



The Old School Henstead

Newsletter

Autumn Term 2015 Issue 11 4 December 2015



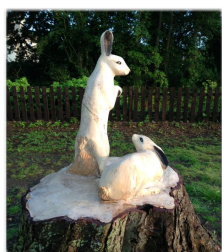
Calendar for next week

Monday 7 December	9.00 Year 4 Science Visit to Southwold (<i>addition to calendar</i>)
Tuesday 8 December	9.00 Year 3 Visits Sutton Hoo
Thursday 10 December	2.00 Inter-House Christmas Competition
Friday 11 December	9.15 Nursery Nativity

Dates for your diary

Monday 14 December	2.00 School Nativity at St Mary's Henstead, followed by mince pies and refreshments at school after the performance.
Tuesday 15 December	School Christmas Lunch 7.00 Carol Service at St Mary's Henstead. We warmly invite you to join us for mince pies and refreshments at school after the service. Term Ends
Wed-Fri 16-18 December	Holiday Club (individual days bookable via the office)

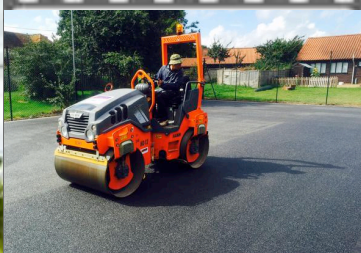
Message from the Headmaster



Everyone is waiting... We spend so much of our lives doing it. Year Six provided a most realistic tableau in our assembly on Monday. Waiting for a bus or a train, waiting to pay at the checkout or the till, waiting in the queue to send a parcel at the Post Office (a seasonal favourite), waiting for another of Mrs Guildea's delicious lunches. Above all, waiting for the arrival, as a Reception pupil perfectly described it, of the Lord Baby Jesus. But as well as waiting, it is a time of preparation - as well as preparing for the practicalities of Christmas, it is also an opportunity to prepare ourselves to be better people, to be closer to God in our hearts and minds. The children have been thinking about how they can help other people at this time of the year and how they can be helpful at home and at school to make the waiting better for everyone. How many more sleeps?

Mr McKinney

New Multi-Purpose Sports Court.



Now that our new multi-purpose all weather sports court has been unveiled, we thought you might like to see a few photos of it under construction. A Suffolk-based company was awarded the contract to install the new court and the highest grade sports surface was chosen, finished in school colours. This sports court will

enhance the programme of our Sports department significantly. We are most grateful to the generosity of the PTFA for providing this excellent facility for the school, and thank all the parents and extended families for supporting the PTFA events that make such donations possible.

A Victorian Christmas.



We were really looking forward to our 'Victorian Christmas' day out at the *Elizabethan House Museum* in Great Yarmouth, as we had already learnt that many of our Christmas traditions today come from Victorian times, introduced by Queen Victoria's husband, Prince Albert. He brought us the Christmas tree, the tradition of sending cards and the giving of gifts.

However, we were not on the receiving end of all these lovely Christmassy things, but instead were servants in a grand Victorian house, helping to prepare a spectacular day for the master of the home, Mr Palmer. We made mince pies using all sorts of Victorian kitchenware to help us peel apples, grate nutmeg, crush cinnamon and weigh the correct amounts. We also helped wash the tablecloths in the scullery, with Olivia helping to flake the carbolic soap, Immy using the washing dolly and tongs and Francis using his elbow grease to turn the mangle.

Next we helped wrap the Palmer children's Christmas presents. We managed to have a good play with them first though! The top favourites were the clockwork ducks, the fishing game (hook a duck) and quoits. We also played some Victorian parlour games - with no telly or X-Box, these kinds

of games, along with cards, reading, listening to music, singing and playing the piano were de rigueur.

Our final, but really fun, chore was to help decorate the Palmer's Christmas tree, with authentic decorations: pine cones, nuts, dried orange slices, clove and orange balls, embroidered and tapestry 'baubles'. We also made a Cornucopia each, which means 'horn of plenty', and filled it with lavender, pine cones and other dried flowers, to lay on the branches of the tree. The smell was amazing!

We had lunch at the *Time and Tide Museum* and then had great fun discovering who lived in the houses in the Victorian Street, a reconstruction of one of Great Yarmouth's Rows, most of which were destroyed in the war.

A huge thanks, as always, to the wonderful team at *Elizabethan House* and *Time and Tide Museum* and to the parents for remembering Victorian costume. Some parents had even packed a Victorian lunch!

Miss Kay and Miss Syder





Nursery News.

Father Christmas' Post Box.

On Friday morning Nursery embarked on an big adventure to find Father Christmas' post box. We were given an anonymous tip that it might be somewhere in Bungay, so our first port of call was Bungay's Post Office! When we arrived there we searched carefully for the post box and we soon found it hiding in the corner. We posted our letters in the post box ready for the elves to give to Father Christmas.

Whilst there Miss O'Mara and Miss Butcher told the children that Father Christmas had tried to deliver us a parcel but it didn't quite make its way to us. We thought we would ask the Post Master if he knew the whereabouts of our parcel. He asked to see our missed delivery ticket and produced two parcels addressed to us. We thanked him for his help and sang a chorus of *Jingle Bells*.

We then walked to Bungay Castle for a run around, ending with a snack in the café. A well deserved break! Good work Nursery. We hope our letters will make it to the North Pole!

When back at HQ, we opened our parcels to find a book, *Norman the Slug Who Saved Christmas*, and some lovely Christmas stickers. Thank you Father Christmas! We look forward to your visit on 24th December - we promise to stay in our beds!



Nursery Star of the Week



Nursery Star of the Week goes to Robyn, who has been sharing well and been really caring towards her friends. Miss O'Mara and Miss Butcher

SPORTS ROUND UP

Rugby



RUGBY

Saving the best for last.

The final Rugby fixture arrived this week and the Under 11 boys wanted to go out in style, and that they did.

The first match was played against the Langley Prep Panthers. It was pleasing to see that the passing, tackling and rucking that had been vigorously practised in lesson time paid off. Henstead displayed complete dominance from the off, running in some great individual and team tries, winning the game 9-1.

No time to relax before our second game against the Langley Prep Tigers. This was a more evenly contested game, with Henstead having much of the play early on, but unable to break the gain line in attack. However the whitewash was eventually crossed by the duo of Savile and George, who scored two tries each, giving us a 4-0 win.

After a 12 minute rest it was the turn of the Langley All Star team. This proved to be the closest game of the afternoon, with Henstead really being pushed early

doors. Nevertheless the defence from all team members held strong. A quick dash downfield by George ended with him popping the ball up to an on rushing Louis to touch down. Louis managed to score his second of the game late on with a good solo run.

A fantastic afternoon's Rugby, with Henstead winning all three matches, scoring 15 tries and only conceding one. It was a great team performance which was most pleasing to see.

A big thank you to all our loyal supporters.

Mr Hunter

Christmas Fayre

What a marvellous day it was! Blessed with a dry, crisp day, it was the perfect start to the Christmas season. The preparations that Mrs Hadingham, her team, the staff and the children had made paid off in full - from Friday evening the school was transformed - a wonderful grotto in readiness for the arrival of Father Christmas and stalls laden with crafts and produce of every kind. There were beautiful Christmas gifts, soft toys aplenty, wreaths, guess the weight of the cake, name the snowman (and build one from clay), crackers to be made, a crock of gold, and Christmas games, to name just a few. On the day most children had been transformed by the artistic talents of Mrs Scoggins, Mrs TN and Mrs Speed-Andrews into reindeer and magical Christmas night skies. Some spent their pocket money on the coconut shy (George D holds the record) and there were raffles to tempt all comers. Mrs Guildea had roasted turkey ready for Ms Thomson and Mrs McKinney to serve in delicious festive rolls and the Blackett cake stall mantle passed seamlessly to the next generation. It was a great day and it looks like the amount raised will be over £1,600! Thank you to all the members of the school community who supported the event. Merry Christmas!



Christmas Lunch

Our school Christmas lunch will be held on Tuesday 15 December, the last day of term. Pupils can look forward to this delicious menu. Parents of pupils who usually bring packed lunches, but would prefer their children to partake in our traditional Christmas lunch on that day, must notify their form teacher or tutor to ensure they are catered for.

Traditional Roast Turkey

served with sage & onion stuffing, pigs in blankets, roast potatoes, Yorkshire pudding, roast parsnips, baton carrots, peas and cranberry sauce

Chocolate Yule Log served with Cream

Mini Mince Pies

Allergy information: contains gluten (wheat), celery, eggs, milk & mustard.

Mascots Awards



This week's mascot winners - for best demonstrating the school value Resilience - are:

Reception Lola
Year 1 George
Year 2 Harry D
Year 3 Rosie
Year 4 Matthew
Year 5 Thomas
Year 6 George

Christmas Party



The PTFA will host a Christmas Party (including disco!) on Friday 11 December, from 2.30 to 4.30pm, for all pupils in Reception through to Year Six. The PTFA is generously organising this event free of charge for all pupils. Light refreshments will be provided.

Christmas Post



Our School Christmas Post begins on Monday! Look out for the special post box, outside Mr McKinney's study. Please ensure you **write the name and class** on each envelope to ensure our Christmas Elves deliver to the correct person within the school.

Learning Trail



This week's Learning Trail winners - on the theme of populations - are Tilly, Matthew P, Ruby and Daisy McD.

Thank you



A huge thank you to the PTFA for their generous gift of a wonderful new state-of-the-art catering oven and hob unit for our kitchen. We appreciate all that you do for the school.

UNIFORM SHOP

Opening Times
Tuesdays 8.30-9.30
Thursdays 3.15-4.15



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