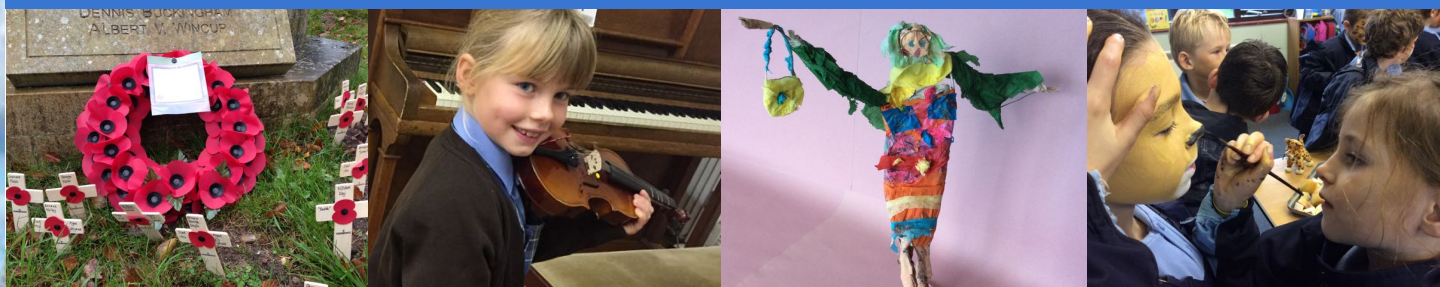




The Old School Henstead

Newsletter

Autumn Term 2015 Issue 7 6 November 2015



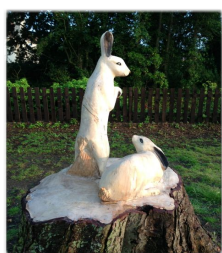
Calendar for next week

Tuesday 10 November 4.15 Year 5 & Year 6 Concert
Wednesday 11 November Book Fair Opens
10.00 ISA Swimming Gala, Crown Pools, Ipswich (note earlier time)
Thursday 12 November 2.00 Choir sings for *Children in Need*, Beccles
Friday 13 November Non-uniform Day for *Children in Need*

Dates for your diary

Monday 16 November Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Collection

Message from the Headmaster



We have had a most purposeful start to the second half of term and the children have returned full of energy after the holiday. We are also pleased to welcome our new pupils to Years One and Two and our new member of staff, Mrs Michelle Jensen, of whom you may read more later in this edition of the newsletter. It is always worthwhile to take time to reflect, never more so this week when we remember those who have given and continue to give so much to protect the freedoms that we all enjoy - the service in St Mary's this morning will honour them. The determination, courage and good humour of our friend Duncan Slater was brought to mind this week, as the exploits of a *Walking With The Wounded* team were reported - a 1,000 mile walk from Scotland to London, welcomed home in style at the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Stadium. Maybe the Henstead Hike should be a bit longer this summer? We are also grateful to Colonel Hardman for his talk with the children today.
Mr McKinney



Resilience.

We focus on the value of resilience in this half of term. From the Latin *resilire*, re - 'back' + *salire* - 'to jump'. The power or ability to return to the original form after being tested, compressed or stretched. What does this mean for us in our learning at school? The key to it is the opportunity to learn from our mistakes and grow stronger as a result. For we can choose to be determined, show our commitment and

willingness to work hard in order to progress. Resilience is especially important when we find something difficult, whether it is times tables, cursive writing or tying shoelaces. We should also be mindful that this value will only serve to build our confidence 'with faith', for in testing our faith it will grow stronger also.

Early Years News.

Big Day Out!

The end of the first half of term finished with the children jumping for joy at High Altitude trampoline centre in Norwich.....or should we say 'High Attitude' as some of the children called it!

We arrived raring to go and the children had to watch a short safety video where the rules were carefully explained to them. We then had to put on our 'grippy' safety socks and head on to the trampoline platform.

The children had toys and bouncy balls to play with as well as so many trampolines to choose from. It was lovely to see the children show off their bouncing skills and play so nicely with each other while Disney music played in the background.

After an hour, some very tired and hungry children were ready for their party lunch.

The children's behaviour was exceptional and they were all a credit to the school.

On Wednesday afternoon Sarah from Beccles Library came in to read books to Nursery. We enjoyed a variety of books, sang songs from her song bag.



Nursery Star of the Week



Nursery Star of the Week goes to Jacob. Jacob has been working very hard over the half term on his next steps; getting used to the nursery routine. Great job Jacob! We hope you have a great weekend with Dotty.

Miss O'Mara and Miss Butcher



Pedagogical Ponderings.

You'd probably expect that this week's Pedagogical Ponderings would be a harping on about the triumphant rugby game that was played over the weekend. And quite rightly so, you would expect.

This week, however, brings a different theme. A solemn conclusion awaits us at today's church service in St Mary's. We will be marking Remembrance Day.

It is always a prickly topic talking about war and sacrifice. On the one hand Remembrance Day stands to remember those who have fallen, and those who are still living, those we have known, or not known, and those who have laid their own lives on the line in order to protect the freedoms that we still enjoy today. And this is, quite correctly, a worthy ideal to remember. However, an important question I feel we must ask is: "How do we remember war and sacrifice without glorifying it?"

Something that Hollywood is very good at is entrancing us in the films we watch. I certainly enjoyed the well-publicised and graphically realistic war films that were released in the early 2000s - certainly not for our younger viewers! Yet at the same time, I found myself getting so drawn in by the action that I was actually hoping to see more blood and guts. In some way, I was on the battlefield in the film, yet still sitting safely on my sofa at home, and in this situation I forgot that, in the end, war is simply a mad affair.

Over this Remembrance period, we surely have an important role in helping our children remember those who went before us, and those who paid the ultimate price for their beliefs and ideals. At the same time however, let's remember that we have a duty to teach our children that war is an atrocity which, at all costs, should be avoided. - Mr Jensen



Operation Christmas Child

Once again we will be supporting *Operation Christmas Child* - the world's largest children's Christmas project - by filling shoeboxes with gifts for children less fortunate than ours. You may watch some children receiving their shoeboxes in Ukraine and Liberia in a short 3-minute film by clicking on the following link: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FIC_sHK4mjs

Leaflets have gone out, but in summary...

- Please wrap an empty medium-sized shoe box and lid separately.
- Fill it with new gifts* - fun toys, non-liquid hygiene items and school supplies (see leaflet for ideas). **No clothing or food items** permitted this year.
- You may include a personal note and photo of you and your family (optional).
- Please do not seal the box, but use an elastic band to keep the lid and box together.
- Affix a label from the leaflet (to indicate the age range and if your box is intended for a boy or girl).

Each box requires a **£3.00 shipping donation**. You can pay this by cash or cheque (using the envelope attached to the

leaflet) and place it in your shoebox, or pay online at www.operationchristmaschild.org.uk. If you pay online, at Follow Your Box, you will generate a barcode to print off and place inside your shoebox. Paying online also means that you will receive an email to tell you the destination of your shoebox.

Shoeboxes should be brought to school *first thing on **Monday 16 November*** (not before please, unless of course your child is not due in school or Nursery that day), when the charity will collect them. Let's try and fill the van!

*No used or damaged items; clothing; war-related items such as toy guns; knives or military figures; playing cards (4 suit variety); seeds; chocolate or food; lotions or liquids; medicines; hand made stuffed toys; anything of a political, religious or racial nature; sharp or fragile items.

Southwold Post Office is generously offering a 10% discount on all purchases for your shoeboxes and is happy to help with suggestions from their range of toys, puzzles, pens, stickers, notebooks and small sports items.



SPORTS ROUND UP

Rugby

RUGBY

A wet Wednesday afternoon saw the Henstead U10 Rugby team up against a very well organised Abbey side.

We got off to a slow start, conceding multiple tries in the opening period. A stern talking to at the first break saw a new side emerge for the rest of the game.

Some strong tackling from centres Davey and Marcq was backed up by some good rucking from McTavish and Bird. With a platform built in the second third it allowed the Henstead team to attack their opponents

more frequently in the final period where some hard work and dazzling footwork almost lead to us scoring a try, however falling just short on multiple occasions.

An improved performance as the game went on in difficult playing conditions. Lots learnt which will be taken forward into their last match next month.

Mr Hunter

Winning Art.

ISA Art Competition 2015



"Shopping" by Sophia Garnacho-Kenny

Congratulations to Sophia Garnacho-Kenny, who has won the 3D Art Key Stage 2 category in the annual Independent Schools Association (ISA) East Region Art Competition.

The competition - attracting a record number of schools this year - was judged in Cambridge on 19th October during half term, which Mr McKinney attended.

This year's independent judge is writer-illustrator Rebecca Patterson, who most recently won the Roald Dahl Children's Book Award.

This means that Sophia's piece proceeds to the national finals which take place next week.

Well done Sophia.

Entertaining violinist!



We were delighted to be entertained in a recent assembly, by the violin - and tap-dancing - skills of Rebecca, accompanied by her violin teacher Mrs Clarke.

We recommend viewing of this short performance on the school's YouTube

channel, by clicking on the following link: https://youtu.be/KCk-R_2Sw84

We hope you agree that Rebecca is making excellent progress in her learning of the violin (and tap dancing).

Introducing Mrs Jensen



"I am delighted to join the staff team at The Old School Henstead. Like my husband, I am also from New Zealand and have recently finished my Bachelor of Teaching where I have had the privilege of working with children for many years.

When I started my degree, I was asked, "What do I believe about teaching?" This was a question that I felt I was able to answer quickly and simply: "Teaching is not just about reading and writing. It is about opening doorways to the future that children thought may never have existed."

I am incredibly excited about launching my career as a teacher at The Old School Henstead and I look forward to meeting you all in the weeks ahead."

Garden Gifts



We are once again most grateful to Harrod Horticultural's generous gift of a Roman Arch and a Pergola for our school garden. These splendid structures will provide additional growing opportunities for pupils.

School Council News



The School Council has proposed, and Mr McKinney has agreed, that there should be a dressing-up box on the field for all children to use. If you have any unwanted dressing up clothes we would be pleased to receive them.

Holiday Club



We enjoyed three fantastic days of Holiday Club during the half term break. On Monday we participated in every sport under the sun, culminating in a very frenetic uni-hoc tournament. On Tuesday we let our artistic side take precedence. Pumpkin carving, art work and movie making were the order of the day. On Wednesday we became intrepid spies, testing our agility abilities against the lasers, shelter building and code breaking being just a few of the activities.

The next Holiday Club will run from Wednesday 16th December until Friday 18th. Please see me should you require any further details.

Mr Hunter



The Old School Henstead
ptfa

Christmas Fayre

Saturday 28 November 12 noon to 3pm

Santa's Grotto

Tickets £3 including a lovely present from Father Christmas.

Wood Carving

Games Room

Face Painting

Creative Crafts

Cake Stall

Refreshments

& more!



Make Your Own Crackers

Christmas Coconut Shy

Christmas Wreaths

Christmas Cards,
Wrapping Paper &
Gift Tags

Crock of Gold

Lucky Dip

Raffle

Bottle Stall

Home Produce Stall



Bonfire & Fireworks Party!

Tonight (Friday 6th November) the school PTFA will host its annual Bonfire and Fireworks Party from 6.30pm.

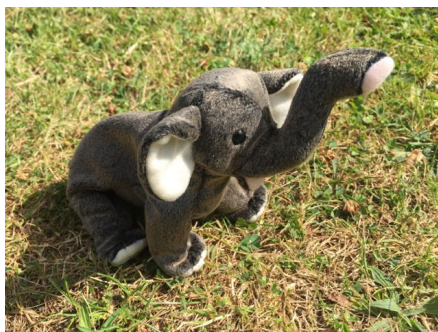
Tickets are £5.00 for adults and £3.00 for children and include entrance and a hot dog.

The evening will include PTFA-run stalls selling hot and cold drinks, snacks, toffee apples, sweets and the all important glow sticks!

The event is one of the best nights of the year and so we do hope as many of you as possible will be able to join us and share the fun.

Anyone interested in helping with the event planning, or on the night with car park allocation, please speak to Jenny Hadingham or a member of the PTFA.

Mascots Awards



The mascots are back from their half term break, and this week's winners - for best demonstrating the school value Resilience - are:

Reception Amelie

Year 1 Johnny

Year 2 Brayden

Year 3 Joe

Year 4 Sophia

Year 5 Daniel

Year 6 Theo

Winter Uniform



May we respectfully remind parents that as winter temperatures approach, pupils should only wear uniform coats, gloves and scarves to school and on excursions or trips.

Children in Need



Our Upper School choir will be singing in Beccles town centre (opposite HSBC Bank) on Thursday 19 November at 2pm, to raise money for Children in Need. There will also be a PTFA cake sale adjacent to the choir. Please come along and support the children and a great cause.

Friday 20 November will be a non-uniform day. For a donation of £1 to Children in Need, pupils may come to school dressed in spots for Pudsey Bear.

Thank you



Thank you to everyone who contributed to our collection at this morning's Remembrance Service. A total of £127 was raised for St Mary's Church and the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal.

UNIFORM SHOP

Opening Times
Tuesdays 8.30-9.30
Thursdays 3.15-4.15

PTFA

News Extra

Bonfire & Fireworks Evening Tonight 6 November 6.30pm. Tickets £5 adult/£3 child, including hot dog.

Pampered Chef Evening Tuesday 10 November 7.30pm. £5 including light refreshments.

Children in Need Thursday 12 November 2pm. Choir singing in Beccles town centre, plus cake stall, all in aid of Children in Need. Cakes and help required please!

Christmas Fayre Saturday 28 November 12-3pm. Do you have any good clean cuddly toys, jam jars, cardboard tubes from toilet rolls or kitchen rolls? Also if anyone is making jams, chutneys, or other home produce, we would be grateful for donations to sell on our home produce stall.



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