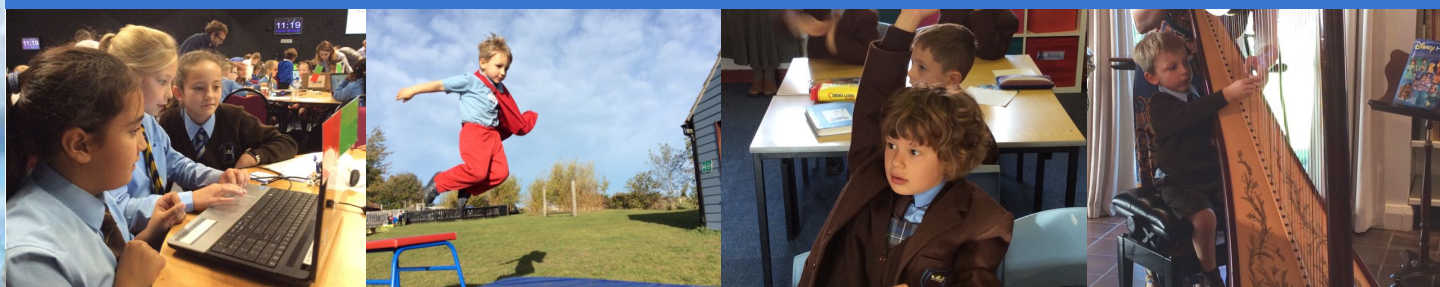




The Old School Henstead

Newsletter

Autumn Term 2018 Issue 5 12 October 2018



Calendar for next week

Monday 15 October
Tuesday 16 October

9.00 Early Years Forest School, Thetford Forest
1.30 Years 2 & 3 Swimming
2.15 Years 4, 5 & 6 Swimming
2.30 Reception, Year 1 & Nursery Pre-School Gymnastics
10.00 ISA Swimming Gala, Crown Pools, Ipswich
Inter-House Art Competition
1.00 U11 Football Tournament at Walmer Road
Inter-House Quiz
Half Term Begins

Wednesday 17 October
Thursday 18 October

Friday 19 October

Dates for your diary

Monday 29 Oct - 2 Nov
Monday 5 November
Friday 9 November

Holiday Club Friday (bookable via the office)
Term resumes
PTFA Bonfire Night and Fireworks (see Page 9 for details and tickets)



Message from the Headmaster

Progress - AIs for creative writing, humanities research, still life drawing. It is the great delight of my work to see the progress that our boys and girls make both in and out of the classroom. This was brought home to me clearly by our children at the Open Morning, who, irrespective of their level of proficiency, gave a polished and assured performance in a range of media and language. We have good reason to be proud of them all and it was a fitting welcome to the Old School Henstead families who have joined us recently and to our guests. Kindly weather and a superbly managed event from the newly installed PTFA Committee completed the morning. Well done to all!

Mr McKinney

Learning to fly.

Some photographs of our Nursery Superheroes learning to fly this week. See Page 5 for the full story.

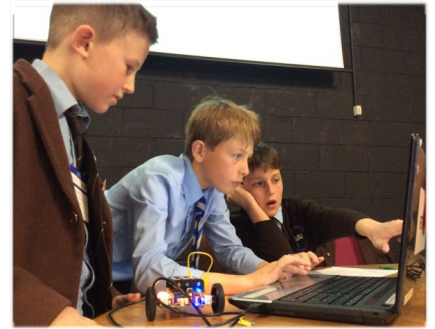
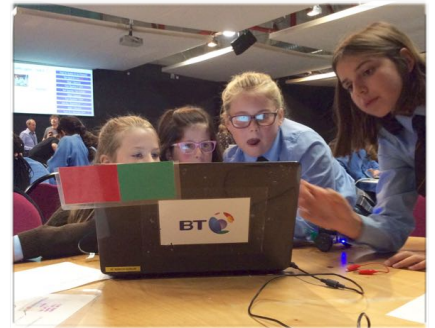
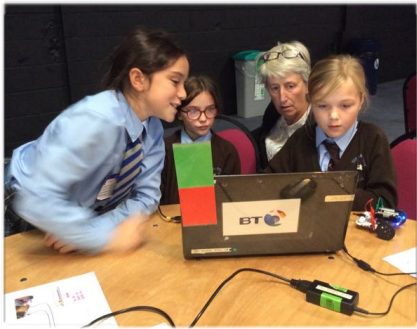


Robotics & Programming.



Years 5 and 6 were very lucky to secure the chance to attend a BT Crumble Robot Taster at Adastral Park this week. The purpose of the visit was to take part in robotics and computer programming, a skill that is vastly growing in the 21st century. The challenges in which the pupils took part began with simply coding LED lights to turn on and off, as well as varying the colours and order in which the sparkles flashed. Each time a challenge was achieved, the progression of the task became more and more complex, requiring the children to turn their Crumblebot in a required direction at a required angle, and moving it forward to stop on a black line (when the sensors on the machine detected a change in colour). The final challenge of the day culminated in a competition against the other schools that were participating in the day's event. On a giant track, two Henstead teams led by Kate and Bonnie placed their bots on the racetrack and, on the command go, released them in a clockwise direction. The pupils had programmed the robots to follow a black line on the ground, and the winning robot came down to accuracy and speed. Marginally missing out, Kate's and Bonnie's team were very proud of their engineering. Special mention should go to Harvey, Thomas, Jack and Immy who greatly impressed the hosts with their design grit and knowledge of programming tools. Special mention should also go to Mr Nigel Leech who helped the day's events get underway, and who accompanied us and shared his computer-based expertise.

Mr Jensen



Musical Minibeasts.

Year One enjoyed an action-packed day on Thursday at the Britten-Pears Foundation located at the Red House Aldeburgh, the former home of Benjamin Britten. With a theme of musical minibeasts and illustrated by the music of Britten, the day combined science, history, literacy and music in a wide ranging series of activities. The day began by learning how to distinguish insects from other minibeasts, before venturing into the five acre gardens to search both woodland and grassland habitats for minibeasts. Woodlice, spiders, dragonflies, ants, centipedes and beetles were enthusiastically unearthed and investigated using magnifiers. Moving back inside we looked at some examples from the museum including Asian Hornet and Scarab beetles, before designing and building individual 'bug hotels' to take home.

The house is kept just as it was when Britten lived there with many personal artefacts (the camel bells that he used to play tricks on guests were a favourite!), a fine collection of paintings and the piano he played most days.

After a break for lunch, Joe Carr, our guide for the day, told us that we were going to Britten's library to meet a special visitor. Year One were disappointed when Joe told us it was not the Queen! As we approached the library we were greeted by the sound of music. Zoe was playing music from *Moana* on her full size orchestral harp. She told us that the harp has 47 strings and 7 pedals and can make your fingers very sore until they harden up. We then heard two lovely pieces that Zoe has composed for her daughters and discussed the characteristics of a lullaby.

The museum proved to be another exciting, hands-on venue with headdresses to try on, searching for minibeasts that attack our homes, such as the carpet beetle, the biscuit beetle and the clothing moth, and colouring in masks to wear.

We returned to the education centre where Joe told us a story about an angry wasp and a grasshopper. Using an array of percussion instruments the children then selected and composed sounds to illustrate the story. After practising and refining their sounds we all returned to the library where the children gave a performance of their music to round off a wonderful day.

Miss Sindall & Mrs Loader



Britten Challenges.



Today it was Year Three's turn to visit the Red House in Aldeburgh. Settling in the education room we began with some starter games centred around the orchestral families. A visit to the archive enabled us to see original photographic evidence of the catastrophic fire that destroyed Britten's beloved concert hall at Snape in 1969. We pondered possible causes of the fire and read of Britten's determination to rebuild it. We were then taken behind the scenes to a part of the building not open to the public and viewed the high levels of security for maintaining the precious manuscripts. This prepared us for one of the main tasks of the day – designing a new concert hall keeping within a budget of £100,000. Choices, choices.....luxury seats at £1000 each or budget seats for £200, one royal box or more and how big shall we make our stage?

In the museum we viewed the original scale models for the stage sets for three of Benjamin Britten's operas, *Noyes Fludde*, *Peter Grimes* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and were then set the task of making our own designs for an opera telling the story of Noah's Ark. Each design proved to be highly original with arks tossing on wild seas, animals peeping through port holes, tropical fish and even a shark. (Was it Hattie?)

On entering the Red House itself the children stepped back in time into a home that felt as if Britten had just stepped out for a moment. Year Three were especially impressed by the cork and gold leaf wallpaper in the sitting room. Here Britten entertained many guests, including the Queen as well as many famous musicians. He grew vegetables and even played croquet in the garden. Britten was also a very keen tennis player. Sadly the grass tennis court is no longer maintained but it proved to be an ideal playground for fun and games at lunchtime.

The short but varied concert in the library was a welcome moment of calm at the end of a hectic day. The professional harpist, Zoe, played music from Disney films, a piece by Ed Sheeran as well as lullabies and a fanfare. The children especially enjoyed the opportunity to have a turn at playing the harp, although it proved rather a large instrument for some!

Many thanks to the enthusiastic and energetic staff at the Red House for making our visit so memorable.

Miss Sindall and Mrs Sonn





Early Years News.

This week in Nursery we have been learning through a Super Hero theme. This is a keen interest for many of our children and they thoroughly enjoyed being part of the exciting group activities that had been planned for them. Miss Butcher and I wanted to encourage the children's critical thinking and interest in problem-solving, so we employed a Super Villain for the week to help us.

On Tuesday, Evil Curly Shirley kidnapped Tilly the Squirrel! To free Tilly the children had three sorting problems to solve together. They had to sort the resources according to different criteria. They worked well together and accomplished the different tasks set. Tilly was freed.

On Thursday, Evil Curly Shirley returned and took away the children's snacks. To get them back the children embarked on a series of mathematical challenges involving sorting, counting, weighing and measuring. Again, the children put their heads together and set to work. They gleefully regained their afternoon snacks.

On Friday, our arch enemy finally conceded defeat. She promised the children Super Hero status for themselves if they could complete a particularly dangerous and challenging obstacle course. The course was completed, no children were lost on the way and they all received their Super Badges! So, Curly Shirley has been vanquished and sent to another realm and all of the children at The Old School Henstead can feel safe this weekend!

Mrs Vorster and Miss Butcher

Nursery Star of the Week ★

Congratulations to Betsie. Tilly has been very impressed with how confident you have been. You come into Nursery smiling, say goodbye to Mummy, try the School lunches and join in the activities. Enjoy your sleepover!





Reception Roundup.



Children's interests have been focused around maths this week, still inspired by our trips to the woods and plans to have a tree party. Ordering numbers and finding one more and one less, some of us have even been doing addition and subtraction sums too!

Creative confidence has been demonstrated through the children's ICT this week. Our fun phonics games with Obb and Bob helps us to blend our newly learnt sounds. Scratch junior has also stretched our knowledge of computer programming.

We enjoyed listening to Year Four stories and Mrs Suffolk told us how to use a triangle to help with story writing. We enjoy using our phonic knowledge when sharing stories, especially when we talk bug!

In music we had the opportunity to experiment with sound as we read the story of *We're Going on a Bear Hunt* and added our own sound effects.

Mrs Scriven & Mrs Dakin



SPORTS ROUND UP

Hockey



Hockey

Conditions were perfect for an afternoon of Hockey where we were welcomed by staff and children from The Abbey in Woodbridge.

Our Henstead girls were ready for an energetic friendly event where they had the opportunity to practise their skills and improve on team techniques.

The girls were mixed up into four teams and participated in three fast-paced games lasting for over an hour. With some impressive defending and confident tackling, the girls focussed on passing out to the wing to create space and carry the ball forward. The girls were also encouraged to keep moving to prevent being marked.

Several goals were scored and it was pleasing to see great team work by all who took part.

The afternoon was finished off nicely with a helping of sausage, chips and beans!

A big thank you to all at The Abbey for hosting a very enjoyable and beneficial event.

Miss Coxon



SPORTS ROUND UP

Cross Country



Gresham's Cross Country

The largest Henstead team ever entered in the annual Gresham's Cross country headed north last Friday. It was a beautiful day and a stunning course on which our boys and girls found themselves running around Rugby pitches, hockey pitches and through woodlands - all of this in a field of 250 plus competitors in each race. 36 schools had entered the event, so it would be a real challenge.

Up first was the under 9 team, with the boys being led home by Marli. It was a fantastic finish from the team with all finishing in the top one hundred, eventually finishing sixth in the team event. The girls followed suit with Amelie arriving home

first for the school and all of the girls really giving their all to finish twelfth in the team event.

The under 11's tackled a much longer distance, with the boys led home by Louis in 15th position, closely followed by Francis in 17th - the boys finished the team event in 10th position.

Finally the Under 11 Girls had their chance to tackle the course - first home was Kate in 11th position, followed by Emily in 18th - an amazing effort from all the girls meant a 5th place finish overall.

Some fantastic individual runs along with a real team effort from all of the runners.

Many thanks to all the parents for additional transport and support during the day.

Mr Hunter, Miss Coxon & Mrs Scriven

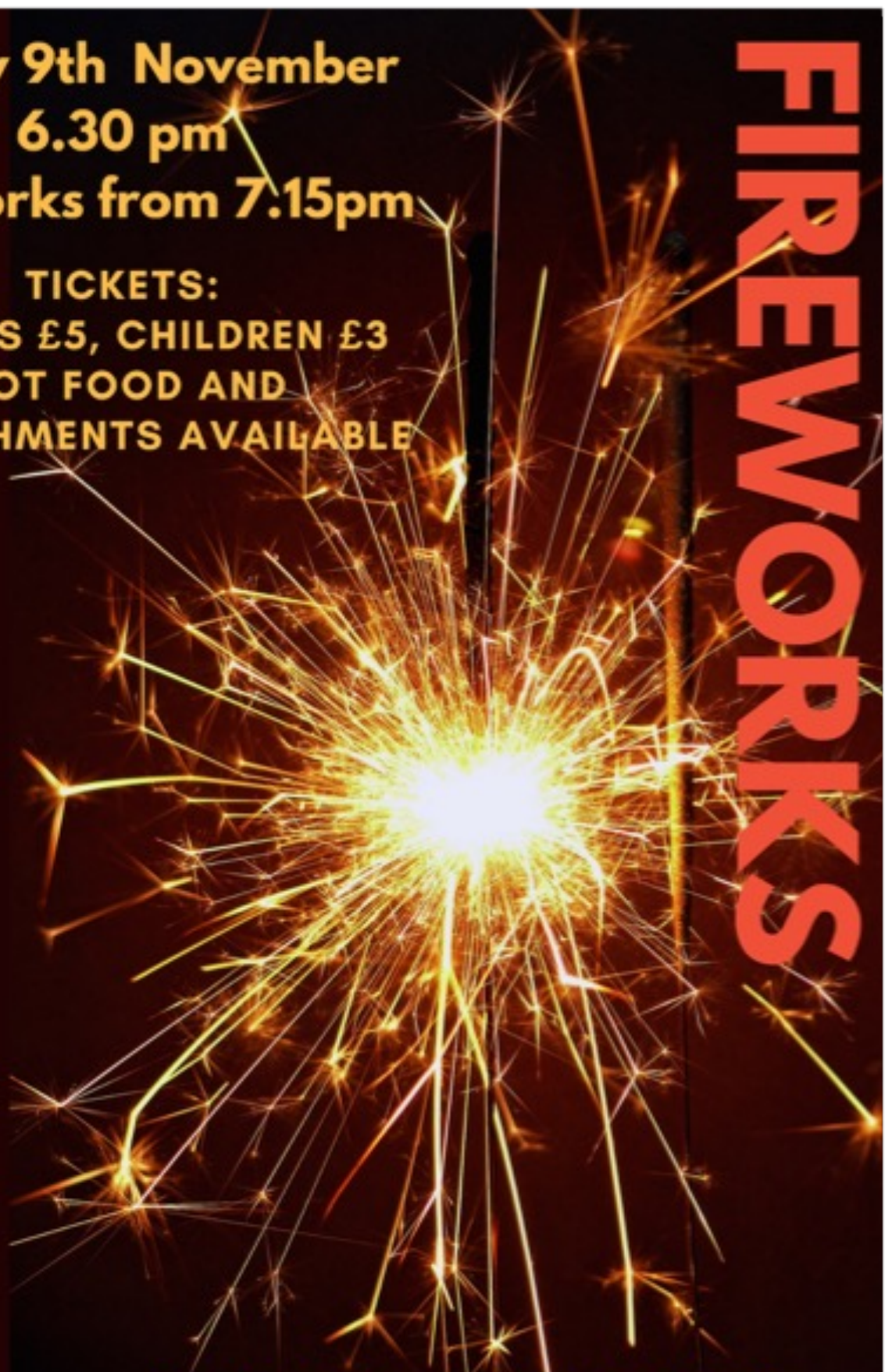


BONFIRE

FIREWORKS

Friday 9th November
6.30 pm
Fireworks from 7.15pm

TICKETS:
ADULTS £5, CHILDREN £3
HOT FOOD AND
REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE



EMAIL TICKET REQUESTS TO:
ptfa2@theoldschoolhenstead.co.uk

Mascot Awards.

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



Reception: James for confidence in school and embracing Reception with enthusiasm

Year 1: Robin for creative drawing and confident writing

Year 2: Christabel for confidently using maths equipment.

Year 3: Oliver for showing confidence when regrouping and solving missing number problems

Year 4: Gabriel for building confidence during PE lessons.

Year 5: Immy for leadership and confidence when helping others with coding

Year 6: Harvey for enthusiastic creativity and confidence with Crumble Robots

Holiday Club



Our half term Holiday Club will run with the following programme:

Mon 29 Oct Outdoor Education

Tue 30 Oct Pumpkin Painting

Wed 31 Oct Cookery

Thur 1 Nov Technology/Movie Making

Fri 2 Nov Sports Day.

Booking forms have been sent out in bags with pupils in Reception to Year Six. To secure places, please return them to the office soonest.

'Flu Immunisations



Forms have now been sent out 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



Don't forget to hand in your design and order forms for Christmas Cards, wrapping paper, gift cards, coasters, fridge magnets and more. Order forms (designs to be drawn/painted on the reverse blank side) 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.

Photograph Orders

Kindly return your orders for your children's school photographs (individual/family group pictures) before the half term break. Thank you.



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