The Old School Henstead

Newsletter 24 January 2020

MESSAGE FROM THE HEADMASTER

It has been a week of considerable success on the games field and Mr Hunter (ably assisted by Miss Trail) has tuned and sharpened our teams and competitors to a fine edge. Excellent team and individual performances in Cross Country, followed up with most creditable efforts in athletics during the week.

There has also been a focus on learning about Chinese New Year this week. You may have noticed some of the creative pieces around the school. And the Early Years children sampled a Chinese banquet!

We are already looking forward to the opportunity to display the pupils' skills, both in and out of the classroom, at our forthcoming Open Morning on Saturday 1 February - we look forward to seeing you there.

WJ McKinney MA Hons PgDip MA Ed









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OPEN MORNING.

Pupil registration 9.30 (in uniform, including blazers) Visitor registration 9.45-10.00

Ends 12 noon





CALENDAR.

Calendar for Next Week

Tuesday 28 January2.30 Years 4,5 & 6 GymnasticsThursday 30 January1.30 Years Nursery (pre-schoolers), Reception & Year 1 Swimming
2.15 Years 2 & 3 SwimmingFriday 31 January8.50 Candlemas Service at St Mary's HensteadSaturday 1 FebruaryOpen Morning

Dates for your Diary

Tuesday 4 February

4.15 Parents' Safer Internet Seminar - "think u know?" (see last page of this newsletter for details)

Everyone is a Mathematician





Perimeter, Circumference and Area

Our Year 3 mathematicians have been busy meeting new friends – they have grown to understand Fred the Shape Walker, complete with sticky shoes to allow him to engage fully in his hobby of walking round 2D shapes. All was going well until he became over-confident and decided to try circumnavigating a circle, only to have his sticky shoes fail and he fell to his demise. Thankfully Colin Circumference was able to take over and deal with the trickier circle issue.

Another new friend arrived just this week - Archie Area. Archie enjoys relaxing and stretching to cover entire square units. There is more work to be done as we progress from basic 2D polygons to seek a solution to the calculation of compound area.

Confidence is key to the success of our young mathematicians. As a class of learners, we identify individual strengths and build on them, in doing so every child develops a belief in themselves. Attention is drawn to diversity, enhancing the belief that every one of us is a mathematician. Mathematics requires a broad set of skills. Everyone has a mathematical strength. It is important that when working, our pupils' question, challenge and reflect on their learning. Curiosity is nurtured and success celebrated within an atmosphere of positivity. Remember, we are all mathematicians.

Miss Clifton

Brass Assembly



On Wednesday, Mr Beer presented an assembly featuring his brass pupils, playing trumpet, cornet and baritone.

There was a mixture of solos, duets and ensemble items, and the performance ended with a rousing rendition of "Oh When the Saints Go Marching In" which the whole school joined in singing enthusiastically!

There are currently places available for pupils in Year 4-6 who would like to take up a brass instrument, and there are free taster sessions available should any pupils wish to have a go on any of these instruments; please see Mr Spencer if you are interested.

Nursery News



Nursery Star of the Week

Well done Alana, you are such a good friend that John the Chicken wants to spend time with you this weekend. Enjoy the sleepover!

Mrs Vorster



Art - Henri Matisse





Year Two has been looking at the great artist Henri Matisse. The children have been busy creating their own collages inspired by his work. - Miss Doughty

Brothers Grimm





To tie in with their English lessons on Brothers Grimm, the Year 4 pupils wrote their own set of instructions to build the witch's gingerbread house! - Miss Doughty

How does it work?





How does it work? In this After School Club curious children and inquisitive minds taking apart speakers, computers, clocks and engines to see how they work. - Mrs Scriven

Ethiopian Coffee Ceremony





As part of their Humanities lesson on Amazing Places, Year 6 learnt about the Ethiopian coffee ceremony. Jonah and Bethany taught them how to make the coffee from scratch. They didn't actually drink any coffee! - Mrs Solomon

Reception News







Chinese New Year celebrations have been taking place this week. An excellent opportunity to immerse our classroom in the festivities and broaden the children's horizons as we celebrate cultures and traditions from around the world.

Our literacy lessons have been teaching us all about sentences. These have prompted some great discussions about what we would like to be when we grow up — there are a lot of aspiring vets and this links appropriately with our animal topic and school value of empathy.

In maths, we continue to develop our addition skills and learning about shape properties and measuring. We enjoy using our school environment to help us with our understanding.

Mrs Scriven



Sport - Indoor Athletics Competition





Returning as previous champions the boys and girls really had a tall order in front of them to retain the title.

With all competitors taking part in 5 events it would be a very busy afternoon for all involved.

The girls took part in the track events whilst the boys found themselves, jumping high and long, some even triple, throwing and bouncing all to gain the highest score for the school.

The girls started brightly finishing second in the Paarlauf relay along with the 1/1 and 2/2 replays. The obstacle relays presented our biggest hurdles, jumps and bounces - having good balance and speed was key and all the girls gave of their very best.

Half way through and a switch around saw the boys take to the track events - there was some tough competition but the boys never say die attitude kept them in the hunt throughout the afternoon. By now, the girls were taking their turn at jumping, throwing and bouncing to allow us to finish as high up the leaderboard as possible.

A really tough afternoon for all involved with smiles on each of their faces throughout the events led to a very enjoyable experience for all.

Mr Hunter





AWARDS AND NOTICES.

Mascot Awards

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

Reception: Lexi for excellent writing and sounds in phonics lessons.

Year One: Rohan for empathising with friends and demonstrating wonderful manners.

Year Two: Sebastian for showing empathy to his friends, both in and outside of the classroom.

Year Three: Samuel and Isabella for being excellent in welcoming visitors.

Year Four: Jude for empathy towards his peers.

Year Five: James for experimenting with his diary writing.

Year Six: Imogen for experimenting in her art work.

"Think u Know?" Parent Seminar

We are holding an internet safety seminar for parents on Tuesday 4 February at 4.15pm to update parents on the latest schemes and scams targeting children and ways to keep your children safe online.

British Fencing Championships

We send our best wishes to Isabelle, who is competing in the qualifier event for the British Fencing Youth Championships at Stevenage tomorrow in the Girls Under 12 Foil and Sabre categories. We look forward to hearing all about it.















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