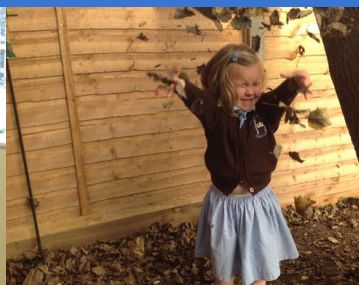




# The Old School Henstead

## Newsletter

Autumn Term 2016 Issue 3 30 September 2016



### Calendar for next week

Wednesday 5 October

Year 4 visits Green Britain Centre, Swaffham

1.30 Fairy Storyteller visits Reception & Nursery

Friday 7 October

9.15 Year 3 visits Sutton Hoo

2.00 U9 & U11 Mixed Hockey v Hethersett Old Hall School (A)

### Dates for your diary

Saturday 15 October

9.45 Open Morning (Half Day School)

Monday 24 - Friday 28 October Holiday Club (booking forms will be sent out next week)

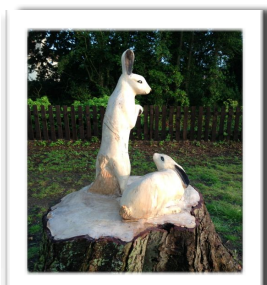
Friday 11 November

8.50 Remembrance Service at St Mary's Church, Henstead

### Message from the Headmaster

I was both pleased and proud to have the opportunity to represent The Old School at the annual conference of headmasters and headmistresses held in Westminster this week. It was an opportunity to hear and discuss aspects of education and the leadership of our schools in these times of exponential change. Sobering thoughts of the alarming rise in the number of young people who suffer from mental health problems - as educators and parents, we must be diligent and watchful in our provision for the children in our care. There were lighter moments too... leaving a beautiful choral service in the Westminster parish church, to the obvious disappointment of the early bird celebrity watchers, already in place for Sir Terry Wogan's memorial later that day. Those Heads who had the temerity to put impertinent questions to Anne Widdecombe found that the Strictly experience had neither diminished her wit nor her parliamentary debating skills.

*Mr McKinney*



## Open Morning.

We are looking forward to our next Open Morning on Saturday 15 October. Parents, grandparents and friends are all welcome to spend the morning with us. Children are always keen to show what they achieve at school. Please encourage guests to arrive between 9.45 and 10am, so that they may choose the options most suited to their interests. (Pupils should arrive for registration at 9.45 - wearing blazers as usual.) Please consider who to invite. **If you are able to put up a poster at your place of work or leisure, we would be very grateful if you would pick one up from the office.**





# Nursery News.



Autumn leaves are falling down.

Autumn has arrived in Nursery this week. The children have been busy collecting autumn leaves around the school to create their very own autumn pictures. We have been discussing the changes in the seasons and the colours of the leaves. So far we have found orange, red, yellow and brown leaves! During our dance and movement session we made our bodies move like leaves and made our movements very delicate. We had lots of twirling leaves to the ground! We have been learning an autumn song during our circle times. Here it is if you would like to learn it too!



*Autumn leaves are falling down,  
falling down, falling down.*

*Autumn leaves are falling down.*

*To the ground.*

*(To the tune of London Bridge is  
Falling Down.)*

*Miss O'Mara and Miss Butcher*



## Nursery Star of the Week ★

Nursery Star of the Week goes to Violette, who has settled really well into her new Nursery and has been making lots of new friends. Good work Violette! Have a lovely weekend with Sparky and make sure you look after him. Dragons can be a bit mischievous!



# Reception Roundup.



In Reception this week we have been learning the sounds g, o, and ck and continue to work on blending all our sounds together to form words. We have also used our blending techniques in ICT lessons on our interactive white board to play phonic games.

In maths we have been looking at shapes and colours and how we can make patterns and pictures. We have also started to use scales to weigh everyday objects.

Amelia had a fantastic Show and Tell on Wednesday and Ariane brought in a snake for the whole school Show and Tell assembly. These opportunities are really beneficial for the children's speaking and listening skills and provide a great insight to the children's personal interests.

In art we created autumn pictures using oil pastels to represent the true colours of autumn and what we can see from our classroom window.

We are looking forward to next week, when we will be learning about *Goldilocks and the Three Bears*.

*Mrs Scriven & Mrs Dakin*







# Intelligent Movers.

*Chess Club update*

There was a palpable atmosphere of intense concentration and determination in this week's Chess Club. Now in its third week, the pupils are making steady progress and demonstrating their competitive streaks. The chess timer apps were in action on the iPads, keeping up the pace of the action, which was offset by the Tchaikovsky music playing in the background!



## Pedagogical Ponderings

**A new year, a new start?**

I've traditionally been a sceptic in the past of the phrase "a new year, a new start". I've usually seen it as a weak incentive for a change in behaviour or output, a phrase that is flippantly used to fill in a gap, as opposed to creating a point to think about. In most classrooms in most schools, it's a phrase you hear at the beginning of the school year when teachers are addressing children who need to think seriously about their behaviour before they end up being a headache for yet another year. "None of your previous mistakes matter any more... This is a new year and a new start for you", I've heard time and time again, and scoffed. Why would a phrase like this mean anything to children who probably don't even remember their behaviour from the previous year anyway?

This year, though, I feel different. My scepticism is subsiding and I'm beginning to see that, perhaps, it

is a phrase that, if used wisely and infrequently, can be meaningful – for adults as well as children.

There have been some changes this year at The Old School Henstead. Most noticeably, the wonderful new members of staff who have joined the school, bringing fresh ideas and new experience - something that we all need to keep our skills and learning fresh. This is, indeed, a new start - and with a new start, new opportunities to plough new furrows and investigate new perspectives; new possibilities for developing our school into a world-class provider of an education that we can be highly proud of. We have exciting new opportunities ahead in which I'm glad you'll be able to join us.

So... A new year, and definitely a new start.

*Mr Jensen*

## A Sonnet



### Pitter Patter

Gently at first, but it's getting louder

Pitter patter, pitter patter, rain falls

The sky darkens, painted like  
gunpowder

As the first flash comes and the  
thunder calls

Picking up pace and falling down  
faster

Pitter patter, pitter patter, rain falls  
Trees bend over obeying the Master  
Insects scatter and an animal crawls

The storm rolls on angrier than ever  
Pitter patter, pitter patter, rain stalls

The sun pokes out as light as a  
feather

A rainbow glistens like Niagara Falls

It's a whole new world for all living  
things

And who knows what the new  
sunny day brings

*Daisy McD, Year Six*

## Creative Writing



Class assemblies are always an excellent way to showcase learning that happens in our school. One of the beauties of an Old School Henstead education is the opportunity for creativity. On Wednesday Year 5 shared some examples of the work they have been doing in writing, built around the bestselling story *The Hundred Year Old Man Who Climbed Out of the Window and Disappeared*, by Jonas Jonasson.

The ideas that sprouted from this title were numerous: from Freddy's parody of a recently released film to Sophia's descriptive spider dentures; Olivia's abseiling old man to Alex's journey through strange and unknown lands. This certainly was an old man out on an adventure!

Thank you to all the parents who were able to come along and see their children in action. I know that the pupils were pleased to have you in attendance.

*Mr Jensen*



## Brass Assembly



We were delighted to have Mr Beer and two of his pupils perform at one of our assemblies this week. Mr Beer introduced the art and enjoyment of playing brass instruments and invited pupils to try them out. If any pupils would like to take up tuition with Mr Beer, and potentially join the brass ensemble, kindly speak to Miss Sindall or enquire at the office.





# Fit Stop.

Reception teams  
enjoying outdoor PE on  
our playing fields in the  
sunshine this week,  
under the direction of  
Mr Hunter.



# SPORTS ROUND UP

## Football



### FOOTBALL

#### Under 11 Match

The Under 11's began their sporting campaign with an away fixture to a side they haven't played before - Beccles Primary Academy - meaning the short bus journey was a noisy affair filled with excitement.

A quick warm up and a few questions - why one of the opposition players was allowed to wear socks above his knees? Having ascertained that it was not Ronaldo, the boys were ready to play.

A fantastic start from Henstead playing some free flowing attacking football saw us take the lead through a fantastic strike on the edge of the box from Savile. However, instead of more of the same, we took our foot off the gas and from some silly mistakes found ourselves 3-1 down at half time.

The boys knew what was expected of them, much greater energy and a higher press as per start of the match. During the second half they gave everything they had, bringing themselves back into the game

inside five minutes with two quick fire goals from Savile and Louis, then taking the lead through a Louis penalty. The control of the game was ours. A late surge led to two more goals from Archie and Savile, before some frantic defending and fine goalkeeping from Alex at the death, won us the game 6-5 - a fantastic all round team performance showing great character and belief.

#### Under 9 Match

The Under 9 Boys began this match full of excitement and quickly found they were a pretty good side, scoring freely in the first half through Jack, Joey and Louis and with some solid goalkeeping and defending from Thomas and Charlie. We were 6-1 ahead at half time and a goalkeeping change at the interval didn't change the pattern of play, showing a great work ethic, passing and movement finishing with a final score of 13-5. Another fantastic win of the afternoon.

*Mr Hunter*





# Air drop success.

Our Year Five scientists enjoyed a successful science lesson learning about friction and air resistance, culminating in the construction of parachutes! We love science.



## Mascot Awards



The mascots for best demonstrating Confidence this week, will be awarded on Monday, owing to a large contingent competing in a cross-country event away from school today.



## UNIFORM SHOP

Opening Times  
(term time)

Tuesdays 8.15-9.15

Thursdays 3.15-4.15

## Thank you



An amazing £353.96 was raised at last Friday's Macmillan Coffee morning. Thank you to everyone who helped and gave of their time to make it such a super success - Years 5 and 6 who helped to set up the hall, those who made and donated all those delicious cakes and scones, those who helped on the day serving drinks and washing up afterwards and to Year 2 for running the competitions. There were 545 spots on the cake and our winner was Hilary Gregory who came incredibly close with 555!

Every penny raised will go to making life easier for those affected by cancer. Thank you. We are most grateful for your generosity.  
Miss Sindall

## Surprise Visit



We were delighted to receive a visit from Miss Coxon and beautiful six week old baby Enya-Rose yesterday. The younger children - especially former members of Miss Coxon's class - were excited to meet the youngest member of The Old School Henstead Community. We look forward to watching her grow.

## PTFA

### News Extra

#### Cheese & Wine Evening followed by PTFA AGM

Monday 10 October 7-9pm in the school hall. Everyone welcome. Please come along and support the PTFA, share ideas and make new friends.

#### Bonfire Night & Fireworks

Friday 11 November. Watch this space for more information and ticket details.



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