



The Old School Henstead

Newsletter

Spring Term 2015 Issue 2 23 January 2015



Calendar for next week

Wednesday 28 January

Friday 30 January

2.30 U11 Netball v Taverham Hall (A)

9.15 Candlemas Service at St Mary's Henstead (Parents welcome)

11.00 ISA Cross Country, Trinity School, Brentwood

Dates for your diary

Tuesday 10 February

Friday 13 March

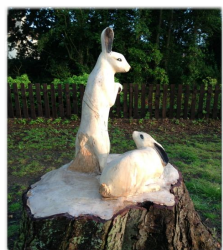
Saturday 14 March

Year 1 Visit to Norwich Castle (*Addition to Calendar*)

9.00 Year 2 Visits Roman Exhibition, Norwich Castle (*Addition to Calendar*)

Open Morning (Half Day School)

Message from the Headmaster



It seemed entirely appropriate that, in the week of the 750th anniversary of Parliament, we successfully conducted our elections for the School Council. We had numerous discussions in our PSHE lessons - what we thought the School Council should be like and what skills different members of it would need to be effective. Soon the election posters were going up and I must mention my favourite pledge: "I will turn up for meetings, except when I can't - I won't be there." Let us hope the such refreshing honesty with the electorate brightens the months to come! Most importantly, The Council is an opportunity for ideas and views to be put forward by the children and for them to gain an appreciation of how their choices can be impacted by considerations such as budgeting and installation costs. I have been impressed by the serious thought that our boys and girls have given this and look forward to reading the minutes of the weekly School Council meetings.

Uniform Matters

May I ask for the support of parents in ensuring that every child has a school blazer and that it is kept at school. It is most important that we look smart on occasions such as our services at St Mary's or choir performances. Many thanks in advance.

Mr McKinney

The Old School Henstead Poppy Comes Home



Just as we began to dwell on our theme of empathy for this half of term, we were pleased to welcome our ceramic poppy, one of 888,246 from the stunning and poignant display at the Tower of London "Blood swept lands and seas of red", commemorating the sacrifice of those from these islands and the Commonwealth who gave their lives in the First World War. Our poppy is hand crafted and one of a kind - we are sure that it will continue to help us to remember.





Music to our ears.

Another string to your bow?

On Wednesday we were treated to an inspiring introduction to the violin by Caroline Clarke who has recently moved back to Suffolk. Caroline was a leading member of the Orchestra of the Royal Opera House for twelve years, working with such conductors as Sir Bernard Haitink and Sir Simon Rattle and is also an experienced educator, having worked on varied initiatives with London Philharmonic Orchestra Education, Wigmore Hall Learning, Royal Opera House Education and many others.

We learnt that Caroline's violin was made in Italy in the 1700's and that the bow is made of horse hair, that she has played for both the opera and the ballet and that as well as teaching children from about 6 years up she also now works with older people with dementia.

Caroline's playing filled the hall and delighted children and staff as we marvelled at wonderful sound and technical skill. We were warned, however, that it took many years of hard work to reach this level and lots of PRACTICE and anyone who learns with Caroline must get their violin out for at least five minutes every day.

I am delighted that Caroline is offering lessons at The Old School, and we look forward to hearing her play again.

Miss Sindall



Choir Workshop with VOCES8

The Senior Choir travelled to The Abbey School on Tuesday to take part in a workshop led by members of the world famous singing group Voces8.

Working with members of Woodbridge School's Sixth Form, the children were led in a series of entertaining physical, vocal and rhythmic warm-ups, before tackling two songs. We learnt bass lines, counter melodies and the main melody of both *The Lion Sleeps Tonight* (a well-known song originally written and performed by Solomon Linda and his group *The Evening Birds* in 1939!) and a traditional song entitled *Great Day*. At the end of the 45 minute session we were ready to perform the songs in three parts to an audience of teachers, parents and friends.

Well done to all our singers for strong participation and excellent behaviour throughout the afternoon. We are very grateful to Woodbridge School and The Abbey for inviting us to be part of this inspiring event. We must try and get tickets to the next VOCES8 concert!





School Council News.

School Council Election Results

The inaugural Henstead School Council Polling Day took place on Monday 19th January 2015. Despite the bitterly cold temperature, business was brisk with a 100% turn out to vote on the day. Voters queued eagerly to complete their ballot paper. Amber - the Head of School Council - was ably assisted by the prefects. Together they manned the booths and ensured that strict etiquette was adhered to throughout.

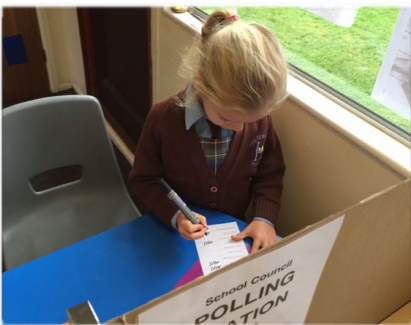
Following the first count by the prefects and the Head of School Council's verification of votes cast, the long-awaited results were announced:

Year 1 – Isabelle and Harry L
 Year 2 – Skye and Harvey
 Year 3 – Natalie and Tabatha
 Year 4 – Jessica and Thomas
 Year 5 – Charlotte and Oscar
 Year 6 – Ruby and Nick

We would like to commend all the campaigners for their enthusiastic manifesto pitches and congratulate the newly elected School Council members.

The first meeting of the new School Council will take place at 10:50am next Monday 26 January 2015.

Miss Clifton



SPORTS ROUND UP

Football & Swimming



FOOTBALL

Last Friday afternoon saw the Under 8 Football team venture over to Thorpe House Langley Prep for its first football tournament.

Pre-match there was much excitement for the afternoon's competition, with no nerves on show.

The boys were first to arrive, giving us time to prepare and have a good warm up. As the other sides started to arrive they could see what they'd be up against.

First up was a Blofield A side who proved a good match in the first 5 minutes of the game, with some great defending from Alex and Matthew and tireless work from Archie and Freddy in midfield, keeping Blofield at bay. However the pressure from Blofield was too much to handle as they scored some quick fire goals, ending the game in defeat for Henstead.

Next up was Town Close, who were the eventual winners of the whole tournament. This was an encouraging performance, losing only 3-0 with a much changed side to the first game, giving Ewan, Harvey, Thomas and Charlie a taste of match life.

The final game and highlight of the afternoon was against Blofield B. This was the Henstead boys' best performance by far, with some great attacking play from Freddy and Nathan almost ending in a goal, whilst at the other end Archie made a great one-on-one save. The game ended Nil-Nil, which meant a penalty shoot out. After 3 penalties each Blofield came out victorious.

A great afternoon's football from the young inexperienced Henstead side, and one that will stand them in good stead for their future sporting fixtures.

A big thank you to all the parents who came out and supported the team very vocally in each game.

Mr Hunter

SWIMMING

We wish Clara and George all the best at the finals of the ISA (Independent Schools Association) National Swimming Championships taking place tomorrow (Saturday 24 January) at the Olympic Pool, Stratford, London. We look forward to hearing all about it.



Save the date.

We will throw open the doors to parents, grandparents and visitors once again at our Open Morning on Saturday 14 March, when we invite people to come into the school and see lessons in action. The children are always keen for family and friends to see what they get up to at school and it is a great opportunity to see the varied learning activities in progress across the entire school.

We would ask that visitors arrive by 10am on the day, as the programme of activities and tours is organised around a schedule that is explained at the start of the morning, so that visitors can select the options relevant to their children and/or particular interests.

We would be grateful if you would start to consider who to invite.



Mascot Winners



This week's Mascot Winners, for best demonstrating the school value *Empathy*, are:

R - Marli
Y1 - Kitty
Y2 - Honor
Y3 - Rachael
Y4 - Ruby
Y5 - May
Y6 - Sarah

Learning Trail



The winners of this week's Learning Trail - on Arctic Animal Babies - are Polly, Izzy & May.

Gold Awards



Congratulations to Harvey, Floriana, Charlie and Emily on their award of Gold Certificates for 15 outstanding achievements. Well done!

Nursery Star



The Nursery Star of the Week award goes to Ethan for looking after the new children and helping them settle in. It looks like Harry Henstead will be well looked after this weekend!

UNIFORM SHOP

Opening Times
Mondays 0830-0930

PTFA

News Extra

Next PTFA Meeting
Monday 23 February at 7.30pm

Gig in a Barn 7 March
£10 per head

Family Fun Bingo Friday
Evening 20 March

Easter Egg Hunt, Easter
Bonnet Competition &
Cream Teas Monday 30
March at 2.30pm

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