



The Old School Henstead

Newsletter

Spring Term 2019 Issue 1 18 January 2019



Calendar for next week

Monday 21 January
Tuesday 22 January

Year 2 Money Management Trip
1.30 Nursery Pre-School, Reception & Year 1 Swimming
2.15 Years 2 & 3 Swimming
2.30 Years 4, 5 & 6 Gymnastics

Thursday 24 January

1.00 Year 6 Indoor Athletics at Ormiston Denes HS

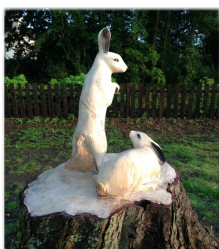
Dates for your diary

Friday 1 February
Saturday 2 February

8.50 Candlemas Service at St Mary's Church, Henstead
Open Morning (half day school; registration 9:30)

Message from the Headmaster

It has been a hectic start to the term and we have been delighted to hear of the many adventures our boys and girls have had over the Christmas holiday. Empathy and experimentation are our values for this half of term and there has been a good measure of both already, evidenced by the entries in the mascot diaries and the testimony of the winners given in assembly thus far. We are delighted to have appointed a skilled and experienced new Head of Music to take over the reins from Miss Sindall and I am sure you will enjoy meeting Mr Spencer in due course. Planning is already underway for the forthcoming major events in this term and next - the Big Day Out in Cambridge will include workshops in the Scott Polar Research Institute, The Fitzwilliam Museum and the Science Centre - what a treat for the whole school! The route for the *Henstead Hike*, in aid of charity, has already been set and plans for the residential trips for Years Four (Suffolk coast), Five (the north Norfolk coast) and Six (Snowdonia) are well underway. On we go! Mr McKinney



Open Morning.

Our next Open Morning takes place on Saturday 2 February. 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.

Pupils should arrive in usual full uniform, including blazers for registration at 9.30.

We appreciate your support in spreading the word. If you are able to display a poster or would like a postcard invitation to pass to a friend or colleague, please ask at the office.



 **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
2 FEBRUARY 9:45 - 10:00AM T. 01502 741150
Toad Row, Henstead, Nr Beccles NR34 7LG www.theoldschoolhenstead.co.uk



School Council Election.



We live in a democratic society and as citizens we have the right to participate in the democratic processes that underpin our functionality. It is essential that we provide our children with an understanding of democracy that prepares them to operate as successful adults within wider society. This will only be achieved through the development of an understanding and future participation in the democratic processes that govern us.

Despite the pioneering work of political scientists such as Bernard Crick, citizenship was only introduced to the English national curriculum in 2002. At The Old School Henstead we have an established, active and effective democratically elected School Council. Termly elections and weekly meetings provide opportunities for all our pupils, from five-year olds to eleven-year olds to work together for the interest of others. They learn and understand fairness, participating as representatives of their peers. They have opportunities to develop their negotiating skills and work for the common good.

I congratulate our retiring School Council representatives having completed an outstanding term in office. As a direct result of their planning and hard work, the Autumn Term finished with an inaugural School Council buffet. A suggestion during our first weekly meeting sowed the seed and from that seed the idea grew – a buffet for all, prepared and hosted by School Council. With the proposal scripted and submitted to the Headmaster for approval

and authorisation the target was set. With the help and guidance of the amazing Mrs Guildea, the menu was decided, the shopping list written and the opportunity to work for the good of all in place. The buffet was superb, enjoyed and appreciated by all.

I look forward to the first meeting of the newly elected School Council, to their ideas and their ability to transform an idea in to a reality.

Following the Spring Term election, I am pleased to announce the results as voted for by the pupils and verified by Tom and Rebecca, our Heads of School Council:

School Council Representatives

Year 1 Autumn and Sebastian

Year 2 Christabel and Isabella

Year 3 Lolah and Jude

Year 4 Gabriel and Marli

Year 5 Olivia, Ayla and Bonnie

Year 6 Harry and Honor

Congratulations to all. We wish you a successful tenure in office.

From next term Reception pupils will also be eligible to stand for election.

Miss Clifton

Year Six Steps Up.



Year Six marks the final stretch of the Henstead journey. With one term completed and only two remaining we look forward to the challenges and opportunities that the remaining terms will offer. Decisions as to intended future schooling have been made, examination preparation for future schools is complete, for many the examination day has passed, and the next step is mapped out.

A new term, a new beginning, another opportunity to participate as teachers and learners in partnership, with an open mind-set, making the most of the learning opportunities ahead. Teaching and learning across the curriculum will focus on preparation for a seamless transition to senior school.

We take great pride in and value the contribution that our Year Six pupils can make to the school. Our prefect system underlines the trust and confidence we have in our older pupils and the additional duties and responsibilities that they can take on to assist the smooth running of their school. It was a delight to ask three more Year Six pupils, Rebecca, Rosie and Louis to accept the challenge of prefect status. In addition, having served her apprenticeship as an Assistant Prefect, it was equally rewarding to witness the presentation of full prefect status to Daisy.

Academically we continue to push relentlessly forwards and ensure that foundations are solid. For our Year Six pupils there will be many opportunities to take an ever-increasing responsibility for their own learning, their personal and their social interaction. To develop a knowledge of expectations and the experiences that provide the life skills that underpin happiness and value. We must never forget that in every child there lies the adult that will be.

We have much to look forward to with our House Captains leading the way as preparations for the upcoming drama competition begin. Planning and tactics are very much a topic of conversation.

The final day of this term will see the whole school depart from the car park, as we embark on our Big Day Out to Cambridge. Not only does this provide an excellent shared experience for all, for new learning to take place and new territories to be explored, but a chance for the members of Year Six to head the school. They will work closely with the staff to guide, to enthuse and support the learning of the younger members of the school.

Remember "Every moment is a fresh beginning." — T.S. Eliot

Miss Clifton



Year Five Academic Round Up.



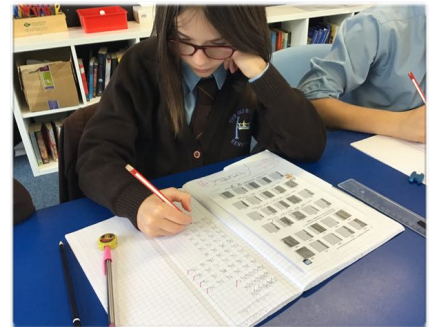
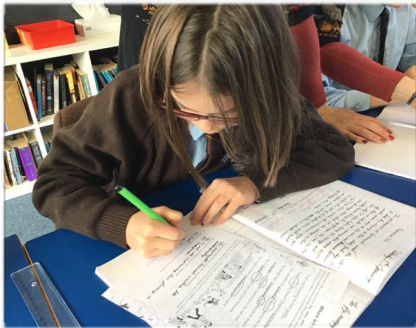
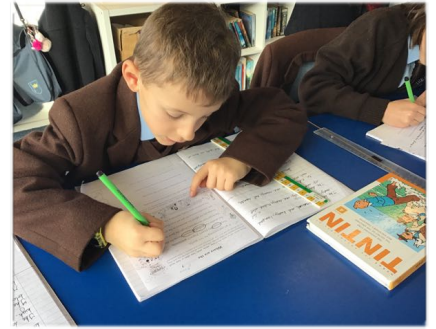
Year 5 pupils have had an excellent start to the term. After a good Christmas break, they have returned to their work energised and, pleasingly, having remembered much of what was taught in the Autumn Term.

Our new science topic is broadly titled **Food** and will cover everything from healthy eating to studying the journey food takes from farm to mouth (and beyond). This is a new topic for science at the Year 5 level, and so far the pupils are enjoying what they are learning.

In maths the pupils have moved into their new unit, **Discovering Equivalence**, which focuses mainly on deepening their knowledge of decimals and fractions. As a teacher, this is the unit that I find most exciting as it is the unit where, formatively, pupils doubt themselves. However, it is always pleasing to look back with them and see how much they have learned and to recall the new skills that help them work with part-whole numbers by the end of the unit.

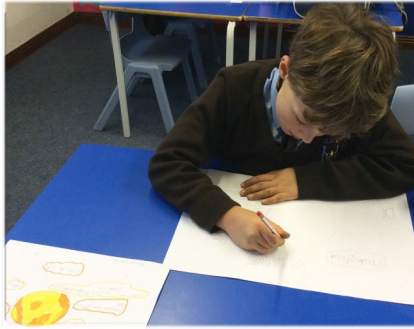
A new beginning in English, also, with our new text, **Tintin**. It is important for pupils to be exposed to a range of different types of text, and Tintin allows the pupils to engage with comics in the traditional sense, with stories of adventure and excitement. Some of the best parts of the *Tintin* stories are the examples of old-fashioned vocabulary that the pupils learn to use.

Mr Jensen





Astronomical.



This half term, Year 4 pupils are learning about Earth and Space.

The unit began by looking at Spherical Bodies where the children described the Sun, Earth and Moon. They Identified scientific evidence that has been used to support or refute ideas and arguments and looked at how ideas have changed from a flat earth view.

The children have now moved on to learning the order of the planets and working towards



describing the movement of the Earth and other planets, relative to the Sun in the solar system. They are beginning to describe different features of the planets too.

We are all excited to find out more information about our fascinating solar system. Keep up the clever research Year 4!

Miss Coxon



Money Makes the World Go Round.



We've been learning about money in Year 3 - good old-fashioned pounds and pence. We learned that it is also sometimes referred to as dosh, wonga, dough and a particular favourite, moulah.

The children picked up adding and subtracting money extremely quickly so we decided to set up our own Henstead shop in the classroom, selling all manner of things from sparkly pencil cases to lego pieces.

Some impressive mental maths ensued, although more practice is needed on the haggling. A typical conversation:

"How much for the football pencil case?"

"£1.50."

"£1.50? I'm not paying that!"

"Ok, I'll give it to you for £10p."

"Here's 20p. Can you give me change?"

"Sure, here's 10p back."

Today the classroom, tomorrow supermarket! On Friday morning we set off to the supermarket to buy ingredients to make pizza on our movie-night next month. Prices were carefully checked and important questions asked: is this good value for money? Have I got enough? How much change should I expect? "Oh look, there's my Grandma in the fruit and veg aisle!" It's amazing who you bump into when you are out shopping!

Not only were the children excellent mathematicians, they looked very smart and their behaviour was impeccable – what fantastic ambassadors for the school.

Congratulations on some awesome maths Year 3. Jolly well done!

Mrs Sonn



Art, Architecture & Accounting.



The term started with some artistic flair. As with all terms, the children's art lessons started with an updated art portfolio – this term, a set of flowers. Interestingly, despite the same vase of flowers being present, all of the children's work maintained a touch of independence and creativity.



Our overarching topic during the Spring term is architecture and has started with lots of excitement. It has segued wonderfully into our new topic, designing, creating and maintaining a model village. The children have started with eagerness, evident in the sheer enthusiasm in every lesson.



In maths, our study of money has started extremely well. So well, in fact, that the children will utilise their learning in a real-world scenario, shopping trip next week. This will be a good opportunity to explore budgeting, shopping from a pre-planned list and working out change required.



An excellent start to this term would not be finished without a mention of how well the class have displayed our values this term, empathy and experimenting. As always, the evident care the class members have for one another resonates both in and outside of the classroom.



Well done, Year Two.

Mr Hunt



Business as Usual.



New year and a fresh new start in Year One. We have opened up a toy shop in order to learn about money in Maths. We have learnt to recognise the different coins and values in our monetary system. By using different combinations of coins, we are learning how to make up the different amounts needed to purchase toy products in our pop up shop. The children are enjoying the role of both shopkeeper and consumer.

shapes. We shall also be writing about the adventures of a knight in literacy.

Looking further ahead we are excited to perform in front of the Year 1 parents for our class assembly and open classrooms. Watch this space!

Mrs Loader

In Science we are starting a new topic on fabrics and we have looked at the different fabrics that we wear and had a go at paper weaving in order to understand the process of how the material wool is turned into a fabric and clothing.

Our humanities topic on knights and castles is a popular one, with the children choosing their own knight names and exploring the features of a castle by drawing and making castles with 2D and 3D





Reception Roundup.



Happy New Year!

Reception has already been hard at work. We have been especially proud at the enthusiastic work they have been producing and how they have adjusted to school routines once again. We have enjoyed hearing the children read and observing them having a go at writing.

The children began their week in at the deep end, not literally, but we did start our weekly swimming lessons! They displayed fantastic confidence and independence and had a wonderful time splashing around and getting to know their swimming teacher, Sophie. This week we even put our faces in the water!



Our learning foci this half term are animals, experiments and empathy. We experimented with ICT using a green screen to create our own movie. In art, we drew animal pictures and took photographs of each other using iPads - we then appeared in our own pictures!

The animal theme continues into our music lessons as we used natural resources to explore sounds around the school. This week we focused more on low and high sounds to create sounds animals might make.



In maths, we have been reinforcing our understanding of numbers to 20 and using vocabulary such as more, less, before, after and ordering. This gave the children the opportunity to work as a team and shine as leaders.

Mrs Scriven & Mrs Dakin





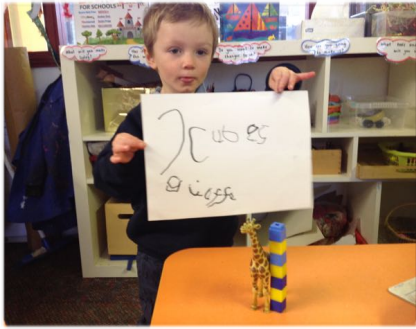
Early Years News.

NURSERY

The children came back enthusiastic and ready to learn after the long break. They have been learning within an animal theme, which was a particular interest of theirs last term. The theme has driven the learning in all of the seven areas of the Early Years framework and it has been an exciting topic to work with. The children have been role playing as vets, learning about habitats, bringing in information from home about their favourite animals or pets at home, measuring the length and height of our toy animals using cubes, discussing how to care for animals, researching using books and the internet and drawing and writing about animals for displays.

We have also welcomed some new children into Nursery. We are proud of how quickly they have settled in and of our older children who have been kind and caring towards their new friends.

Mrs Vorster and Miss Butcher



Nursery Star of the Week ★

Congratulations Eddie. Tilly was very happy to see you sharing your special animal books with your friends in Nursery. They were so funny and they made everybody laugh. Enjoy the sleepover with Tilly.

SPORTS ROUND UP

Cross Country



INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS ASSOCIATION CROSS COUNTRY

It was a brisk, bright and biting cold morning as we set off with our 18 children ready to compete in the ISA Cross Country at Finborough School. Over 500 pupils were participating in a fiercely fought competition and our boys and girls were raring to go.

They had to navigate their way through grass, mud, woodlands and the long trek up 'Devil's Hill' towards the finish line.

It was an incredibly tough course and all of the children pushed themselves and did their very best. A special mention to Francis, who finished in an encouraging 10th place and has qualified for the national finals. Watch this space for overall positions to be confirmed, once the complete results are received from the event organisers.

Congratulations to all who took part.

Miss Coxon



Mascot Awards.

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



Reception: Emily for experimenting during *How Does It Work?* club

Year 1: Henry for showing empathy to other children, especially in the Nursery

Year 2: Ariane for experimenting with different coins to make different amounts

Year 3: Isla for experimenting with different colours and textures when sketching sedimentary rocks in science

Year 4: Charlotte for experimental and descriptive writing in English

Year 5: Brayden for experimenting with different media in his comic strip for English

Year 6: Kate for empathetically assisting the younger voters in the School Council elections

PTFA Success



The PTFA would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who supported events during last term.

Bonfire night and the Christmas Fayre raised over £1500, with a further £400 raised for *Children in Need*. Some of those funds were used to provide the children with their Christmas parties. We will be working with the School Council to match their donation to local charities.

We are looking forward to planning more events this term, including the children's favourite – Easter Bingo!

Winter Uniform



May we ask parents of children in Reception to Year 6 to ensure their children remember to bring in their school duffle coats as the weather is now very cold and we need the children to be wrapped up well for break times and school trips, to help prevent colds and other seasonal illnesses. Only uniform coats, hats, scarves and gloves are permitted to be worn at school and on trips. These items are all available from our Uniform Shop. Kindly ensure all uniform items are clearly labelled, so that any mislaid items may be reunited quickly with their correct owners. Thank you.

Equestrian Success



Congratulations to Kate, who competed in the National Schools Equestrian Association (NSEA) 75cm county qualifier for Norfolk. She achieved 4th place, with a fast clear round just a few seconds off 1st place.

UNIFORM SHOP

Opening Times
Term Time

Mondays 8.15-9.15
Thursdays 3.15-4.15



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