



The Old School Henstead

Newsletter 26 November 2021

MESSAGE FROM THE HEADMASTER

This week we have looked at our brains and researched the difference between a bucket that has to be filled and a muscle that can be strengthened as it is trained. We have also considered the different steps we could take to support our learning before we ask our teachers to build that bridge. We know that sometimes we will be stuck and that here it is important not to listen to our doubts, but to speak positively to our concerns, promoting a growth mindset. The bronze certificates have begun to be awarded for five A1s - it is working!

WJ McKinney MA Hons PgDip MA





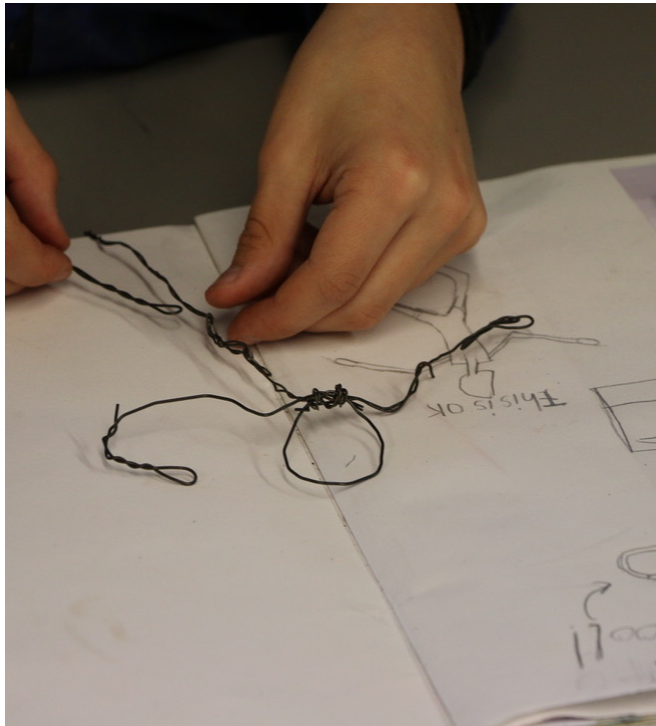
DATES FOR YOUR
DIARY.

Dates for your Diary - calendar updated weekly with additional events, fixtures and excursions.

- Saturday 4 December - 11:00 - 13:00 Christmas Fayre (The Old School Henstead families only)
- Tuesday 14 December - Nursery Nativity, St Mary's Church, Henstead
- Wednesday 15 December - Lower School Nativity, St Mary's Church, Henstead
- Thursday 16 December - Carol Service (by candlelight) at St Mary's Church, Henstead
- Friday 17 December - Autumn Term Ends



Studying Artist Alberto Giacometti.



Year Six has been exploring the artist Alberto Giacometti. The pupils carried out an artist study last week, where they investigated a series of sculptures he had created. They enjoyed learning about how Giacometti responded to the events of the time and then spent some time drawing inspiration from Giacometti's work and the movement of people around them.

The boys and girls were then able to create wire frames to be used to create a skeleton for their own terracotta sculpture. Each pupil responded uniquely to the challenge and created some great pieces of art of which they should be very proud.

- Miss Bennie





Swimming Gallery.



Excellent lower school swimming lesson sessions. Next up...survival drills.



Year Three learning gets festive...



Year Three has been working very hard this week. In maths we have been focusing on place value and what mental strategies we can use to help when adding and subtracting. The pupils have been working collaboratively during these tasks and are enjoyed a little competition when playing quick fire rounds! In English we have been focusing on informal letter writing and the different features that make up a good letter. We were visited by 'Elf and Safety' and have been asked to write letters to the North Pole. These letters will allow us to be matched up with our own classroom elf.

In art the boys and girls have been working collaboratively, in order to create a display for a secret project that they are carrying out. They were able to demonstrate good teamwork and communication skills when tackling the task of working in a big group with so many fabulous ideas. - Miss Bennie





Humanities Presentation Assembly



In today's assembly Years Four and Five delivered a presentation to the whole school.

It was based on their recent humanities lessons, where their study has been about animal migration patterns. The children have immersed themselves deeply with the topic, identifying individual animals of interest and seeking to understand their patterns of movement. In small groups of twos and threes, the children researched and noted down key details they felt the audience would be keen to know. Throughout the fortnight, they have looked to ensure that they saturate their time slots with as much key information as possible while maintaining a succinct delivery. Added to which, they have worked on their performing skills, ensuring that they present the information clearly.

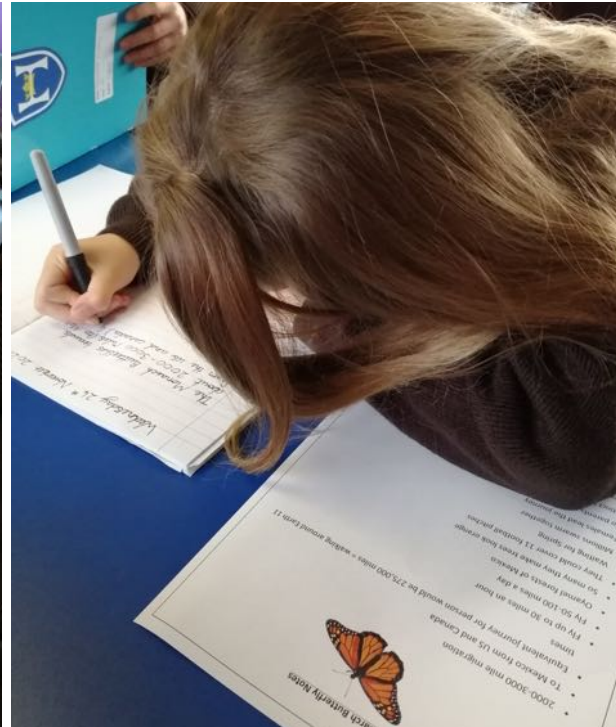
Most impressive has been the independence with which the children have worked. They were reflective after practice sessions, working to improve their own sections of the assembly. As a result, the assembly was full of information with some excellent acting performances.

- Mrs Solomon and Mr Hunt





Year Five talk to the animals.



In English we have been thoroughly enjoying using our research skills to find out about different animals that migrate. Our work has been focused on a book called 'Migration' by Mike Unwin. Our favourites have been the Red Crabs that live on Christmas Island and the Monarch Butterflies, which fly an amazing 2000-3000 miles for their migration. This is equivalent to a human walking around the whole Earth 11 times!! However, it is only the fourth generation of butterflies that actually make it back to the start! Within our reports about these animals, we have been trying to include the use of parentheses to add extra information to the sentences.

- Mrs Solomon

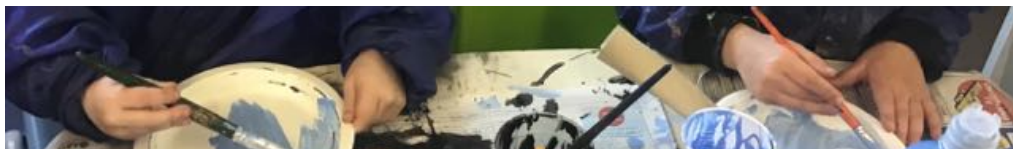




Nursery News.



This week we decided to get hooked into a book. We chose "Mr Wolf's Pancakes" - an amusing story that we felt had strong links to all the areas of learning. So, the children in Nursery and Reception have been writing shopping lists, cooking pancakes, writing a recipe book, counting money, role playing the story and even writing cards and letters to Mr Wolf to cheer him up. Alongside this theme they have been busy colour mixing in the crafting area, playing board games, making music with the box of instruments and taking care of the baby dolls. - Mrs Vorster





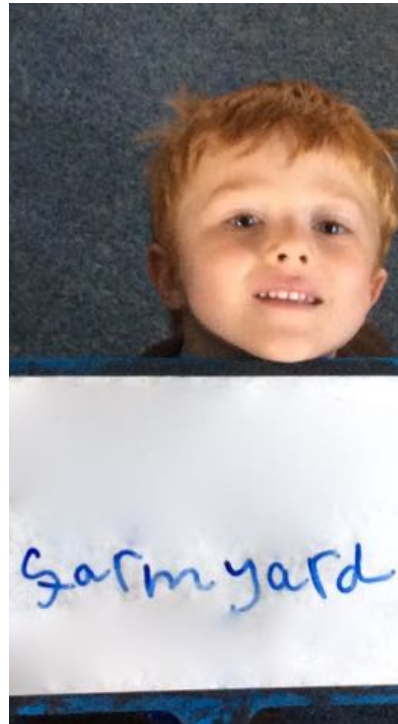
Junior Art Club.



The children made some beautiful hanging decorations using air drying clay and star and heart shaped cutters. They finished their design by pressing in herbs and dried flowers to create imprints. Looking forward to painting them next week and hanging them up at home. - Mrs Webster



Tales of the Unexpected.



Our school values this term of resilience and research have well and truly been demonstrated in our learning environment this week. The children had great fun in our Science lesson where they had to look and compare baby photos of each other, then try to identify who was who. This proved to be a bit trickier than initially expected, however great fun was had by all.

Our daily phonics sessions test our knowledge of tricky words, digraphs and trigraphs, all very helpful for when we are not only reading, but writing our spellings and sentences too!

In Literacy we heard the story of "What you shouldn't do before school" by Ruth Merttens. The children had to discuss some of the naughty things that were being done by a naughty cat, then draw and write something they sometimes do before school that is naughty! We had some hilarious tales, also some children who said they were never naughty! What well behaved children you have.

Another enjoyable week in Year One.

- Mrs Dakin





Sports Gallery.



Great tag drills in a lower school games session under blue skies.



OTHER NEWS.

Mascots

Mascots were awarded this week to the pupils best demonstrating our school values for this half term - Resilience and Research:

Reception: Rose for always doing her best and making great progress in phonics.

Year One: Izaak for resilience in his spelling test.

Year Two: Max for demonstrating resilience during maths lessons.

Year Three: Jayden for showing resilience in his Maths.

Year Four: Robin for researching about and producing his own haikus.

Year Five: Isabella for superb research on finding facts about Monarch butterflies.

Year Six: Lolah for resiliently approaching maths problem solving, including perimeter and area word problems.

Uniform Shop

Open on Monday mornings (8:15-9:15) and Thursday afternoons (3:15-4:15). You may also 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.

Your PTFA Needs You

Your PTFA needs you!! We need your energy and skills. Whether you're a whizz at organising or coming up with ideas, we need you! Please get in touch with ptfa2@theoldschoolhenstead.co.uk to help us create great memories for our children.

