



# The Old School Henstead

Newsletter 20 September 2019

## MESSAGE FROM THE HEADMASTER

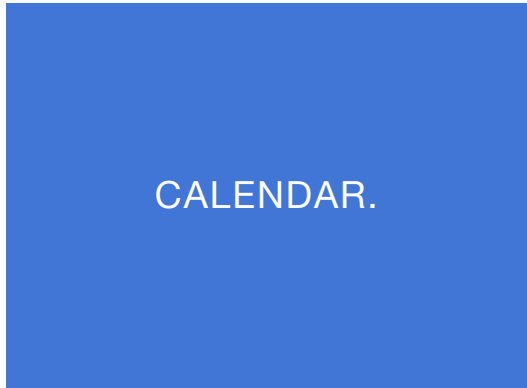
It is most heartening to see the manner in which our new pupils have grown in confidence already during the first few weeks of term. The Nursery children and Receptioners are thriving and it is entirely appropriate for me to congratulate not only them, but also our Year Six boys and girls for the way in which they have supported the younger members of the school community.

Plans for the Harvest Festival and Open Morning are already ripening and we look forward to welcoming you all to these events.

**WJ McKinney MA Hons PgDip MA Ed**



"Reception pupils immerse themselves in the culture in their French lessons."

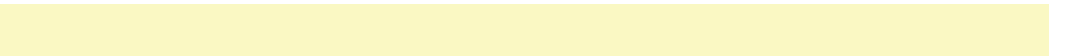


## Calendar for Next Week

- |                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| Tuesday 24 September   | Deadline to opt in/out of nasal flu immunisation (link to register emailed to parents of Reception to Year 6 pupils)<br>2.30 Nursery (pre-schoolers), Reception & Year 1 Gymnastics  |
| Wednesday 25 September | 7pm PTFA AGM & Meeting (all welcome)   |
| Thursday 26 September  | 12:30 Nursery trip to Reydon Woods<br>1.30 Years 2 & 3 Swimming<br>2.15 Years 4,5 & 6 Swimming   |
| Friday 27 September    | 8.50 Harvest Festival at St Mary's Church, Henstead, followed by Macmillan Coffee Morning at School (parents & family welcome to attend both events)<br>Year 3 visits Sutton Hoo<br>1:15 U9 & U11 Cross Country at Worlingham School |

## Dates for your Diary

- |                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| Tuesday 1 October   | 'Flu Immunisations for Reception to Year 6 (by parental consent) - link to register your child has been emailed to parents ( <b>deadline Tuesday 24 September</b> ). |
| Saturday 12 October | 9.45 Open Morning (Pupils' registration 9.30)  |





## Exploring Ethiopia



Year 5 was excited to be leading the assembly this morning on an Ethiopian theme. They have been learning some interesting facts about Ethiopia recently and presented some of them in the assembly. There was some singing in Amharic, as well as a drama about how coffee was discovered in Ethiopia. Please ask Year 5 more about their research. - Mrs Solomon





# Stories in the Woods



We had the best day with the Early Years children at Ringsfield Hall Eco Centre last Friday. The children worked so hard to listen to instructions, stay focused on tasks, solve problems, engage in team work and be free and creative. We were taken around the woods, dell and small farm by a variety of characters. Molly Mushroom introduced us to Carlos Squirrel and Jenny Owl. We even had an encounter with the big bad wolf when we had built three houses of straw, sticks and bricks! The children loved the maps they were given to orienteer around the setting and had great fun sculpting woodland creatures out of clay and the natural resources. On the minibus on the way back to school they were full of stories about their day.

- Mrs Vorster





## Humanities - Creating a Timeline



Year 3 pupils brought in some wonderful human-made objects this week as part of their Humanities studies. We learned a great deal about each one and placed them on an historical timeline. We discovered that we had items from this century, going back through the last 300 years and even allegedly an axe-head dating from the Neanderthal period. We haven't quite got around to carbon dating it just yet!

Many thanks to the parents and grandparents who allowed the children to bring in these precious objects.. - Mrs Sonn





# Natural Art



Year 1 is learning about natural art. We read the Julia Donaldson story Stick Man before heading outside to collect natural materials to make our own stick man portraits. Miss Doughty



## Heads of School



We would like to introduce ourselves as the new Heads of School. We are delighted with our new roles and we will do our best to for fulfill the tasks we will receive.

Our first duty was showing prospective teachers around our wonderful school which made us aware of some different duties we will have to accomplish as this year progresses. Another new duty was nominating candidates for Head of School Council. We are proud to announce that Olivia will lead the Council, supported by her vice captain Ayla.

We meet with Mr McKinney on a Friday morning at break time, where we discuss events that have taken place that week and what is going to happen the following week.

As seniors we have had different jobs to do. One of our duties is playing with the Reception children at break time, which has been really good fun. Another one of our tasks is reading with Year One children in the mornings, which is really enjoyable.

We are very excited about the year ahead.

*Penelope and Kitty*



## A Fruitful Harvest - Field to Fork

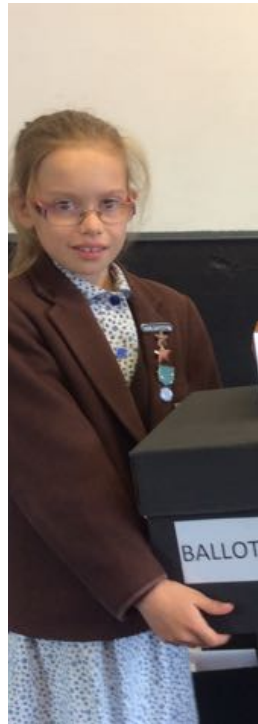
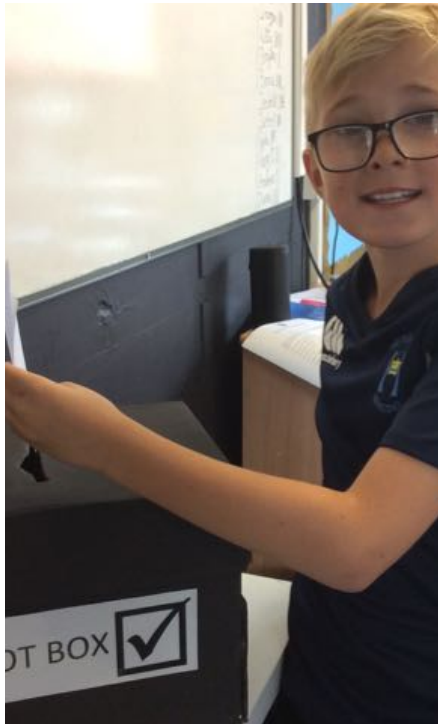


We have had a fruitful start to this Autumn term, gathering organic produce from our gardens and transforming them into delicious meals, including tomato soup, cooked potatoes, jam and blackberry crumble for everyone.





# School Council Election



It was an exciting day of School Council Elections.

The results have been counted and verified and the Council is delighted to announce the following new members for this term:

Year 1: Jayden, Violette and Rohan

Year 2: Raef, Caitlin and Sebastian

Year 3: Aydin and Georgina

Year 4: Bobby and Tom

Year 5: George, James and Wills

Year 6: Imogen and Isabelle

Reception pupils will be able to nominate members from their year later in the academic year.

*Mrs Sonn*





# Forest School



The highlight for this week was Nursery's day at Thetford Forest. It was a day of challenges. The children were determined to climb on the play equipment and get themselves as high as they could pulling themselves up on ropes, scaling wooden ladders and squeezing through tunnels. There was a sense of community as many of the older children helped the younger ones reach the platforms and slides. At the end of one of the paths we found the sound forest and the children were challenged again but this time it was turn taking. Everybody wanted to have a go at jumping on the sound pillows, ringing the bells or banging on the wooden and metal chimes hanging in the trees. They were able to wait patiently for their turn. It was a quiet ride back on the minibus as they fell fast asleep by the time we pulled out of the car park.

*Mrs Vorster*





## Jeans for Genes Day



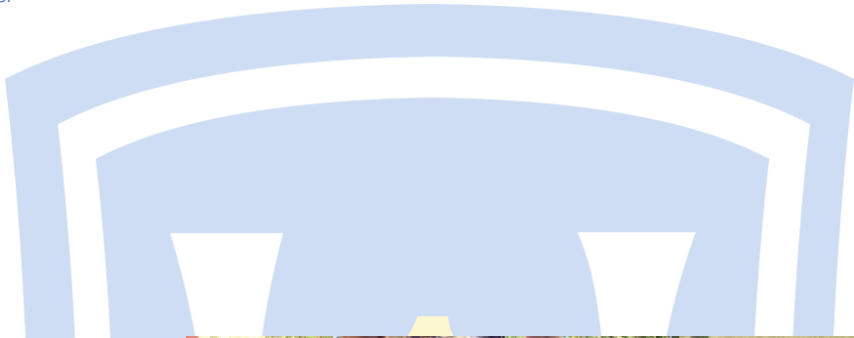
Year 6 handled themselves with grace and confidence during their assembly last Friday morning. They had thought a great deal about how to highlight the importance of raising awareness and funds for children born with genetic disorders, so that their fellow pupils and the adults present would be able to understand what a worthy cause it was.

Their performance was informative, entertaining, heartfelt and moving. After explaining how genetic disorders are caused, the boys and girls performed a short play which they had written themselves, conveying the powerful message that we should celebrate our differences and that we must support people less fortunate than us. The assembly ended with a touching rendition of the song *This is Me*, accompanied by some lovely choreography and led by our Head of Music Mr Spencer. Some of the audience members were even spotted shedding a few tears on hearing the pupils' fine voices singing so tenderly, and the song effectively brought home the message of the assembly.

Well done Year 6 on a fantastic production, as well as an excellent start to the year.

Thank you also to everyone who generously donated money to our Jeans for Genes collection.

*Mrs Sonn*



RECEPTION NEWS.

We have been led through the week by the children's interests, which fit in nicely this term with our topic 'all about me' Mr Potato Head is a great way to explore people and help strengthen our fingers for writing. As well as our daily writing practice as we continue with our phonics and work at blending sounds.

Frankie has inspired our lessons with the loss of her first tooth. We learnt all about our teeth and how to look after them. We even had a go at cleaning them! Frankie was then the first member of Reception to turn five. Cake and party celebrations were the order of the day on Thursday. The lovely sunny weather also inspired us to recreate our own sports day fun.

Reception children have been encouraged by our show and tell assemblies and we have had some fantastic confident speaking.

We enjoy our opportunities to demonstrate to Nursery how to communicate and use role play to support our learning in maths. We have decided to create our own shop

where we can practise using our counting, communication and imagination.

Well done Reception - an excellent week.

Mrs Scriven





## AWARDS AND NOTICES.

### Mascot Awards

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

Reception: Tilly for showing tremendous creativity and confidence in her writing.

Year 1: William for confidently trying a new instrument.

Year 2: Chloe for confidently focussing on the quality of her work rather than just speed.

Year 3: Samuel for confidently reading.

Year 4: Millie for showing confidence while working in lessons.

Year 5: Gabriel for confidently answering questions in class and having a go.

Year 6: Bonnie for confidently approaching an entrance exam.

### Nursery Stars of the Week

Congratulations Carter. John the Chicken has seen how you have been caring for your friends this week and making the new children feel welcome. Congratulations also to Louiza. John the Chicken loved watching

you being so kind and helpful to the younger children this week.

### Macmillan Coffee Morning

Bake a cake and help those suffering with cancer.

The World's Biggest Coffee Morning is Macmillan's biggest fundraising event. Every penny raised will help Macmillan nurses to give medical, emotional and practical help to someone living with cancer.

We will be holding our annual event on Friday 27 September in the school hall after the Harvest Festival Service at St Mary's

Church. Please join us and help us support this vital work.

We would appreciate any donations of cakes and baked goods (MUST BE NUT FREE) which may be brought into the office at end of day Thursday, or on Friday morning. If you are not a baker, we hope you will come along and perhaps buy a coffee or slice of cake for the cause. Also, if any parents are free to help with this event, especially decorating the hall or setting out the cakes or serving teas and coffees, please let the office know.



@OldSchoolHstead



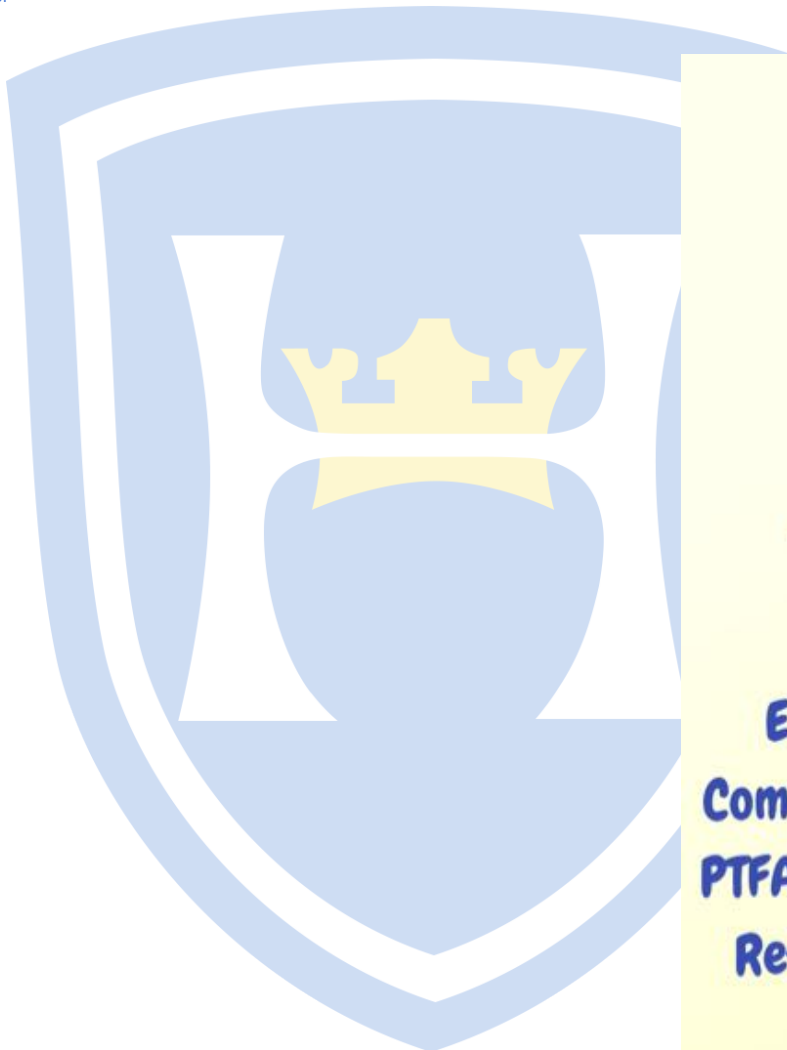
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The Old School Henstead

# PTFA MEETING & AGM

WEDNESDAY 25TH SEPTEMBER

7PM IN THE SCHOOL HALL

**Everyone Welcome!**  
**Come and help us plan the  
PTFA events for this term.**  
**Refreshments provided**

**New Class Reps required for  
2019/20**

