



The Old School Henstead

Newsletter

Autumn Term 2018 Issue 3 28 September 2018



Calendar for next week

Monday 1 October
Tuesday 2 October

12.30 EYFS Forest School
1.30 Years 2 & 3 Swimming
2.15 Years 4,5 & 6 Swimming
2.30 Reception, Year 1 & Nursery Pre-School Gymnastics
1.00 U11 Tag Rugby at Lowestoft & Yarmouth RC
9.00 Year 5 Visits Elizabethan House, Great Yarmouth
8.00 Gresham's U9 & U11 Cross Country
Open Morning (half day school)

Wednesday 3 October
Thursday 4 October
Friday 5 October
Saturday 6 October

Dates for your diary

Friday 9 November PTFA Bonfire Night and Fireworks

Message from the Headmaster



Confidence and creativity - we have seen examples aplenty already this term. I look forward to the weekly Show and Tell assembly in which the boys and girls share items, heirlooms, finds and their own creations with the whole school. Our Receptioners are already joining in and speaking with growing conviction and volume. We have had fossils found on family holidays, examples of arts and crafts (including some splendid puppets made by Year One). Animated film making 'stop motion' and favourite stories have also featured. Well done to all!
Mr McKinney

Open Morning.

Our Open Morning takes place next Saturday 6 October. Pupils' registration will take place at 9.30. We encourage family, friends and other visitors to arrive between 9.45 and 10.00 so that they may choose their options for the morning.

It is also an opportunity for parents and grandparents to join their children in school for the morning.

We appreciate your support in spreading the word and do let the office know if you are able to display a poster.



 **The Old School Henstead**
An independent prep school & nursery
for boys & girls aged 2½ to 11.

Open Morning

Give your child a confident start.

Saturday Arrivals
6 OCTOBER 9:45 - 10:00AM T. 01502 741150
Ioad Row, Henstead, Nr Beccles NR34 7LG www.theoldschoolhenstead.co.uk



Sutton Hoo.

The Year Three trip to our region's most celebrated archaeological site was golden in every way. Not only did the gods of summer ride forth in full regalia once again, but our young historians were able to handle golden facsimile objects normally reserved for academics under armed escort! In a delightfully hands-on session to start the day, they were able to ponder the gender and status of a real live rubber skeleton by examining grave goods, do rubbed impressions of Anglo Saxon art and carry out some pottery decoration. The brisk pace continued with a visit to the exhibition centre with its deeply atmospheric burial chamber and the ever-popular photo call wearing Raedwald's helmet.

After lunch it was off to the sand boxes to practise our trowel work and uncover some artefacts before the final session of the afternoon - a visit to Mound Number One. Standing on the ancient king's grave never fails to be moving and informative in some new way. Who says the ghostly horsemen seen by Mrs Pretty in 1938 were down to that extra cup of Darjeeling?

Mr Butcher



A Spider's View.

A Spider's View (Year 4 Spy's Diary)

It's been a busy first few weeks in the Year 4 classroom and I am starting to feel much more at home. I have a brand new web away from predators, more flies than I could ever wish for and the perfect view to keep an eye on the Year 4 kids and see everyone that comes in and out of the room.

I was pleased to see the class learning more about my species. They found out some interesting facts that even I didn't know! Did you know that on average, it takes a spider about 60 minutes to spin a web? A spider has its muscles inside its skeleton. Abandoned spider webs are called cobwebs and the largest species of tarantula is the Goliath Birdeater! I didn't realise quite how clever I was. I am definitely the toughest mascot around school!

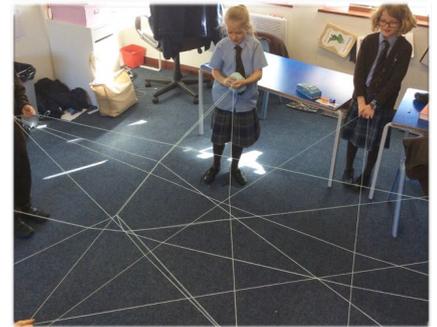
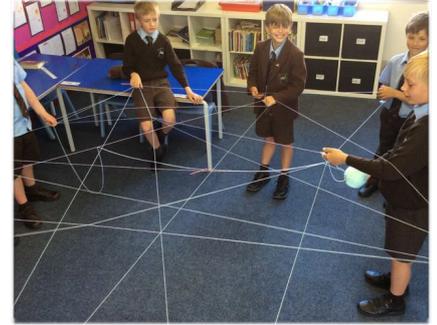
We've all been working hard in Maths. The children understand some really big numbers, but I still struggle to get further than number 8. I get in a muddle when they talk about ordering, rounding, place value and so on. Year 4 are so clever.

The children have made positive starts in all subjects and are so busy throughout the day that I get quite dizzy.

Keep up the great work and concentration Year 4. I love watching you learn and grow.

P.s Keep those flies coming please.

Spy the Spider (co-written by Year 4)



Forest School.



What a wonderful afternoon we had in Reydon Woods.

The children spent their time looking for interesting natural materials to attach to their Forest Crowns and take back to the classrooms for our nature tables and other activities. We didn't expect to find so much: red berries, acorns, chestnuts in spikey cases, moss, fungi, feathers and lots of leaves of different colours, even purple ones.

We listened to the sound of the wind in the leaves and noticed how in different parts of the wood it was more shady. We talked about the light trying to get through the gaps in the leaves.

The children were animated, enthusiastic and full of joy. It was a thoroughly enjoyable activity.

Mrs Vorster





Early Years News.

Nursery.



It was a real treat for us when Mr McKinney showed us the Horse Chestnut Tree.

We collected the conkers that had fallen from the tree but could see some big conker cases in the branches above.



Mr McKinney talked to us about how to climb safely, always having three points of contact, before he set off up into the tree to shake the branches for us. We were delighted as a shower of conker cases came down and we got busy collecting them up in our baskets.



Back in Nursery we had fun threading the conkers onto string, rolling them down guttering to count them and looking at them closely and describing them.

Mrs Vorster and Miss Butcher



Nursery Star of the Week

Nursery Star of the Week goes to Josie, who has been enjoying writing and mark making both at home and Nursery. She is trying really hard at writing letters in her name. Have a lovely weekend with Tilly the squirrel!



Reception Roundup.



We have enjoyed taking our learning outside and enjoying the autumnal weather and how it is changing our environment. We continue to develop key skills such as listening and following instructions, sharing ideas and opinions with others and extending our vocabulary by exploring the meaning and sounds of new words linked to autumn and ourselves.

As we adapt to our new social environment we are encouraged to make new friends, to share and to take turns. We are encouraged to become independent learners in the classroom and welcome support from older members of the school who are always on hand to play and support us at playtimes.

We do a lot of counting, sorting and organising groups of objects in class, sometimes involving larger numbers. This is mainly conkers, apples and leaves that we find outside.

We were finding the concept of one more or one less than a given number challenging so we used the natural resources in Reydon woods this week to help support our learning.

We are developing our reading and writing skills by having a big focus on our daily phonics activities. We can identify sounds in words and are learning how to segment and blend them. We enjoyed a variety of activities to develop our fine motor skills this week, especially the leaf and bark rubbing in the woods.

Mrs Scriven & Mrs Dakin



Literary Studies.



Recently Year 5 has been reading *Kensuke's Kingdom* in their English lessons. The book is an award-winning novel by Michael Morpurgo. It features a young boy, Michael, who embarks on an around-the-world adventure with his parents on their sailing boat. After a few months at sea, Michael falls overboard during the night and watches the boat sail away without him with his parents fast asleep below deck. Washed up on a seemingly deserted island, Michael soon encounters an old, angry and unreasonable Japanese man who speaks very little English.

Out of respect for the Japanese man in the story, (Kensuke), the Year 5 pupils have been learning a

little about the Japanese culture and language. In the assembly, they presented the school with a range of everyday phrases such as *konnichiwa* and *sayonara*. They also taught the school a short children's song about telling others how they are feeling.

We continue to enjoy reading *Kensuke's Kingdom* and are very excited to discover what will happen next!

Mr Jensen



SPORTS ROUND UP

Cross Country



Worlingham's Cross Country race this year had a turnout of 10 schools in total, with 40 competitors per race. The weather conditions were perfect and all the children were in good spirits and eager to start their race.

The Under 9 girls kicked off the afternoon with a spectacular performance. A fierce and determined run by Amelie gained her a first place and gold medal. The other Under 9 girls fought equally hard with Charlotte finishing in 27th position, Evelyn in 28th and Millie 29th. A praiseworthy effort by all.

Another exciting race from our Under 9 boys resulted in a well-deserved 12th position for Marli, 17th for Isaac G, 24th for Wills and 28th for Gabriel. A super run in a very competitive race.

Taking on the longer course, the Under 11 girls ran an incredibly close race. Kate running at a consistent pace enabled her to gain a well-deserved third place and a bronze medal. Closely followed by a creditable 10th place from Emily, and a 14th position from Honor.

After supporting their teammates, the Under 11 boys were raring to go. A thrilling and exhausting race

to watch, this was one of the fastest recorded races. Louis came in an impressive third place winning the bronze medal. 100% effort from Francis earned him a commendable 7th position. Harvey finished in 21st followed by a 31st position from Harry. These results meant that the under 11 boys team finished in 3rd position overall.

Watch this space for news of the county finals for the year 5 and 6 runners. A big thank you to all parents who turned out to support the children and a huge well done to all the runners.

Miss Coxon



Mascot Awards.

Mascots were awarded this week to the pupils best demonstrating our school values for this half term - **Confidence & Creativity:**

Reception: Freddie for a confident and creative adventure in Reydon Woods.

Year 1: Chloe for a confident and creative start to the year.

Year 2: Isabella for confident expression when reading.

Year 3: Lola C for showing great confidence and organisation skills during hockey practice.

Year 4: Phillip for creative willow weaving in Outdoor Ed.

Year 5: Bonnie for being a confident example to others around the school.

Year 6: Daisy for confidence in everyday tasks.



Thank You



Thank you to everyone who supported our Jeans for Genes Day Macmillan Coffee Morning last week, both for great causes.

UNIFORM SHOP

Opening Times
Term Time

Mondays 8.15-9.15
Thursdays 3.15-4.15

'Flu Immunisations



Forms will be sent out soon to parents of age eligible pupils (Reception to Year 5) to offer free nasal 'flu immunisations on Friday 23 November. If you wish your child to be immunised by the visiting nursing team, kindly return your form to the office as soon as possible.

Thank you.

Christmas Cards & More



We have sent home details and order forms to enable pupils to design their own Christmas Cards, wrapping paper, gift cards, coasters, fridge magnets and more. Order forms should be handed into the office any time before half term break. All in aid of PTFA funds to benefit the school. We appreciate your support.



@OldSchoolHstead

YouTube



Excellence in Education
The Independent Association
of Prep Schools



independent
schools
council

ISA | INDEPENDENT
SCHOOLS
ASSOCIATION
Accredited Member