



The Old School Henstead

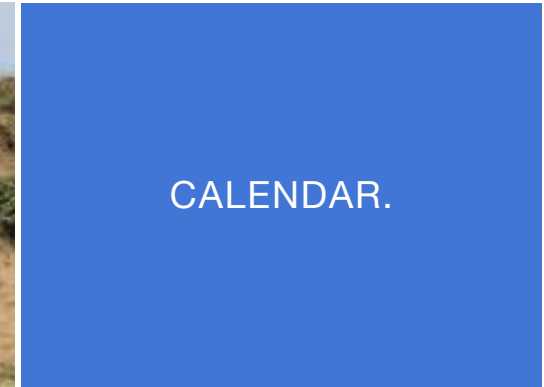
Newsletter 14 February 2020

MESSAGE FROM THE HEADMASTER

We wish all members of the Old School community a peaceful, blessed half term and a well-earned rest after a hectic half term. The pace never seems to slacken. We are looking forward to the preparation for the Easter festival are and there is already considerable excitement as we anticipate the adventure of the second half and focus on analysis in our learning. Enjoy the break!

WJ McKinney MA Hons PgDip MA Ed





Calendar for Next Week (the full term's calendar is viewable on the school's website)

17- 24 February Half Term

Dates for your Diary

Monday 24 February Term Resumes

Tuesday 25 February 2.30 Years 4, 5 & 6 Gymnastics

Thursday 27 February 1.30 Nursery (pre-schoolers) Reception & Year 1 Swimming

2.15 Years 2 & 3 Swimming

Thursday 19 March Big Day Out



Journey through India



This morning Year 3 took us on a journey through India: dressed in colourful traditional Indian costumes, the pupils read clearly and confidently, enlightening us with facts about mighty rivers and mountains, rural villages and densely populated cities. We were then treated to an excellent performance depicting the story of the Hindu god Rama and his princess wife Sita, who was kidnapped by the evil demon king Ravana. Rama rescued the princess and when they returned home, their family and friends lit lanterns to light their way. Indians celebrate this story every year during the festival of Diwali.

As if that wasn't entertainment enough, the boys and girls then performed their own traditional Indian dance to a popular Bollywood song. This was followed by some impressive acrobatics, to which the audience clapped along enthusiastically. The assembly finished with a prayer of thanks for our lives and a wish for children less fortunate than us.

Congratulations on a super assembly Year 3. Well done all. - Mrs Sonn





Sport - Football Success



A bitterly cold Friday afternoon saw us make the short journey down to Beccles Primary Academy. Coach Hunter had named a familiar squad following the last outing at the Southend tournament - spirits and expectations were high before the game.

Kicking off on a boggy pitch saw Henstead totally dominate the first half, with some telling set piece deliveries from Adam causing trouble in the opponent's box. Sam, Jack and Ig were just unable to get on the end of any of them to turn a scoring chance to our advantage. Rafferty was trying his luck from the right side of defence, creeping forward at every opportunity to try and break the deadlock, however with goalkeeper Bobby a mere spectator in the first half we were unable to carve an opening and turn our dominance into goals.

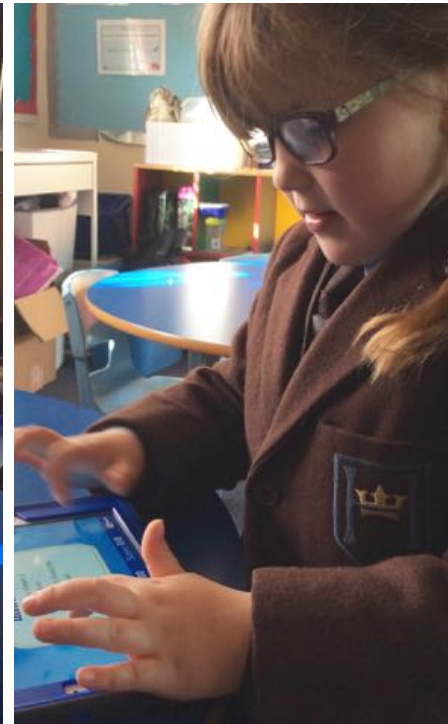
A quick chat at half time and bundles of encouragement from our travelling support led to a similar pattern in the second half, Luca dominating the midfield and playing some nice through balls for Jude who was unlucky on a couple of occasions not to score. He was stopped by some fine goalkeeping. Oliver, Im and Tom worked hard to win the ball back and play Ig through, but we just couldn't find a way to score. With time running out and a draw looming, Ig pounced on a goal kick to slot past the 'keeper and give us a deserved 1-0 victory.

Mr Hunter





Safer Internet Day



Tuesday 11th February was this year's national Safer Internet Day, a wonderful opportunity for the children to explore how to be safe on the internet.

The school split into two, with the lower school and upper school attending sessions suitable to their age group. With the lower school, the children explored the story of Buddy the dog who, accompanied by a delightful song, urged children to ask for help if something they are not comfortable with occurs when playing games or searching the internet. The Upper school, on the other hand, explored the importance of keeping personal details safe online. After which, they made some stunning posters.

To round off the day, parents attended an e-safety seminar with a record number of attendees, exploring various measures to ensure that when using technology at home, transparency and caution were observed at all times.

Mr Hunt



Reception News



What a busy week to finish the term, We have been talking about internet safety and looking at how a photo taken on an iPad was able to travel to Mrs Scriven's computer, the class television, come out as a picture on the school photocopier and appear on Mr McKinney's school phone. We had a go at taking photos too - and coding!

We have been looking at money thanks to some exciting show and tell items this week. It was lovely to listen as children proudly talked about their favourite things. It inspired our maths lessons and helped us to understand patterns.

Consolidation of our term and knowledge of animals has been the inspiration behind our first assembly. We are making significant progress with our confidence and performance skills during our rehearsals.

Have a great half term and enjoy your junk modelling challenge.

Mrs Scriven





Inter-House Drama Competition

Waveney's performance was of "The Chicken and the Golden Eggs", the tale of a poor farmer who, wishing for a more luxurious life, is granted by four elves a magical hen, which can lay eggs of solid gold. (Our hen laid a rugby ball covered in gold foil!) Initially the farmer and his wife become rich by selling his golden eggs to the townsfolk, but greed takes over, and rather than waiting for each individual egg to be laid, the farmer decides to cut the chicken open and take out the gold-mine he thinks must be inside! Unfortunately there is nothing inside and the dead chicken can no longer lay golden eggs. The farmer's life of luxury is over. Waveney's moral from their fable is that greed does not pay and we must learn to be content with what we have.

A strong musical lead from the art and music departments made an immediate impact (lucky Waveney). It was the dialogue delivered by the youngest performers that was a standout feature of this performance, together with the realistic clucking of the hen. Costumes were of a more modern feel and the

moral was delivered strongly, much to the obvious discomfort of the hen.

Yare presented its take on 'the fable 'A Wolf in Sheep's Clothing' and we were treated to a pleasing scenario, supported by the effective use of percussion. Sheep there were a-plenty in this tale also, a very scary wolf and a very striking chorus to introduce the tale, aided by highly realistic voices from duped senior citizens to lupine ne'erdowells. The lines delivered by the younger members of the company were confident and this augurs well for the production to come later in the year.

Deben performed a version of 'The Boy Who Cried Wolf". The classic tale concerns a shepherd boy who repeatedly tricks nearby villagers into thinking a wolf is attacking his town's flock. When a wolf actually does appear and the boy again calls for help, the villagers believe that it is another false alarm and the sheep are eaten by the wolf

From it is derived the English idiom "to cry wolf", defined as "to give a false

alarm". This has been a wonderful team exercise for the Deben foxes. But the question on everyone's lips is, surely, will Deben recover last year's trophy and complete a drama competition hat trick? Confident fingers are crossed by Mrs Loader and Mrs Dakin.

Strong narration from the narrator and clear diction from the characters, together with some excellent unison recitation, clearly baaed by the sheep. Full use was made of the stage and the auditorium, with characters entering through the stalls and the flock stage right acting in the dramatic role of chorus. The repetition of the message reinforced the moral of the tale in what was a most effective rendition. A scary wolf completed the tableau as did a range of apt musical choices.

Orwell presented 'The man, the boy and the donkey, who travelled along, taking turns to ride the donkey as passers-by gave them advice. The visual impact of Said, the school pantomime camel, is always a crowd pleaser. Strong dialogue from the en route advisors and using the whole depth of the stage added

impact to the piece. There was an especially strong performance from the narrator, drawing in the chorus of mockery given by the younger members. The moral of 'please all and you will please none in the end' was clearly portrayed.

All of the productions were much enjoyed by the whole school, including our immaculately behaved Nursery friends in the audience. Cast pictures follow on the next page.

And the OSHCAR goes to...

Yare

Congratulations to all who took part in a super competition.

Mr McKinney





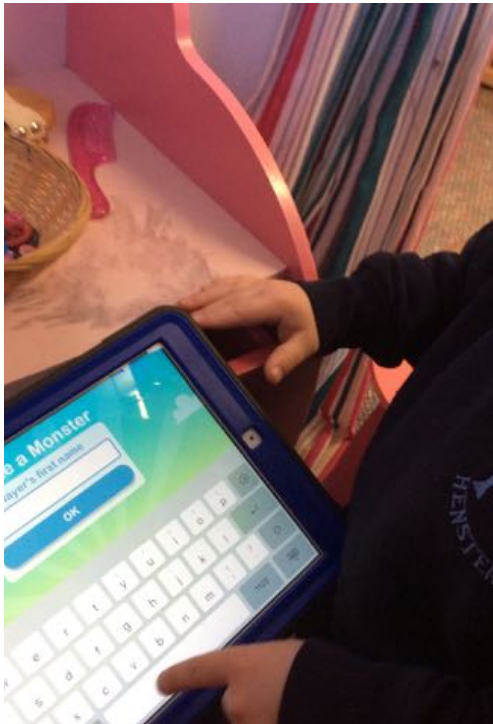
Inter-House Drama Competition - The Casts



The casts of the four house inter-house drama performances.



Nursery News



We had two themes running through nursery this week and they were "wind" and "technology".

For Safer Internet Day the children got together with Reception to talk about their understanding of what the internet means to them and what it is used for. Afterwards, the children had great fun using the school iPads to play phonics and problem solving games. The wind was the biggest source of fun though and provided great entertainment for the children who made butterflies out of paper and released them into the wind. This led to umbrellas, homemade kites and ribbons. How do the children have this much energy on the last week of the half term?

Nursery Star of the Week

Congratulations Carter. You have been such a good friend to the younger children this week. You include them in your games and help them with getting their shoes and coats. Enjoy the half term holiday with John the Chicken. Mrs Vorster





Pizza & Movie Night



Years 2 and 6 got together for a pizza-making and film-night after school last Friday. Everyone enjoyed changing into their pjs and Onesies for the film and huge fun was had by all! - Mrs Sonn & Mr Hunt



Brass Ensemble



Following the success of Mr Beer's brass pupils performing together in a special assembly and in the concert on Open Day, I am delighted to say the pupils are now rehearsing every week as the Brass Ensemble. Playing in a group is easily the most productive and enjoyable way of making progress on an instrument and it has been very rewarding for me to hear the ensemble's progress from week to week.

Mr Beer has vacancies for pupils wishing to learn trumpet/cornet, tenor horn, trombone and baritone. Please get in touch if you would like to arrange a taster session.

Mr Spencer



Junior Cookery Club



This week the children made chocolate chip muffins. Taking turns to add and mix the ingredients, the children had fun sprinkling in the chocolate chips!
- Mrs. Webster



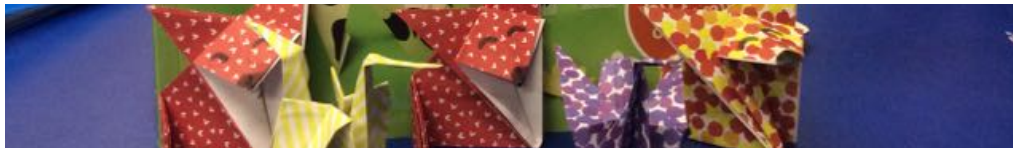
Sonic Science



The Year 4 children have been learning about how sound travels. They made string telephones to test their theories about vibrations. - Miss Doughty



Art Attack



The Year 3 children had a great time creating independent work in their end of term art attack session. Complete with parent visits and embellishments from their class assembly about India! - Miss Doughty



AWARDS AND NOTICES.

PTFA Appeal for Help

One day during the Easter holidays the PTFA team plans to spend a day at school transforming the music practice rooms. It will be a quick job with a team of volunteers. If you would like to help, please email ptfa2@theoldschoolhenstead.co.uk so that a suitable date can be arranged.

Thank you. for making a difference.

Mascots

The mascots are away on their Spring break and will be back after half term.

