



The Old School Henstead

Newsletter

Spring Term 2017 Issue 5 10 February 2017



Calendar for next week

Monday 13 - Friday 17 February

Half Term

Dates for your diary

Monday 20 February

Spring Term resumes

Message from the Headmaster



It is pleasing to note the range of activities that brighten the darker times of the year and the review of the Inter-House competition, highlighted elsewhere in this newsletter, is a prime example of such a success. Children working together from across all the Year groups to achieve most pleasing results and having fun while they are about it. It was good to welcome our Nursery children as part of the audience also. Plans are ripe for the Big Day Out in the second half of term and it will certainly be in tune with our theme of adventure as we head off on our expeditions. We trust that all members of the Henstead family enjoy a peaceful half-term break.

Mr McKinney

Secret Agents of Kindness.

Our school core value this half term has been **empathy**. By showing kindness we are using our empathy skills.

Year Two became secret agents of kindness during their assembly this morning, to give our audience some ideas on how to be kind. Some of the suggestions included: holding doors for other people, smiling, asking people how they are, giving someone a smile and sitting next to someone different at lunchtime.

We performed the parable of The Good Samaritan as a play to show how kindness can come from anyone and often when you least expect it. Our closing prayer was written by Charlotte and George.

Mrs Loader



Nursery News.



Valentine's Day Stay and Play

Love was in the air on Thursday afternoon during Nursery's Valentine's stay and play. Parents came to join in with a range of craft activities including:

- Decorating jam jars
- Making Valentine cards for someone special
- Decorating play dough hearts with beads and gems
- Making Valentine's rosettes
- Valentine's paintings



A wonderful time was had by all and glitter was everywhere! Everyone left looking very sparkly. We would like to thank the parents for coming.

Miss O'Mara & Miss Butcher



Nursery Star of the Week ★

Nursery Star of the Week goes to Jacob, who has been working hard this week and putting in lots of effort at Nursery. Great work Jacob!

BANKS OF THE NILE.

Year Four time travellers on the banks of the Nile!

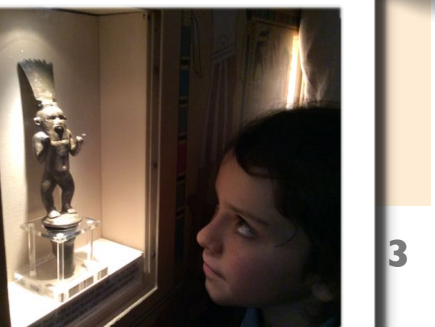
A three thousand year leap back in time was a mere hop for our Year Fours as they quit a chilly Norfolk carpark and headed for the land of gods and pharaohs. Armed, fortunately, with a wealth of previously acquired knowledge, they blended in perfectly with the locals preparing for the coronation of Tutankhamun. How do you dress for such a state occasion? With a self-designed collar denoting wealth, power and fertility in its symbolic colours of course!

No wonder our gang was a little dubious of the honesty of an archaeologist who wanted to remove precious artefacts to learn more about their culture! Dr Derry needed look no further than the array of authentic Egyptian delicacies produced at lunchtime!

As ever it was wonderful to learn from handling real archaeological treasures and have an expert explain mummification, that enduring source of macabre fascination. No, really if your thoughts come from the heart what is the brain for?

It was a super day which will give many points of reference for our further studies!

Mr Butcher



Dramatic events.



Inter-House Drama

It was a wonderful way to end this half term of House activities. The brief for the completion was that each House had to choose and present a tale from another land, in whatever way they wished. The audience, Nursery included, was treated to a wide range of costumes, music, narrative and dramatic styles. Each House began by singing their House song and reverse alphabetical running order had Yare opening the proceedings, with Juan Carlos the Mystery Jaguar (without apologies to TS Eliot.) There were rapping, truncheon-wielding police officers, all sporting sunglasses and failing to apprehend the mischievous dancing feline. South American references included favelas and even the late Cuban President made the dialogue. A spirited and modern performance.

Next up was Waveney, with a charming tale of a nightingale, written by one of the House seniors. A chorus of narrators was strongly led and the imagination was captured (or should one say Butchered) by the clever use of costume, with angry bird-style masks, Marigold gloves for feet and a portable jail for the birds, wielded by the wicked countess in search of the jewel under the wing. It was a strong tableau, with good choral speaking.

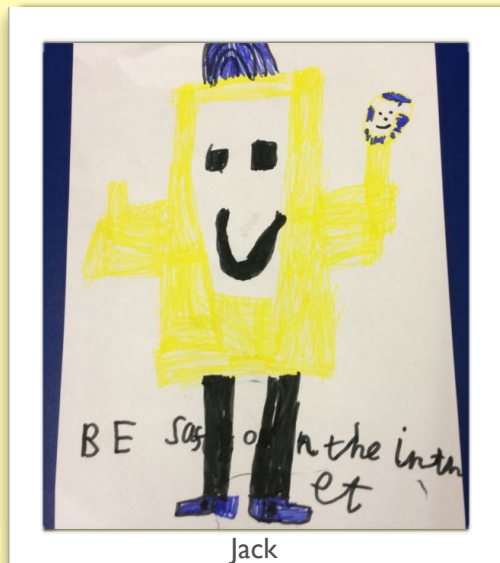
Orwell's performance was disrupted by illness, but they adapted and overcame, recruiting the services of an unknown costumed ox for their tale of the Chinese calendar. There was very clear chorus work from the senior members of the House and good use of props to illustrate the crossing of the deep river required to win the Emperor's race. The wily rat, falling out with the cat in the process, duped the poor ox and claimed the prize. All the characters were engaged and there was a pleasing dynamic to the piece.

Deben entertained us with their rendition of the Kenyan story *Handa's Surprise*. The attention of the audience was taken straight away by the traditional African dress of the three narrators, who read securely and with expression, perhaps only distracted by the passing of the text from one to another. Handa's journey to take the gift of fruit to her friend was engagingly portrayed, using the stage curtains cleverly, through which an array of hungry animals emerged to steal the tasty fruit. Mouthwatering descriptions added to the impact of the scene.

Well done to all the boys and girls and much thanks to the House staff for helping to make this year's competition such a memorable one. The honours go to the Foxes, but it was a very close contest.

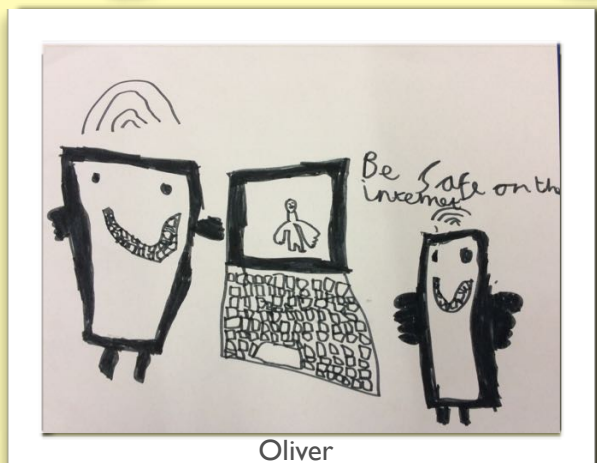


E-Safety Campaign.



Following Monday's assembly focussing on e-safety, Year One designed posters to communicate their safety messages. Here are four from their collection.

Ms Thomson



Year Six pupils study some of the many other e-safety posters produced in school this week.

SPORTS ROUND UP

Netball



NETBALL

On Friday 3rd February, we took 18 girls to Hethersett Old Hall School for two netball matches.

The first game, led by our Year 6 girls, was against a very tall and a very capable team. Poor Daisy was up against the tallest girl on the court. However, she did not complain once, but instead took on the challenge with a big smile.

We were down 2 nil at the end of the first quarter, but after a few changes in positions and a good team talk the girls came on stronger than ever. Within the first few minutes of the second half Lily scored the most impressive goal I have ever seen. Not only was she standing at the very edge of the D, the ball glided through the hoop without even touching the rim. Least to say, the crowd went wild! The girls played extremely well and even though it was the most challenging game they've played this year, they never gave up and

continued to put in 100%. The final score was 8-2 to Hethersett Old Hall School.

The second match, led by our Year 5 girls, was also played by a very capable team. From the first whistle Henstead took control of the game. They passed the ball beautifully down the court and worked hard at staying in their own positions.

Emily and Skye made some very important intercepts, helping to get the ball down to our end of the court. Ebony (GS) moved around the goal area effortlessly and between her and Kate scored 2 goals, leading our team to a 2-0 victory.

Both Mr Hunter and myself were very impressed with the fantastic way all of the girls played on Friday. It was a wonderful afternoon of netball.

Mrs Jensen



Cooking up a storm.



Week 5 of the Junior Cookery After School Club took place yesterday. This week, our little chefs made sausage rolls, mastering some new skills, with delicious results! Something sweet after half term.
Ms Thomson

Outdoor Tales



Nursery children were spotted enjoying a story in our outdoor classroom this week.

Worm Ways



Year Three had a productive time in Outdoor Education this week, designing and constructing worm hotels!



Mascots



There were no mascot awards today as the mascots have packed their suitcases and are off tonight on their own trip this half term holiday. However they will be back to share stories of their holiday on 20 February with the rest of us, ready to be awarded again on Friday 24 February to the pupils best demonstrating our new value for the next half term - Adventure.

PTFA News Extra

Next PTFA Meeting
Monday 27 February 3:30pm at school.

Family Bingo Friday 24 March 6:30pm

Summer Ball Saturday 8 July.
Save the date!

UNIFORM SHOP

Opening Times
Tuesday 8.15-9.15
Thursdays 3.15-4.15



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