



The Old School Henstead

Newsletter 6 March 2020

MESSAGE FROM THE HEADMASTER

I was privileged to watch another school in action during the course of this week, yet it was both heartening and a source of pride to see that, led by Year Two, reading and books had been fully celebrated during the course of this busy week at The Old School Henstead. You will read of World Book Day, sports, castles (one on a hill) and success in music in this edition. Life at the school revolves around the twin lodestones of love and joy, love for our fellows and joy in learning - it is entirely in keeping with the ethos of the school that it should be so.

WJ McKinney MA Hons PgDip MA Ed

STOP PRESS...Congratulations to Ruby on her success at the 2020 Gorleston Festival of Music, Dance and Speech. She was presented with her award and trophy for her violin performance last night.





CALENDAR.

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

Monday 9 March	British Science Week begins 8.45 River Folk Band Assembly
Tuesday 10 March	2.30 Years 4, 5 & 6 Gymnastics
Wednesday 11 March	Year 6 visits University of Cambridge Museum of Zoology
Thursday 12 March	1.30 Nursery (pre-schoolers) Reception & Year 1 Swimming 2.15 Years 2 & 3 Swimming
Friday 13 March	8.45 Reception Assembly & Open Classroom (change of date) Year 3 visits Suffolk Wildlife Trust
Saturday 14 March	LAMDA Examinations at The Old School Henstead

Dates for your Diary

Thursday 19 March	Big Day Out
Thursday 26 March	8.50 Easter Service at St Mary's Henstead



Castles on a Hill



To finish off our topic on Castles, a trip to one was a necessity. However, we did not manage to find a castle with all of the features we had studied, so we visited two!

Orford Castle is one of England's most complete and unusual keeps. It was built by Henry II in 1165-73 and it remains remarkably intact. We entered the Keep and proceeded to the Lower Hall where feasts and guests were entertained and explored the adjacent chambers, latrines and kitchen. Moving downstairs we explored the basement where food and prisoners were stored and kept. Mrs Deakin amazed the children with her rendition of 'The Wild Man of Orford' around the well and water source of the castle. We continued to spiral up the winding staircase and investigated the Chapel, Upper Hall and up even further onto the roof! We could see for miles including Felixstowe, Sizewell and the soon to be demolished Orford lighthouse. This was a great position to spot oncoming enemies. At the top of the Keep we were strongly advised to watch out for sneaky pigeons in the Bakery, which we luckily avoided.

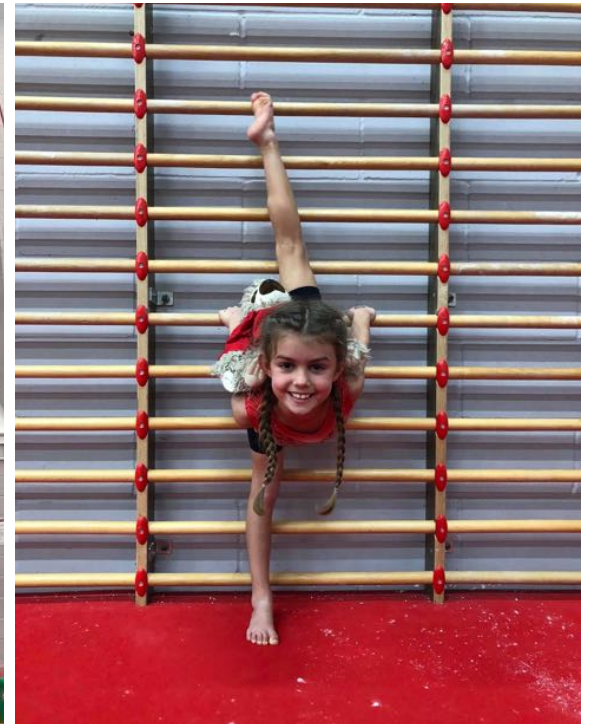
Next stop, Framingham Castle! The defensive features were immediately evident with imposing curtain walls at 10.5 m high which have stood for over 800 years. The gatehouse was clearly the only way in. We observed the murder holes on the other side of the thick, heavy, wooden door and hoped that no tar or hot oil or water would rain down on us. Again we ascended more stairs to complete the Tower Walk on the battlements. We saw 11 towers en route as we imagined protecting the castle from behind the thick crenellated walls.

At the end of the day we were all castled out! Mrs Loader





Fantastic Gymnastics



Jemimah - training hard for an upcoming national gymnastics competition with her coach Miss Trail - took her class mascot, Jimmy the Sloth, to one of her training sessions, to show him the ropes!



Indian Celebration



Celebrating their topic on India in Humanities, Year 3 threw themselves into their Indian feast, and had a wonderful time trying lots of different dishes. They even had some visitors from other year groups, keen to sample the wonderful fare on offer. Mrs Sonn



World Book Day



World Book Day is easily one of my favourite times of the year. At The Old School Henstead, our objective is that when the children move on to pastures new at the end of Year Six, they leave with a lifelong love of reading. The opportunity to learn new information, empathise with different people and cultures, to witness new perspectives and to immerse oneself in exciting plots is one of life's greatest pleasures. And, it appears as if our children are on the path to this already. With wonderful costumes and well-picked characters and books, both modern and classic, the school was bursting with creativity and variety on Thursday.

We began the morning with 'Renegade Readers.' Children were tasked with locating a unique spot in school to read a few pages. Some chose to read in solitude and others in groups, but all read and seemed deeply immersed in their book. Despite the chilly morning, wizards, animals and dinosaurs hurried around excitedly trying to find a cosy spot to enjoy.

After, we found shelter and teamed up in houses. The task was for each house to write a beginning, middle, end and title to a story. The stories were full of unique ideas, items and characters. With the help of the house leaders, the stories were shared with the rest of the school in the hall to round off the morning.

Mr M Hunt





World Book Day





World Book Day



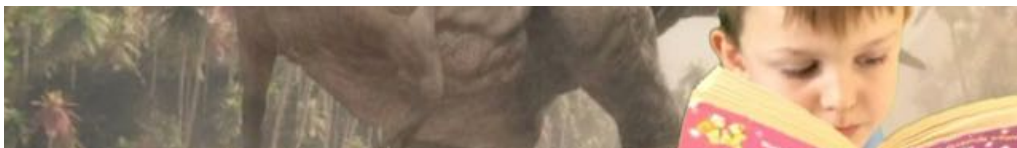


Year 2 Assembly



I am often reminded how lucky I am to work with such wonderful children at this school. This week, the children took charge of their class assembly and created something wonderful. Interviewing children, using cameras to record footage, assisting with editing and sound choices, rehearsing lines, learning new words, performing to a large audience and being creative, Year Two once again thrived with the opportunity to embrace a challenge.

Throughout the term, I have been delighted to see excellent progress when reading. Rather than simply saying words aloud, the children have tried to infer and deduct information when reading, both fiction and non-fiction. To ask questions about characters, their intentions and emotions, and perhaps provide suggestions and responses to such questions. Indeed, our focus has additionally been on reading with expression, and bringing characters to life. Something the children have handled tremendously well.



These pictures are clips from the movie they made, demonstrating excellent acting, imagination and humour!

Well done, Year Two.

Mr M Hunt and Mr L Keeler



Reception News



The Reception has welcomed the sun this week at school, and we have started to tidy our garden. We even found some carrots! They were yummy.

Our topic this week took us on a journey around the world looking at different climates. We decided we would like to be somewhere warm, so we jumped on a plane for a short trip to India. As we arrived in another country, we were amazed at all the different sights and noises. We had a wonderful Indian meal, hosted by Year 3.

All had great fun as we dressed up to celebrate 'World Book Day.' Activities held across the school inspired our love of reading and Year Five shared some of their learning with us.

Next week we look forward to welcoming our parents into school to watch our first class assembly and take part in 'British Science Week.'

Mrs Scriven





Nursery News



Is it really the end of the week? The weeks seem to be flying by as the children continue to develop in the 7 areas of learning. This week the highlight was Wednesday as we were outdoors all day. The children were involved in the usual digging for treasure or tricycles, police and roadblock role play but the warm weather sparked their interest in the bulbs that had started to grow and the daffodils they could see over on the big field. Some of the children helped Mrs Scriven getting her pots and hanging baskets ready for planting. The Spring feeling took over and by the end of the afternoon they had organised a singing and dancing competition on the mud kitchen, which for once wasn't muddy!

Nursery Star of the Week

Congratulations and well done Edie. We all love the way you include everyone in your games. John the Chicken enjoys watching your dancing and singing classes that you run for your friends. Mrs Vorster





Junior Cookery Club



This week the children made star shaped shortbread biscuits. They enjoyed taking turns to roll out the dough then using their fine motor skills to get the dough out of the cutter without breaking the biscuit! - Mrs. Webster



Sport - Football



This Friday saw the much anticipated fixture between The Old School Henstead's Under 11s and Beccles Primary Academy. Certain strategists like Wayne Gretzky might suggest that one must shoot without much regard for accuracy, but precision and execution were the words on our minds. With 100% shot accuracy, we tested the keeper and kept the opposition on their toes.

Operating a 2-1-2-1 formation, the instructions were simple. At the back, Rafferty and Isaac issued an impressive display keeping the majority of attacks at bay. Zak, Henstead's own N'Golo Kante, was everywhere, tidying up mistakes and spraying the ball out for our attacking threats. Isabelle, James and Gabriel were equally important, pressing their defenders and forcing errors throughout the game. Finally our lone striker, Charlotte, was tasked with the objective of leading the line.

Despite a stunning strike from Gabriel early on in the second half and a wonderful performance from Bobby in goal, the game ended 3-1 to Beccles. Well played everyone.





AWARDS AND NOTICES.

Seussical the Musical!

This week, the children heard the exciting announcement that this year's summer show will be *Seussical the Musical*! A challenging but exciting journey through the world of Dr Seuss. The production will involve Reception - Y6 and is a wonderful opportunity for the whole school to work together. The children will begin learning about the show very soon. If they want to be extra prepared, the soundtrack is available to listen to on Youtube and most music streaming platforms.

Easter Holiday Club

Save the dates - Monday 30 March to Friday 3 April. Booking forms out soon.

Facebook & Twitter

Follow us on Facebook on [@theoldschoolhenstead](https://www.facebook.com/theoldschoolhenstead) and twitter on [@OldSchoolHstead](https://twitter.com/OldSchoolHstead)

PTFA Appeal for Help

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

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

Reception: William for adventures in exotic regions.

Year One: Freddie for fearless adventures in learning.

Year Two: Raef for adventurous approaches to acting.

Year Three: Chloe for venturing into a new sport, cricket.

Year Four: Jude for analysing times tables.

Year Five: James for analysing statistics.

Year Six: Brayden for analysing data in bar charts.



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