



The Old School Henstead

Newsletter 7 February 2020

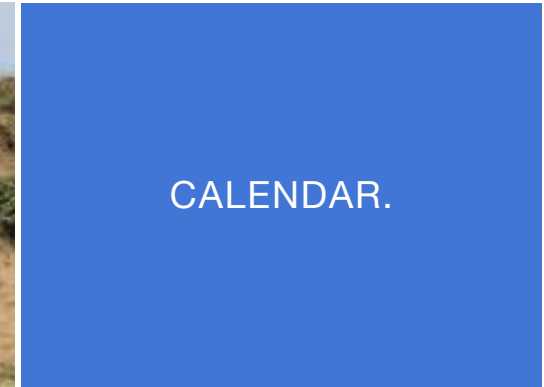
MESSAGE FROM THE HEADMASTER

Year Six would argue that their fascinating glimpse into the world of film, creative digital imagery and modelling was the highlight of the week. Year One would contest that this honour belonged to their assembly. Classrooms were open for both so parents were able to decide for themselves. Our Under 9 footballers have also had their say at a most successful fixture. Meanwhile, plans are announced for The Big Day Out. We are most grateful to our PTFA for generously contributing to the costs to enable us to offer the trip at a special price.

WJ McKinney MA Hons PgDip MA Ed

STOP PRESS... Congratulations to our boys' football team who won 1-0 in this afternoon's fixture. Full report in next week's issue.





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

- Tuesday 11 February
 - Safer Internet Day
 - 2.30 Years 4, 5 & 6 Gymnastics
 - 4.15 Parents' Seminar – "think u know?" (see last page of this newsletter for details)
- Thursday 13 February
 - 8.45 Inter-House Drama Competition
 - 1.30 Nursery (pre-schoolers) Reception & Year 1 Swimming
 - 2.15 Years 2 & 3 Swimming
- Friday 14 February
 - 8.45 Year 3 Assembly
 - Years 3 & 5 Open Classrooms
 - 3.40/4.10 Half Term Begins

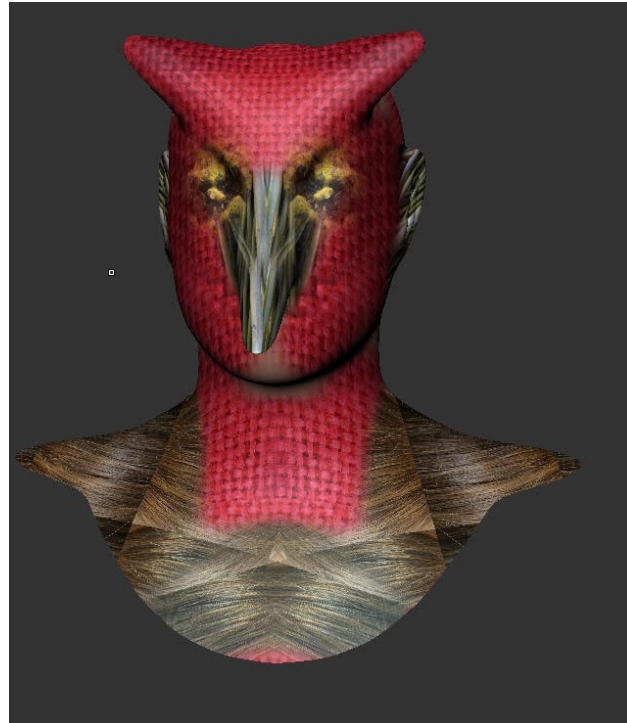
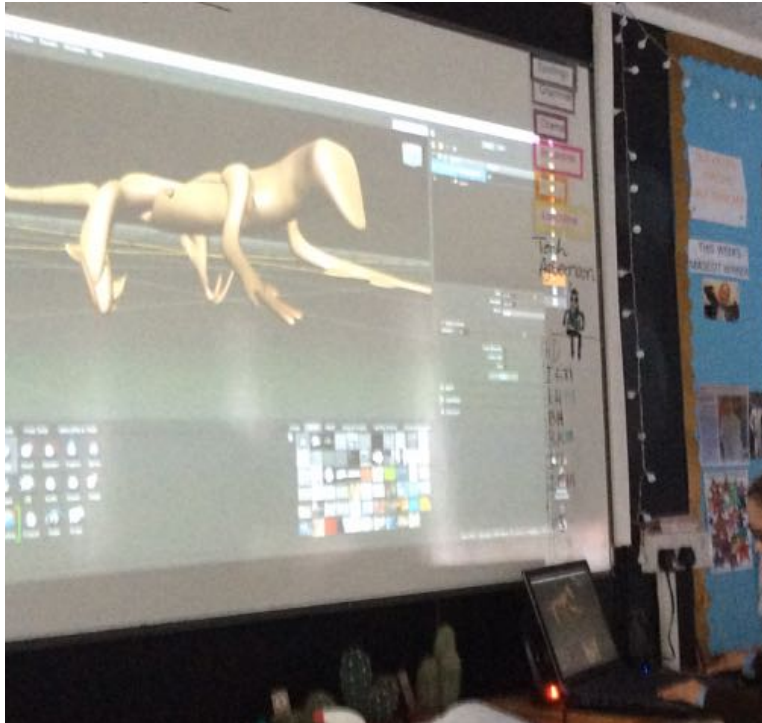
Dates for your Diary

- Monday 24 February
 - Term Resumes
- Thursday 19 March
 - Big Day Out





3D Digital Model Designing in Year 6



On Monday Year 6 was treated to a fascinating afternoon's presentation and hands-on experience by one of our parents, Mr Lambert, who works as Digital Model Supervisor at *Industrial Light and Magic*, creating visual effects for films. He very kindly gave up his time to talk to us about his job working on characters such as Dobby and the Grindylow from Harry Potter, and various spacecraft which were featured in episode 8 of the Star Wars film saga.

First he took us through the design process so the boys and girls could see the journey of these incredible creations from the artist's initial ideas through to the finished products. We were treated to some exciting behind-the-scenes clips showing us how special effects were made.

He also showed us some models built in a 3D printer and we marvelled at the technology that enabled these objects to be made.

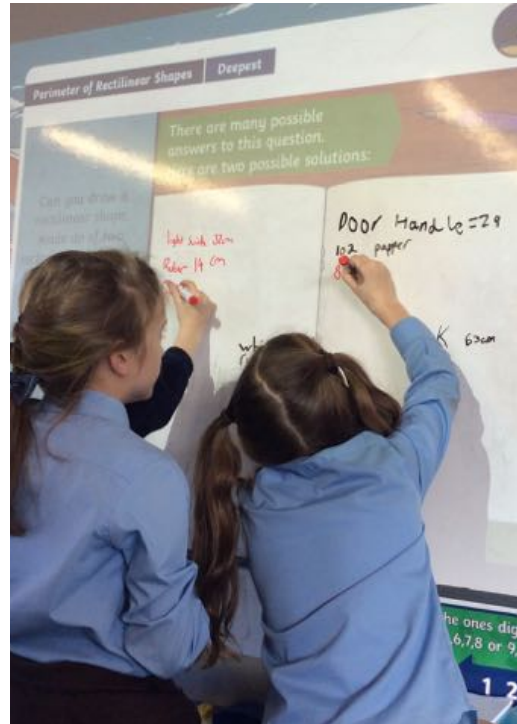
Then the pupils were given the chance to create their own characters using a sophisticated set of online tools to manipulate figures on a screen, changing their shape, colour and texture. They created some weird and wonderful creatures which we will be putting on the walls of our classroom so please come and have a look at them.

Many many thanks to Mr Lambert for giving his time and expertise. I have a feeling he may have inspired some young minds to pursue careers in this exciting and cutting-edge industry in the future. - Mrs Sonn





Calculating Perimeter



Calculating perimeter is no easy task, but the Y4 children seemed to be enjoying it in their Maths lesson last week. - Miss Doughty



Nursery News



The weather may have been cold and windy this week but it hasn't stopped the excitement of the children for learning outdoors. This week they were mainly focused on digging for treasure and worked collaboratively to dig, transport and dump the soil around the nursery garden. Paper clips, buttons, stones and apple cores were found during the digging and all were deemed to be authentic, pirate treasure!

Nursery Star of the Week

Congratulations to Beatrix for being a kind friend in Nursery. John the Chicken is looking forward to his sleepover.

Mrs Vorster



Petit déjeuner pour les enfants



Year 3 enjoyed practising their French phrases in the preparation of a French breakfast of crêpes. Délicieux! - Mrs Dakin



Empathy - You can count on me



The day had arrived for our the Year 1 assembly and, armed with our buckets, we positioned ourselves on stage ready to perform. We had been practising our lines and our singing all week. We opened with the hymn 'When I needed a neighbour' and Year 1 sang the first verse and chorus beautifully before the congregation joined in. Our theme of empathy was introduced and a funny little video explained what empathy meant. Empathy is when you can understand how someone else is feeling.

To understand our school value empathy further, we read a book by Carol McCloud called 'Have you filled a bucket today?' It explained how we can show empathy by doing nice things for others in order to fill an invisible bucket. Your bucket has one purpose only. It holds your good thoughts and feelings about yourself. You feel happy and good when your bucket is full. You feel lonely and sad when your bucket is empty. So, how do you fill a bucket? You fill a bucket when you say or do something kind, show love to someone or even when you give a smile.

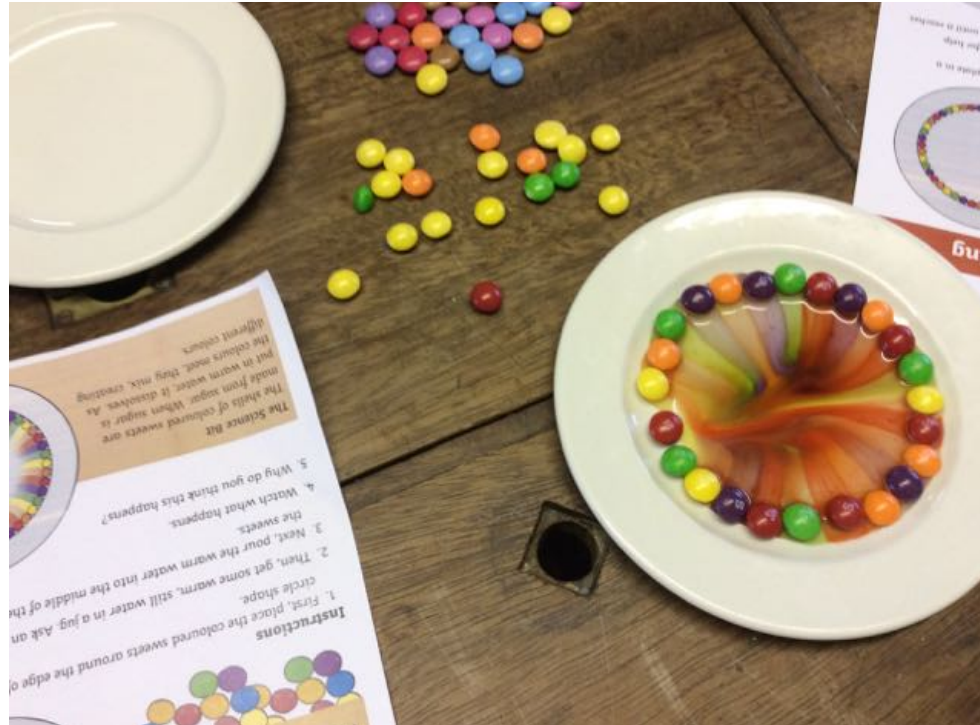
But you can also dip into someone's bucket and take out good feelings. You dip into a bucket when you make fun of someone, when you say or do mean things or even when you ignore someone. That's being a bucket dipper. Try to fill a bucket and see what happens.

Our A1 award winning assembly ended with a prayer and a song for everyone to join in about empathy and kindness by Bruno Mars, ' You Can Count On Me'. - Mrs Loader





Science Club



In this week's junior Science Club the pupils were dissolving sugar colourings in skittles and smarties. - Mrs Loader



Reception News

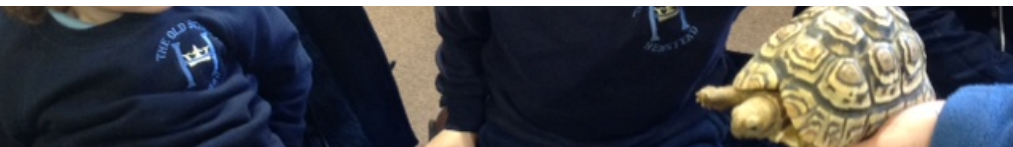


In art we have visited the cold lands, Paddington Bear continues to send us postcards from around the world. This week we set off on our adventure to Africa Alive! one hundred acres of Suffolk countryside with a wide range of wildlife. Right on our doorstep.

We looked at the birds in the 'Wader's Lake' which reminded us of our drawings of birds. The 'Plains of Africa', albeit a little chilly, gave us the perfect place to spot five species of African savannah animals, including a graceful giraffe, Zebras and heavyweight rhinos. We had a bird's eye view of the magnificent lions and discovered some surprising facts about the animals during the feeding talks.

The 'Discovery Centre' enabled us to meet some of the smaller residents at the animal encounter session. We had the opportunity to ask questions too.

We were pleased to hear that the Zoological Society of East Anglia is committed to reducing their environmental impact, which is the focus of our topic next term.
Mrs Scriven





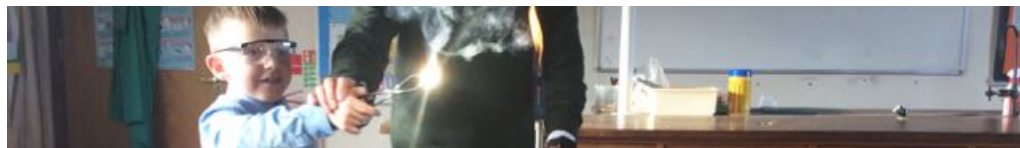
Art - Mini Monet



Year 3 pupils are learning about Oscar Claude Monet. They have started to create their own Japanese Bridge painting in his signature style.
- Miss Doughty



Chemistry - Magnesium (Mg)



Year 2 created magnesium oxide by holding the tip of magnesium ribbon near the flame of a bunsen burner. When magnesium burns it reacts with the oxygen in air to form the powdery magnesium oxide - Mr Hunt



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: Tillie for empathising with friends and being a good role model.

Year One: William for always being gentle and kind to his friends.

Year Two: Rex for experimenting with multiplication in maths.

Year Three: Christabel for experimenting with different bending techniques in outdoor education.

Year Four: Lolah for experimenting with details and vocabulary during creative writing sessions.

Year Five: George for experimenting with some harder fractions work this week, trying to convert fractions into equivalent fractions.

Year Six: Penelope for experimental use of 3D modelling techniques.

“Think u Know?” Parent Seminar

We are holding an internet safety seminar for parents on Tuesday 11 February at 4.15pm to update parents on the latest schemes and scams targeting children and ways to keep your children safe online.

Coronavirus

The Department of Education has issued advice regarding Coronavirus, telling us that there is no reason why our children should not continue to attend school and Nursery as normal. Please help us at home by underlining support for the campaign which promotes basic hygiene practices, such as

regularly washing hands and always sneezing into a tissue, to stem the spread of viruses.

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.

