12.30 U9 Swimming Gala at Langley Prep School |
| | 9.15 Reception and Year 1 visit Ringsfield Hall |
| Wednesday 27 April | 4.10 Year 5 returns from Kingswood |
| Thursday 28 April | 10.00 Year 4 departs for Warden's Centre |
| Friday 29 April | 3.30 Year 4 returns |
| | 4.10 Year 6 returns from Snowdonia |
| Saturday 30 April | Trinity Guildhall Music Examinations |

Dates for your diary

| | |
|-----------------|--------------------------------|
| Monday 2 May | Bank Holiday (school closed) |
| Saturday 21 May | Open Morning (half day school) |

Message from the Headmaster



Teamwork is our value for this half of term and straightaway the boys and girls have been preparing for Trips Week. Everyone will be active in outdoor learning, with Year Two leading the way today. Reception, Year One, Year Two and Year Three will follow suit and we look forward to hearing all about their adventures at Ringsfield Hall. For our older boys and girls it will be the excitement and challenge of residential visits - Year Four will tackle the map reading and nautical treasure hunt at Warden's Centre, whilst Year Five take on the challenges at Kingswood on the Norfolk coast. The Year Six leavers' trip will walk in the footsteps of the 1953 Everest Expedition, visiting many of the venues that Hunt, Hillary and Co. used as their training ground for success in the Himalaya. We are much looking forward to one of the highlights of the school year.

Mr McKinney



Open Morning.

Kindly save the date for our next Open Morning on Saturday 21 May. Parents, grandparents and friends are all welcome to spend the morning with us and it is an opportunity for parents and grandparents to join their children in school for the morning.

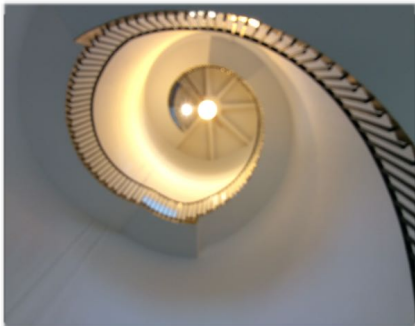
Invitation postcards will be sent out soon - be sure to pass them on to friends as this will be the last Open Morning of this academic year.

Throwing light on the subject.



On Wednesday 23 March, Year One met their own Mr Grinling at Southwold Lighthouse. We were warmly greeted by Graham, our guide for the morning.

Our first challenge was to climb the 113 steps up to the platform. After our legs stopped wobbling, Graham explained to us how the Lighthouse used to work before it became electrified and demonstrated where the oil was stored and how it was transported to the top.



Each lighthouse has its own flash, called a character; we found out that the Southwold Lighthouse flashes every 10 seconds.

With great courage, we climbed the final stairs to reach the light. Using binoculars, we all managed to look out to sea and we spotted some cargo ships. Graham showed us all the different types of bulbs that have been used through the ages and how far their light travelled.



After a steep descent, we all arrived at the bottom floor safely, some of the older members of the group still had wobbly legs! Unfortunately we did not spot Hamish, but we did hear those pesky seagulls!

Ms Thomson



Poetic licence.

The Old School Henstead Verse Speaking Competition

Thursday 24 March



It is always inspiring to witness children rising to a challenge of any kind. This is all the more true when it is at an event which is part of our school's and nation's traditions with established value in personal development and confidence building. An entertaining and varied programme of verse was performed both individually and chorally in house groups, the house competition showing the refreshing variety of approach we have come to expect in these events. Deben celebrated the time of year with 'Seasonal Limericks', Orwell showed an unnerving insight into the secret life of teachers with 'Cakes in the Staffroom', while Waveney lamented 'The Day that the Telly Broke Down' and Yare made their plea for an exotic pet with 'Muum!'.

Mr Andrew Murray (Head of English at Norwich School) kindly agreed to adjudicate once again and provided us with the following winners. Our congratulations to them all.



House Choral Speaking: Deben

Individual Year Group Winners:

Year 6 Isabelle

Year 5 Daisy

Year 4 Freddy



Overall Winner: Polly

Mr Butcher





School Council.

School Council Election

The School Council is designed to give all the children in the school a voice, class representatives meeting weekly to inform the Council of any issues or ideas generated by their classes. Good suggestions for improvements around the school and in the classrooms, plus some wonderful ideas for learning were generated by the retiring School Council. As a result of their enthusiasm an entry was submitted to the Speaker's School Council competition. The School Council Good Manners Award Scheme was chosen by the members as an outstanding example of the pupil's voice in action. This is a national competition and one which we are proud to be participating.

The termly School Council election took place this week, providing a real opportunity for the boys and girls to contribute to the development of the life of the school. Ably prepared and managed by the Year Six pupils, the Polling Station ran like a finely tuned engine.

Enthusiastic declarations across the age range were followed by due consideration and the casting of votes. The results have been counted and verified and the results are as follows:

Reception – Jack D, Jack W & Amelie

Year 1 – George & Marli

Year 2 – Kitty & Isobel

Year 3 – Rebecca & Skye

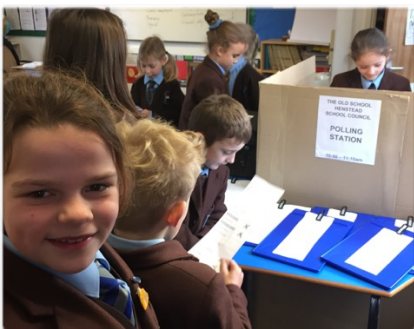
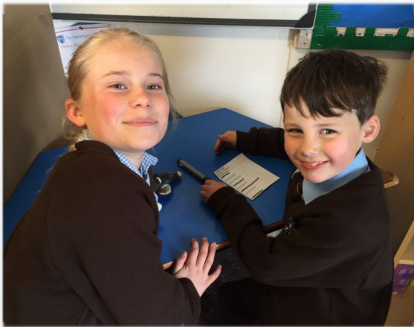
Year 4 – Ewan & Nathan

Year 5 – Savile & Tilly

Year 6 – Charlotte & Isabelle

Congratulations to each and every one of you. I look forward to working with you all and welcome the Reception representatives as they join us for the first time.

Miss Clifton



Note: Year 2 representatives and Isabelle are missing from picture as they were out of school on year trips etc at the time of photograph.



Our charity concert at the end of last term involved all the pupils in Years Two to Six, as well as some of the younger children and it was exciting to see nearly every child in the school involved in music making of such a pleasing standard.

The programme featured a varied mix of soloists and groups, all the result of lengthy practice, teamwork and resilience. All the performers rose to the occasion with aplomb and provided the capacity audience with a most varied and entertaining evening.

The vocal and instrumental soloists and brass group were poised and confident in performance, the Junior and Senior Choirs sang with accuracy and attention to detail, using the acoustics effectively and exuding a keen sense of enjoyment in singing and the excellent sense of ensemble in the choral speaking of Yare House provided much fun for the audience.

We are most grateful to the Reverend Croll for kindly allowing us to use the United Reformed Church and also to the appreciative audience who contributed so generously to *East Anglian Air Ambulance*, raising in excess of £600.

Miss Sindall



Nursery News.

Librarian Visit.



On Wednesday afternoon Nursery had a visit from Sarah from Beccles Library.

Sarah read us a dinosaur book and we all picked our favourite one. Then we had a sing using Sarah's song bag and ended with our usual - *Two Teddies on a Trampoline!*

Sarah also left us lots of new books, which we are looking forward to reading!



Nursery Star of the Week ★

Nursery Star of the Week Award goes to Elliot, for his positive attitude and for making lots of progress with his turn taking. Well done Elliot and have a good weekend with Dotty!

Miss O'Mara and Miss Butcher

Tatty Bogle!

Some scenes from the recent Spring Production - Tatty Bogle - performed by Reception and Year One.





Pedagogical Ponderings.

Why homework is a positive for classroom learning.

There is a lot of research around that shares a mix of views on whether homework is of benefit or not. In earlier years, I may have told you that it was not necessary – that pupils should leave their school work in the school yard. However, like all things in life, practice truly does make perfect, and what better way to practise than by showing our family at home what it is that we can now do – share the skills we have learned and the knowledge that we are developing. Nothing comes easy to us in life, so hard work and grit is necessary, even if it has to be done in our own time.

Getting into the habit of doing homework is essential now, because in years to come it is only going to get harder and more time-intensive. Setting good homework habits at The Old School Henstead is imperative so that we can prepare our pupils for the requirements that they will face in senior school – and even for those jobs in the future that require work to be completed over time or at home as opposed to at the office.

Homework is especially important for pupils in the Upper School as the knowledge and skills that our senior pupils learn need to be practised and developed. By doing this, it will help pupils to enhance their own learning. Ideally, we would like our pupils to be able to complete their homework independently (i.e. by recalling the learning they have made, as opposed to getting stuck) and if pupils are finding that they cannot complete the work, it is generally a good indicator and should inspire a thought like: “OK, I can’t do this, I need to ask my teacher for some more help here”.

And what if you find it really tough to get your son or daughter to sit down and do their homework in the evening? You’re pulling your hair out and just want them to get it done? My advice is suggesting that they either get it done now and it’s over, or go to school without it completed and risk having to miss lunchtime because they’ll be working in the classroom with their teacher. Leave it at that and walk away.

Mr Jensen

Spring has sprung!

Pupils have been busy during break and lunch times feeding the hungry lambs at school.



SPORTS ROUND UP

Netball & Cross Country



NETBALL

In the last week of last term the Upper School girls participated in the inter-house netball competition, and what a contest it was! Deben had a clear advantage, with three Year 6 girls, so it was the battle for second place. It was clear to see that the girls had learnt much throughout the term and it was a most entertaining afternoon. With Orwell, Waveney and Yare drawing on points, it was decided by goals scored.

1st Deben
2nd Orwell
3rd Yare
4th Waveney

Congratulations to all involved. You were magnificent.

CROSS COUNTRY

The climax of the Spring Term sporting season - the Inter-house Cross Country Competition - took place on the last Wednesday of last term. Children in Reception and Year 1 started the afternoon off in fantastic style, with excellent wins for both Charlotte (1:29 mins) and George (1:13).

Next up were our junior runners from Years 2 and 3. Addison romped home in the amazing time of 3:19

minutes - a record that will undoubtedly be around for several years. Thomas just edged Francis to the post, being the first boy home in 3:45 minutes.

The final race was our seniors. There was much muttering amongst the ranks about who was going to cross the line first. In the end, and chased doggedly the whole way by Freddy and Taylor junior, George took the gold. To finish what was a near clean sweep of the medals for Deben, Charlotte took the girls' race.

The sports department is very proud of all the children's performances. For most long distance running is not their favourite sport, although you would be hard pushed to have known that with the enthusiasm they showed.

A superb afternoon - well done to each and every one of you. The unsung heroes of the afternoon were the staff, who assisted to make it such a good event. Particular thanks to Mrs Jensen and Mr Hunter, without whom none of it would have been possible.

1st place Deben
2nd Orwell
Joint 3rd Waveney and Yare

Miss Goddard





Olivia's personal gift to cancer charity.

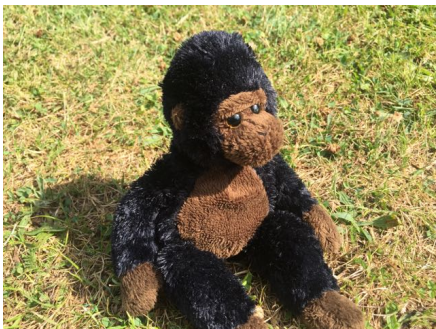


Before the haircut

Olivia Webster was so inspired by a video about a girl with cancer who lost her hair that she decided to donate some of her own. As we know, Olivia had very long hair, grown longer specially for this cause. Olivia had it cut during the Easter holidays, so that her hair could be sent off to the *Little Princess Trust*, to make a wig for a little girl or boy who has lost their hair due to cancer treatment.

Mrs Webster and Olivia held a fundraising day at their home to raise the funds to cover the cost of making the wig (£350). If you would like to help Olivia raise more funds visit www.justgiving.com/Lucy-Webster5 or see Mrs Webster. You may read the full story in the *Beccles and Bungay Journal*, by clicking on the following link:
http://www.becclesandbungayjournal.co.uk/news/six_year_old_beccles_girl_has_her_hair_cut_for_children_s_charity_1_4496011

Mascot Awards



This half term we are focussing on the school's value Teamwork. This week's mascot winners, for best demonstrating Teamwork, are:

- Reception Chase
- Year 1 Phillip
- Year 2 Francis
- Year 3 Skye
- Year 4 Archie
- Year 5 Louis
- Year 6 Theo

UNIFORM SHOP

Opening Times
Tuesdays 8.30-9.30
Thursdays 3.15-4.15

Good Manners Awards



Congratulations to Jack McT and Jack D, winners of the Outstanding Good Manners Awards for the Upper and Lower School respectively. They were awarded with their badges at the end of term assembly before Easter.

PTFA

News Extra

Next evening meeting
Thursday 28th April at 7.30pm in Hall.

Next daytime meeting
Thursday 5th May at 9am at The Shed, Henstead Arts and Crafts Centre

Brayden's Fundraiser



Brayden was very poorly two years ago and The Sick Children's Trust Charity provided accommodation on site at Addenbrooke's Hospital for his very grateful Mum and Dad. We believe every family with a seriously ill child in hospital should be able to stay together, just minutes from their child's bed during their treatment.

Please join Brayden at Hulver Village Hall to raise funds for The Sick Children's Trust (Registered Charity No. 284416).

Sunday 15 May 2.00pm Free Entry

Crafts - Cake - Tea - Coffee - Raffle - Tombola - Lucky Dip - Guess the Weight of the Cake

Thank you. Brayden's Mummy



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