



The Old School Henstead

Newsletter

Autumn Term 2018 Issue 8 16 November 2018



Calendar for next week

Tuesday 20 November

1.30 Years 2 & 3 Swimming

2.15 Years 4, 5 & 6 Swimming

2.30 Reception, Year 1 & Nursery Pre-School Gymnastics

Wednesday 21 November

Book Fair Begins

Friday 23 November

Non-Uniform Day (in exchange for gift for PTFA Christmas Hamper, see Page 7)

9.30 Nasal 'Flu Immunisations (with parental consent)

Dates for your diary

Friday 30 November

8.50 Advent Service at St Mary's Henstead

Saturday 1 December

Christmas Fayre (*new date*)

Friday 7 December

PTFA Christmas Parties

Wednesday 12 December

9.15 Early Years Nativity

Thursday 13 December

2.00 Lower School Nativity at St Mary's Henstead

Friday 14 December

12.00 School Christmas Lunch

7pm Carol Service at St Mary's Henstead

Message from the Headmaster



It has been a week to celebrate the generosity of the Old School Henstead Community. We have been delighted to receive expert tailoring for our choir, model making materials, gifts of books to further improve our stock of reading material - whetting the appetite for the Book Fair to arrive next week. I am also most grateful for the splendid snooker table and table football unit now jealously guarded in the sports pavilion. I must also mention the tireless efforts of our newly installed PTFA who have shown that no task is beyond them, be it firework related, or to raise funds for Pudsey while the Senior Choir sang in Beccles this week. Huge thanks to all for your continuing support. *Mr McKinney*

Our Wonder Water Wall.





Children in Need .



SINGING FOR CHILDREN IN NEED

On Thursday the choir headed to Beccles in anticipation of their performance in the town centre.

They were joined by members of the PTFA who set up an attractive cake stall with contributions from so many generous parents.

The boys and girls were in fine voice and presented a varied programme of sacred and secular choral music, including *Look at the World* - a lovely song by John Rutter in praise of the wonders of the natural world and previously heard at our Harvest Festival, through Keane's *Somewhere Only we Know* (remember the John Lewis Christmas Advert 2013?) some nods to *The Jungle Book* and *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* and concluding with a lively rendition of *When the Saints Go Marching In* accompanied by percussion instruments.

Many thanks as always to Mrs Clayton for her sensitive accompaniment.

After a restorative hot chocolate, it was back to school.

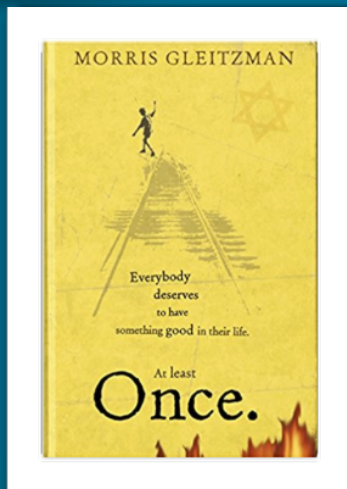
The cake sale continued at school and we are delighted to report that we raised in excess of £400 for *Children in Need*.

Many thanks for all your support.

Miss Sindall



Studios Year Five.

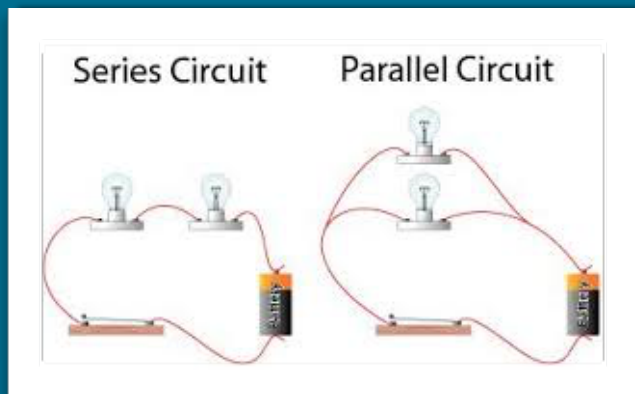


This has been a very pleasing start to the term after our half-term break. The pupils have been working tremendously hard and I am thoroughly pleased with the knowledge and skills that they have retained during their holiday.

Our new text in English is *Once* by Morris Gleitzman, a heart-warming but emotional text set in Nazi-occupied Poland during World War Two. We have been following the naïve protagonist, Felix, as he escapes from an orphanage in the mountains and sets out on an adventure to find his mother and father. The Year 5 children have been hooked on this real page turner, and verbally share their dismay when I ask them to put their books away at the end of the lesson.

Mathematics has been an area of learning in which we have focused in great detail since September. Mathematics skills and knowledge, we have found, run out of our minds if we don't practise them or use them enough. We have been intensely working on number lessons, dealing with large numbers that need to be multiplied and divided. After much practice it has been good to see that the problem solving is becoming more and more automatic. We move into our new area of learning, shape, in the coming weeks - a reprieve from intense number crunching.

Science, as always, have proven popular in Year 5. Our unit from the first half term, Forces, was

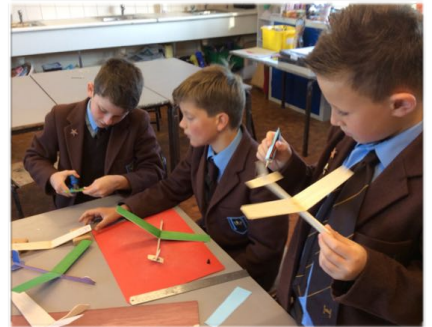


successful in that the Year 5 pupils were able to recall and explain Newton's three Laws of Motion. Our new unit, Electrical Circuits, is an exciting area of science and is proving to be a fruitful research topic. So far so good! The pupils have discovered that electrical circuits work in a similar manner to radiator-heated homes; if there is a break in the radiator circuit, the heating stops working. It is the same with electrical circuits. Pleasingly, the pupils have been able to problem solve with series and parallel circuits and understand that parallel circuits are far more effective in the real world.

The most exciting part of the new half term is the use of more brand new iPads. These devices have proven extremely popular for both pupils and staff, and the Year 5 children have taken to them quickly. In French, we have begun to use Duolingo in one of the week's lessons, now combining grammar-based language learning with game-based vocabulary learning.

Mr Jensen

Art Gallery.





Early Years News.



NURSERY

The children in Early Years would like to say a great big thank you to Mr Butcher who has spent time planning and building a Water Wall for them. (See Page 1 for more pictures.) The children have been absorbed in watching the wall at work, seeing how the water is transported from the red bucket through the tubes and pipes by the pump and have been fascinated by the wheels turning. They have been inspired to make their own water systems with the rest of the guttering and pipes. The children work collaboratively, thinking of ways to catch the water from the wheel, turning on the hose for each other and helping one another move the equipment.



Alongside this they have shown independence in getting dressed in their wet suits and wellies without adult support!

Mrs Vorster and Miss Butcher



Nursery Star of the Week ★

Congratulations to Tabitha for all her hard work this week with phonics and writing. Tilly has seen how you have been concentrating on writing your name and finding things that start with "T".



Reception Roundup.

Our learning this week has reflected on our strong empathy skills and how the needs of others may not always be met. We enjoyed learning about *BBC Children in Need* and how we can help others.

Our fire topic took us outside into our outdoor learning area on Monday where Mr McKinney explained and demonstrated to us the triangle of fire and how fire is created. We were able to take this practical activity back into the classroom and record it in our books. We also had to help Chloé extinguish five candles on Thursday. On 27 November we will be developing our understanding of fire safety further through a visit to Lowestoft fire station. We look forward to having our questions answered by firefighters and learning more about fire safety.

Digraph sounds have been great fun this week as we were able to support our learning of the *sh* grapheme whilst singing and dancing to the most popular song *Baby Shark* - thank you Rohan!

Addition in maths has proven a much-loved subject for all this week and we continue to develop our mental maths to reinforce our number bonds to ten.

As our fine motor control strengthens and we start to realise the importance of handwriting, we encourage children to write in a style that suits them and their maturing fine motor control. Although early mark making contributes to the formation of letters, often joining marks without our equipment leaving a surface, it is important we do not confuse our children as they are developing their letter knowledge based on the ones they see in their reading books. Therefore, as we strive towards cursive handwriting, a style of penmanship designed to improve writing speed and infrequent pen lifting, we celebrate our children's letter formation and resilience. Well done Reception - fantastic progress.

Mrs Scriven & Mrs Dakin



Mascot Awards.



Mascots were awarded this week to the pupils best demonstrating our school values for this half term - **Resilience and Research:**

Reception: Violette for showing resilience in all of her learning.

Year 1: Sebastian for showing resilience in his phonics and reading.

Year 2: Ruby for real resilience in the swimming pool, putting her head under the water and touching the floor.

Year 3: Jude for showing lots of resilience since returning to school after the holiday.

Year 4: Wills for his animal research in his *Just So Story*.

Year 5: Isobel R for an excellent research project into the life of Frederic Chopin.

Year 6: Harry for demonstrating real resilience when learning gets tough.

Book Fair



Our November Book Fair arrives next week! Following our long established tradition of successful book fairs, our November event begins next Wednesday and runs to the following Tuesday evening. We are looking forward to presenting an excellent range of classic and up-to-the-minute titles, as well as the ever popular collection of novelty stationery. Your generous support for this has a real impact in the classroom, refreshing and building our libraries year on year from our earned commission.

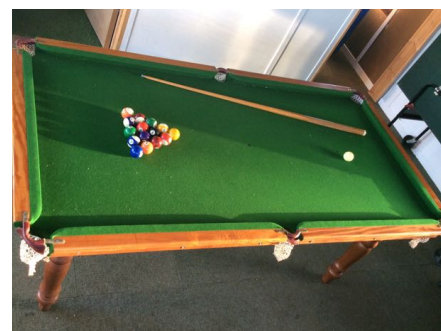
Opening hours will be 1.00 - 1.25 (children only) 3.30 - 4.30 (parents and children). See you there!

Books Gift



A huge thank you to the Lams family for their generous gift of beautiful books for our school libraries.

Thank You



We are most grateful to Luca's family for their generous gifts of a snooker table and table football.

PTFA News Extra

Christmas Fayre Hampers Next Friday's non-uniform day (23 November) has been arranged in exchange for a contribution to our Christmas Hamper Prizes for our Christmas Fayre. Children in Nursery to Year 2 are requested to bring in a bottle for the tombola; Pupils in the older years are asked for a hamper item in a specific colour: Year 3 - Red; Year 4 - Purple; Year 5 - Green and Year 6 - Gold. In addition, we welcome donations of cakes, filled jam jars (with sweets) stationery, small toys, raffle prizes. Sign up at the office if you are free to help at the Christmas Fayre.

UNIFORM SHOP

Opening Times
Term Time

Mondays 8.15-9.15
Thursdays 3.15-4.15



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