



The Old School Henstead

Newsletter 11 June 2021

MESSAGE FROM THE HEADMASTER

It is a joy to write having accompanied our young Year Five adventurers as they searched, problem solved and worked as a team to navigate a challenging forest orienteering course and emerge on the coastal path to make their way to camp at Warden's Hall. Trails on mountain bikes await, den building, beach-side camp fires await! We have been blessed with perfect weather for these activities and for the outdoor teaching, learning and rehearsals that make this term so special. Well done to all of you!

WJ McKinney MA Hons PgDip MA





DATES FOR YOUR
DIARY.

Dates for your Diary

Tue 22 June (new date) - Years 3 & 4 Outdoor Education trip - Somerleyton & Fritton Lake

Friday 9 July - Summer Term Ends

Mon-Fri 12-16 July - Summer Holiday School (details out soon)



Year Five Adventurers.



The first challenge for our Year Five pupils after arriving at their coastal residential venue was orienteering, finding 11 different pots hidden by various trees around the woods. To do this we had a map, which we followed, although we found some of the pots quite tricky to find! We then we walked along the coast back to the venue - a good walk of 5.5 miles.



Home Away From Home!



As a result of pre-trip practice, Year Five erected their tents incredibly quickly and worked so well together.



Coastal Capers.



Time for volleyball, a delicious barbecue and a beach time stroll. The day was rounded off with a camp fire with hot chocolate and marshmallows.



Woodland Wanderers.



Day Two of the Year Five residential involved bike trails and forest challenges in Thetford Forest.



What A Performance.



Today Mr Philips and some of his woodwind students entertained us with a busking session on the field during morning break.

We were entertained with solos and duets by Ted and Charlotte on the saxophone, Ariane on the flute and Mr Philips himself on all of these as well as the clarinet.

There are currently places available to learn all these instruments plus piano with Mr Philips. If you would be interested in your child starting lessons, or taking a one-off taster session, please contact Mr Spencer.





En avant, les enfants!



Year One gave a cheer when it was time to go to the chalet for their weekly French lesson. French is very interactive and fun session for the children. We reinforce our learning of French colour names and numbers through singing and lotto games which are enjoyed by all. French berets were an added extra to help us think in French and speak in our best French accents! All the children had the chance to be the teacher and be the lotto caller. Confidence and excellence really shone through from our Year One children. Très bien les enfants.

Madame Dakin





School Council Elections.



Remote voting took place for school council elections at the end of the last half-term and we are pleased to announce the winners below. The job of the council is vital, as it gives pupils a chance to share their thoughts and ideas about how to make our school a better place. It's also a chance for council reps to develop their leadership, debating and decision-making skills.

The representatives for this half-term are:

Year 1 - Lexi and Max
Year 2 - Jayden
Year 3 - Grace-Marie
Year 4 - Chloe and Ted
Year 5 - Luca and Isaac G (not pictured - away on residential trip)

Congratulations to everyone. We look forward to working together over the next few weeks.

Isabelle and Phillip
Heads of School Council





LAMDA News.



It is the time of year when we invite pupils currently in Years 2 to 5 to consider LAMDA lessons for the next academic year starting in September. For those interested in finding out more, Mrs Philips is available to speak with pupils and offer taster lessons before the end of this term.

"I have enjoyed working with all my pupils during the academic year and seeing the huge growth in each individual, in terms of confidence, communication skills and each pupil's ability to perform!"

"I have always been a big believer that the LAMDA syllabus provides vital tools that benefit all, regardless of age, experience or personality."

"One of the most important aspects, during my lessons is to have fun, so that all pupils can engage and learn effectively and apply their skills."

"I am very much enjoying seeing the children achieve great progress and look forward to the months and years ahead."

A graduate from The Guildhall School of Music and Drama (BA Hons Acting), Mrs Philips has been involved in professional

TV, Theatre and Film projects since the age of 14 and since graduating from The Guildhall School. has been represented by one of the top acting agents in London.

She has also worked and performed at a number of well-known theatres, including The Barbican Theatre, The Globe, The Royal Court, The Bridewell Theatre and The Princess Grace Theatre in Monaco. As well as being involved in TV, Film and Theatre projects, she is a presenter and records voice overs for various companies and brands.

"I have previously worked on the audition panel at The Guildhall School of Music and Drama, helping and working with candidates when they are auditioning for the acting course. This experience has meant that I have been able to prepare students to the best of their ability for a place at a Drama School, University or even for a job interview."

For further information about LAMDA (London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art) lessons or to arrange a taster lesson for your child, please email the School Office. The Old School Henstead is an accredited examination centre for LAMDA.



After School Clubs.



Our After School Clubs are proving to be very popular. The pictures above show scenes from our Adventure Training, Reading in the Willows and Cookery clubs.



Mathematics & Story Analysis.



As part of mathematics lessons this week, Year 1 have been introduced to the properties of 2D shapes. We started the week by looking at curved or straight lines within capital letters and categorising these in Venn Diagrams. We extended this further by studying the number of sides, corners and types of lines featuring in different shapes. Using shapes such as pentagons, hexagons, heptagons and octagons, we created pictures and presented these to our classmates, using our new vocabulary to explain what shapes we had used to make our pictures.

Literacy

Year 1 have been enjoying different texts by the author Ed Vere. We have been making comparisons between these texts by looking at the illustrations, the personality of the main character, Max, and the format that the author uses in his writing. We have used our knowledge to make predictions about the end of unfamiliar texts, expressed opinions about these different texts and provide reasons for these opinions. We have also made adaptations to these texts by swapping out characters for our own and changing the speech of characters.

- Miss Vipond





Growing Together.



Our Year Three gardeners are taking enjoyment from learning in a practical and creative way. With the help of Mr Hunter (watering duty during the half term break), their plants have survived the soaring temperatures and nurturing responsibilities have now been returned to the children.

With rain and sun come weeds! Hoes at the ready and action taken, the plants are once again providing opportunity for the benefits of gardening to blossom through.

Observation of the children achieving goals, seeing the fruits of their labour, becoming more confident and working side-by-side, underlining the role our gardening activity is playing through physical, emotional and social development.

As the children engage as a team they become active happy learners. They follow instructions, become more flexible with their thinking and solve problems by adapting to new challenges presented by nature.

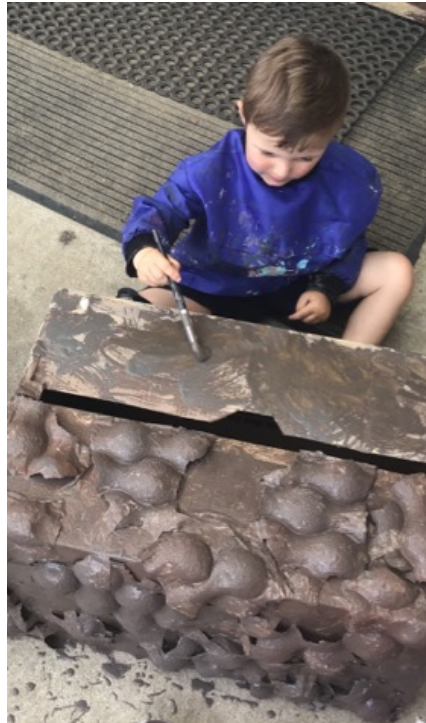
Hopefully, this will be the start of a lifelong passion. As one pupil said when asked if they would like to go outside to garden 'Tuesday afternoon is my favourite afternoon'

- Miss Clifton





Nursery News.



This week we have been spending as much time as possible in the garden and on the field. The children have been enjoying creating props for their forthcoming concert at the end of term. This has been the cause of much excitement and the children have been polishing up the songs they will be singing with much enthusiasm. The water tap has been on constantly for filling trays, buckets and watering cans and all the cars and baby dolls have been thoroughly scrubbed. The children have been practising name writing and mark making by using the paint brushes and water on the fence. However, the highlight of every morning is gathering dandelions for Vinnie the tortoise and getting “accidentally” wet when Mrs Vorster sprays down his garden.





Sports Gallery.



Tennis drills with Year Four pupils.



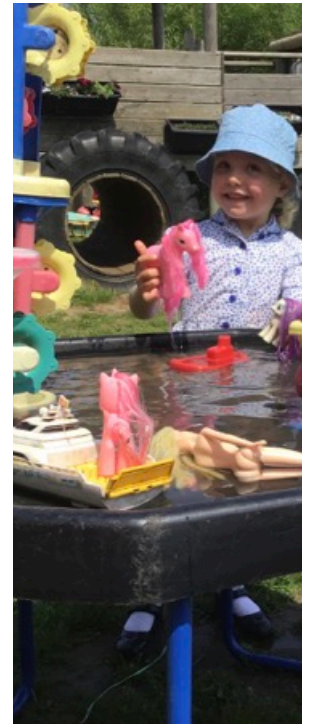
Sports Gallery.



Kwik Cricket drills with Year Four pupils.



Nursery Gallery.



We are making the most of this gorgeous weather. Water play, stories under the gazebo and sports Tuesday! - Mrs Webster



OTHER NEWS.

Mascots

Mascots were awarded this week to the pupils best demonstrating our school values for this half term - Excellence and Enquiry

Reception: Lucy for excellence in mathematics.

Year One: Eddie for excellent participation in class.

Year Two: Violette for applying herself excellently in mathematics.

Year Three: Robin for explaining well in maths.

Year Four: Chloe Hills for excellence in writing.

Year Five: The class, for excellence in camping and their collective adventures.

Year Six: Isabelle for applying herself excellently in end of year exams.

Uniform Shop

Kindly email the uniform shop on uniformshop@theoldschoolhenstead.co.uk with any uniform orders or enquiries. Our team of parent volunteers is always happy to help or to arrange a private appointment.

Sun Cream & Hats

Now that we are starting to experience some days of beautiful sunshine, please ensure that you send your child to school with a school house cap (or Nursery sun hat) as well as their own bottle of sun lotion or cream.

New After School Clubs

Don't forget our new programme of After School Clubs - from cookery to golf, cricket and adventure training - open to all pupils in Reception through to Year Six.



@OldSchoolHstead



YouTube

