



The Old School Henstead

Newsletter

Autumn Term 2016 Issue 10 9 December 2016



Calendar for next week

Monday 12 December
Wednesday 14 December
Thursday 15 December
Friday 16 December

Choir Sings at Wrentham Community Centre Christmas Lunch
9.15 Nursery Nativity
2.00 School Nativity at St Mary's Henstead
12.00 School Christmas Lunch
7.00 Carol Service at St Mary's Henstead
Term Ends

Monday 19 December -
Wednesday 21 December

Holiday Club (bookable via the office)

Dates for your diary

Wednesday 4 January

Spring Term begins

Message from the Headmaster



In many respects, it is the most special time of the year. The preparations for Christmas are in full swing - our choristers are in good voice, looking forward to entertaining the diners at Wrentham on Monday, whilst younger members of the school community are eagerly rehearsing lines, songs and, in the case of Nursery, vigorously accompanying themselves with jingle bells! The Year Two post-elves have scurried past me as I write, ensuring the the delivery of cards is effective on a daily basis. We give thanks for the wonder of it all.

Mr McKinney

Exploring Map Reading.

Some scenes from a Year 3 Outdoor Education lesson, creating and reading maps.



Christmas Stable.



This Christmas we will be supporting *Christian Aid*, to help people overcome poverty in a very practical way while remembering the Christmas story. *Christian Aid* is a UK charity that works in over 60 countries helping people, regardless of religion or race.

Our aim is to raise enough money to fill a stable with animals, that will help families who are living in poverty.

To raise the money we invite pupils to enter a colouring/art competition, using the candle template provided by *Christian Aid* (which we will issue). Pupils may use any colours and art materials to create the colours and special effects of their choice. **As well as entering, we would be pleased if pupils undertook to fundraise for the appeal, in the short window between now and the end of term. Monies may brought into school or donated online via our specially set up fundraising page, though which money is transferred to *Christian Aid*:**

<http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/OldSchoolHenstead>

We would like to purchase a number of animals for our stable. Our shopping wish list includes:

Cow £150

Basket of chicks £30

Piglets £25

Nanny goat £22

Can of worms £15

Sheep £10

Kid goat £9

Pair of chickens £8

Let's try to fill the stable as we approach the celebration of Christmas.



Christmas Science Challenge.



At the beginning of this half term, Year Four received a very important assignment. You see, Father Christmas was out test running his sleigh one evening, when it plummeted into the Pacific Ocean. As a result, Year Four pupils were given the special mission to construct a lifeboat to rescue Santa.

Using recycled materials, the boats were constructed, with consideration for the physics of flotation and the forces acting on a sail boat – aerodynamic and hydrodynamic.

On Friday 2nd December, the pupils went to the Southwold Boating Lake for the testing phase of their prototypes. After studying the wind speed and direction, the pupils launched each of the boats and used stopwatches to time how long it took each boat to make it across the 45 metre lake. After a slow start and a few alterations, Kate's boat made it across the lake in 4 minutes, closely followed by Joe (4.30min) and Honor (5min). We hope Father Christmas will be pleased with the results.

After the mission had been completed Year Four was rewarded with a delicious hot chocolate in the café on Southwold Pier before heading back to school. We love physics!

Mrs Jensen





Nursery News.



Nursery got into the festive spirit this week and enjoyed many Christmas themed activities. We made:

- Christmas trees using brusho
- Penguin footprint calendars
- Christmas crackers with cardboard tubes and metallic foil
- Maths activities involving feeding Father Christmas mince pies
- Practising our cutting skills by cutting old Christmas cards and
- Writing our letters to Father Christmas for our post office trip.



During circle time we also talked about giving to others at Christmas time.

What a busy and exciting week it has been! It ended with a wonderful post office trip this morning and party this afternoon! See next page for the report of our trip to the post office.

Miss O'Mara and Miss Butcher



Nursery Star of the Week ★

Nursery Star of the Week goes to Autumn, who has made fantastic progress with her writing and letter formations. Great work Autumn. Miss O'Mara and Miss Butcher are really pleased! Have a great weekend with Sparky.

Nursery Trip.

Father Christmas' Post Box.

This 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 a parcel 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. Good work Nursery. We hope our letters will make it to the North Pole!

When back at HQ, we opened our parcel to find a book 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!

Miss O'Mara and Miss Butcher





Reception Roundup.



We spent our week finishing off our Christmas creations and consolidating our learning that has taken place over the term. The excitement of Christmas is definitely building in Reception and as Nativity rehearsals are in full swing we often find ourselves breaking into song and dance.

The children have loved the calendar countdown to Christmas and this has been a good reinforcement of our number recognition and ordering.

The Christmas role play area has seen all the children practising their writing and creativity skills with numerous Christmas cards to Mrs Scriven and Mrs Dakin as well as letters to Santa. It has been lovely to see the children sitting around the Christmas tree and using our book corner to share stories with each other.

The week has ended with a Christmas party which all the children enjoyed, dressing up in their party clothes and demonstrating their great dancing skills - definitely the highlight of the week! Thank you PTFA.

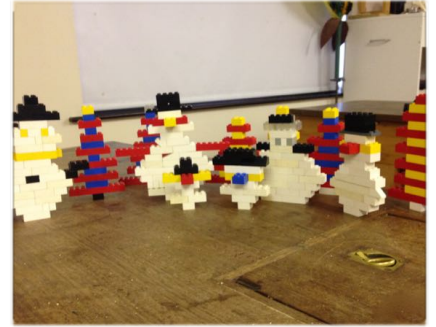
Mrs Scriven and Mrs Dakin



Festive Lego.

Lego Club Showcase

Our junior Lego clubbers were keen to show some of their Christmas creations. *Mr Hunter*



Pedagogical Ponderings

The importance of making mistakes.

No one is perfect and we can do our children a disservice by telling them that we are. Making mistakes is a crucial part of the learning cycle, and it's important, now more than ever, to help children understand this.

But why?

Life is full of ups and downs, and that is a reality of life that we all have to adjust to. How many times have you made plans that have fallen to pieces? Sometimes, there's nothing that can be done and you just have to bite the bullet, keep calm and, (in those famous words), carry on. It's a guarantee that these things happen at one stage or another, and mistakes, like failed plans, are a fact of life. We have to be ready for that, and making mistakes early helps us to learn this.

Making mistakes helps our minds to grow. Famously, Thomas Edison trialled hundreds, if not thousands of potential methods for perfecting the

humble light bulb. Each mistake, however, was not something that caused a problem, it merely pointed out that that was one method for not creating a light bulb. Eventually, through the mistakes he made, his mind was pushed to continue his search, until he finally mastered the art of electric lighting.

Dr Carol Dweck of Stanford University has given us, in recent times, cause for thought around a new buzzword in education, 'mindset'. She discusses the two mindsets, fixed and growth, and the traits of each. Making mistakes and learning from these is definitely a positive trait of the growth mindset and Dweck explains that this should be encouraged in our youngsters.

More information on the fixed and growth mindset can be read in Dr Dweck's book titled simply *Mindset*.

Mr Jensen

Y4 assembly.

What a lovely class assembly Year 4 led on Wednesday. They took this opportunity to showcase some of what they have been learning in English this term. All of our writing in Year 4 has been based around our two class readers: *The Firework Maker's Daughter* by Philip Pullman, and *James and the Giant Peach* by Roald Dahl. Every pupil has produced some amazing pieces of work this term, but due to the time restriction we were unable to hear all pupils during the assembly. However, Kate, Ebony,

Louis and Charlie were able to provide a small snippet for the rest of the school to hear.

Thank you to all the parents who were able to come along. I know that the pupils were pleased to have you there.

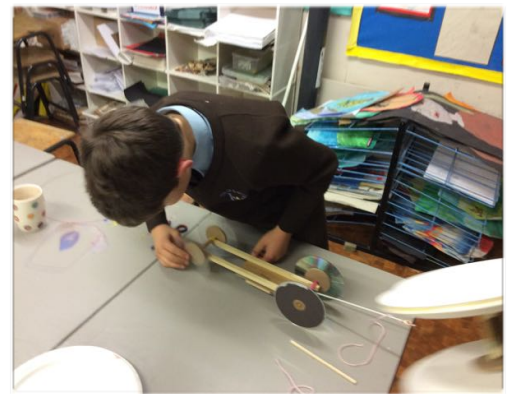
Mrs Jensen



Mini Engineering Club.

When is a mousetrap not a mousetrap? When it's a car! The Mini Engineering Club has been working out how to harness the power of the spring to create forward motion. Savile contemplated the use of extreme wheels while Alex H increases traction with the use of rubber on the rims of his CDs. Small mammals can rest easy!

Mr Butcher



SPORTS ROUND UP

Hockey



INTER-HOUSE HOCKEY TOURNAMENT

Both the Lower and the Upper School tournaments were as keenly contested as always. Here are the final results:

Junior Uni-hoc

	House
1st	Orwell
2nd	Yare
3rd	Waveney
4th	Deben

Senior Hockey

	House
1st	Yare
2nd	Orwell
3rd	Deben
4th	Waveney

Mascot Awards.



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

Reception: Isabella, for always completing work individually to a high standard

Year 1 Amelie, who is resilient with her number work

Year 2 Charlotte, for getting on with her work without fuss

Year 3 Immy P, for keeping going in this long term

Year 4 Rebecca, for showing resilience in all areas, especially creative writing

Year 5 Rachael, for overcoming her fears to give a super science presentation

Year 6 Beth, for being resilient in her mathematics.

easyfundraising



While you are Christmas shopping online, why not help raise funds for our PTFA at no extra cost to you. Simply register with easyfundraising before proceeding to your usual online shops. After a simple registration the first time, you simply continue to go on to your usual sites via:

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/oldschoolhenstead/>

That way all your online purchases earn a commission for the school.

UNIFORM SHOP

Opening Times
(next week)

Tuesday 8.15-9.15

Emergency Contact



In the unlikely event of the school having to close owing to extreme winter conditions, would parents kindly ensure that we hold your correct contact details, including any change of mobile phone numbers. If a decision is made to close the school on any given day we would endeavour to send parents a text at the earliest opportunity.

PTFA

News Extra

Christmas Parties for children today.

Next PTFA Meeting.
Tuesday January 12th, 7pm at
The Three Horseshoes, North Cove

Family Roller Skating
Saturday 28th January. Watch
this space for details.

Christmas Post



Santa's little Year 2 helpers were jingling their way around the school this week, delivering the Christmas Post.

The post box lives outside Mr McKinney's study, and to make their job easier (it's a busy time of year!) please make sure you address the envelope with the NAME and YEAR of the recipient - thank you!

And, a very Merry Christmas from Year 2!



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