



The Old School Henstead

Newsletter

Spring Term 2018 Issue 2 26 January 2018



Calendar for next week

Tuesday 23 January

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
2.15 U11 Netball v The Abbey (A)
8.50 Candlemas Service at St Mary's Henstead
Open Morning (half day school & activities)

Wednesday 31 January

Friday 2 February

Saturday 3 February

Dates for your diary

Tuesday 6 February

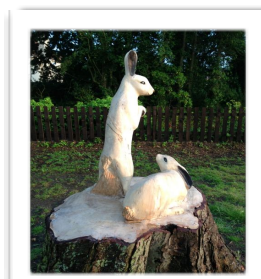
10-18 February

4.15 Parents' Seminar - thinkuknow (Internet Safety update)
Half Term

Message from the Headmaster

We are much looking forward to welcoming our families, friends, children and guests to our Open Morning next Saturday. It will be an opportunity not only to see the range of learning that our boys and girls are challenged by every week, but also to get a glimpse of the Houses and how this vital vertical system of pastoral care helps to ensure the welfare of our children. See you there!

Mr McKinney

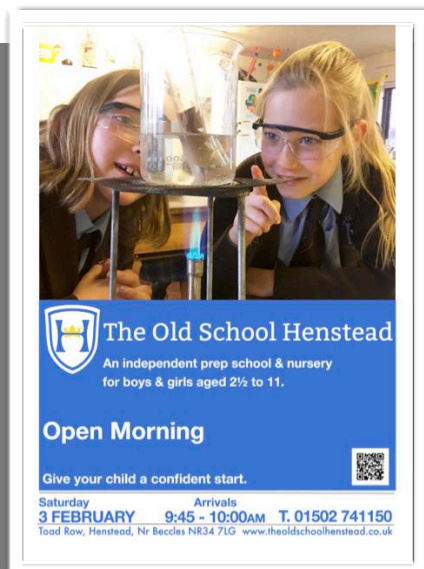


Open Morning.

Our next Open Morning takes place next 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.



Ecological Studies Field Trip.



On Monday the Year 2 boys and girls visited Ringsfield Hall Eco Centre. The aim of the eco-centre is to reconnect people with themselves, with others and with our planet.

In line with our Science topic of materials, the children had the opportunity to use all their senses exploring the extensive grounds at Ringsfield. Despite being chilly, the children's enthusiasm for experiencing and enjoying nature clearly prevailed. After a day of poetry, exploration, and reflection, their efforts were rewarded with a chance to make bread and popcorn over a camp-fire.

The children's senses and creativity were reflected in a rather lovely poem written with the help of Mr Hunter;

"Looking at the tree, it is beautiful.

What it gives the earth is wonderful,

Bumpy and rotten, it looks scary,

Climbing it could be adventurous and great,

Humungous and briny, I wish it was tiny."

In line with the school's value this term, the children displayed empathy for nature. Their caring, thoughtful approaches to the considerations about the preservation of the planet were evident in their approaches, queries, and discussions.

A muddy, but lovely day.

Mr Hunt & Mr Hunter





Reception Roundup.



With our fantastic playground and the unlimited supply of mud, equipment and space, we have had fun playing and exploring our environment. It has been particularly enjoyable observing the children as they develop their investigation skills and experience new situations as they reflect on their learning and use this in their play.

We are showing fantastic 'having a go' attitudes as the expectation for reading, writing and mathematical understanding increases. We are now demonstrating active learning as we concentrate and keep on trying when we encounter difficulties.



It is always lovely to see the children enjoying their own achievements, especially in the weekly spelling tests, daily reading and phonics lessons.

Our current focus on creating and thinking critically has been challenged through our learning about cold lands. Children have been able to develop their own ideas about colder climates, make links between our animals and those in cold lands, and develop strategies when making their sock penguins.

Mrs Scriven & Mrs Dakin



Nursery News.



En français, s'il vous plaît!

Early Years had their French lesson with Madame Dakin. The children practised their colours with the help of a French song called 'Qu'est-ce qu'il y a dans le sac?' We have started to learn some parts of the body starting with our faces. We used Mr Potato Head to help with le nez, les yeux, la bouche et les oreilles - nose, eyes, mouth and ears.



Beau travail les enfants!

Shapes

We are mad about shapes in Nursery. We have been hunting for 2D shapes in the environment, solving shape riddles, learning about the properties of shape and using the correct mathematical language to describe them. The children have enjoyed using scissors and stampers to cut shapes out and play shape matching games.



Nursery Star of the Week ★

Nursery Star of the Week award goes to Josie for being a happy, joyful little girl, for looking after her friends and caring about everyone. Enjoy your weekend with Priscilla.

Mrs Vorster & Miss Butcher

SPORTS ROUND UP

Gymnastics & Swimming



GYMNASTICS

At gym this term we have mainly been focusing on floor work, forwards and backwards rolls, bars, rings, beam and vault techniques. This week we have been concentrating on handstands and balancing on the beam. Some of us find this more challenging than others but the instructors are always there to support and encourage us. The majority of the Year 4, 5 and 6 pupils would rate the gym 9.5/10. We love the opportunities we have at the gym and we acknowledge that this is an opportunity that many other schools do not get. They make it so much fun and we love it here.

By Olivia S-A and Rachael



SWIMMING

Years 2 and 3 have been continuing to make progress in their swimming lessons. This week they worked on increasing their underwater confidence: with the aid of floats, they swam widths of the pool with their faces submerged below the water's surface

This has a number of benefits, one of which is to enable the children to improve their breast stroke and front crawl techniques. It also reduces fear and increases confidence in the water, something which will enable them to enjoy this wonderful pastime for the rest of their lives.

Well done Henstead swimmers!



SPORTS ROUND UP

Cross Country



CROSS COUNTRY

On a bitterly cold Friday morning fourteen Old School Henstead runners braved the conditions at Finborough School for an Independent Schools Association annual regional cross country event.

Up first on the 2.1 kilometre course were the Year 4 boys and girls. First home for the girls was Isobel in an impressive 22nd position, followed by Isabelle and Kitty in 32nd/33rd place.

For the boys, needing a top ten finish to reach the national finals later in the year, Francis finished 11th as he was just pipped to the line, with Marli, Harry S and Caleb all coming in close order, gaining valuable experience and showing real promise for years to come.

Years 5 and 6 found themselves mixed together so it made the competition even harder for the younger competitors. Kate was first home with a 16th placed finish, followed by Emily 47th, Daisy 57th and Rosie 70th.

Last up were the boys, who found the terrain tough, with fields, roads and woodland to work their way through. Louis lead them home coming in 57th position, Thomas 63rd and Harry B 82nd.

A fantastic effort by all pupils as there was a strong field of 120 runners in each race.

Mr Hunter



Mascot Awards.

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



Reception: Reuben for showing a good understanding of empathy when working with his peers.

Year 1: Oscar for his ongoing understanding and development of empathy skills.

Year 2: Tom for thinking about the classroom environment.

Year 3: Phillip for showing empathy through shared emotions with others.

Year 4: Imogen F-T for showing empathy towards her peers and putting others before herself.

Year 5: Rebecca for consistently asking people if she can help them.

Year 6: Year 6 in recognition of the empathy and support shown to each other during their interviews and exams.

New School Council



We are pleased to present our newly elected School Council members for this term:

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.

Arts & Crafts Club



Under the direction of Mrs Scriven, the Junior Arts & Crafts Club is working on projects which will be revealed in due course.

Parent & Toddler



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

UNIFORM SHOP

Opening Times
Term Time

Mondays 8.15-9.15
Thursdays 3.15-4.15

PTFA News Extra

Easter Bingo Friday 16
March 1800

Next PTFA Meeting Friday
Friday 27 April 2018 at
1430. All welcome.



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