



The Old School Henstead

Newsletter 21 January 2022

MESSAGE FROM THE HEADMASTER

We have continued our journey into term. Our youngest children have been at pains to empathise with those who uphold the Rule of Law - helmets and warrant cards at the ready. Other experiments have made observations and choices as to why something might float, or what species are supported by different strata of the ocean. Floating magnificently have been our intrepid swimmers across the age groups, as shown in this edition. Well done to all of you.

WJ McKinney MA Hons PgDip MA





DATES FOR YOUR DIARY.

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

Friday 28 January - Under 11 Boys (A & B teams) Football Tournament at Alleyn Court Preparatory School

Friday 11 February - Under 11 Cross Country Competition at Finborough School

Half term: Saturday 19 February – Sunday 27 February inclusive

Thursday 3 March - World Book Day - Pupils may dress up to represent their favourite book character (not superhero or football kit)



Problem-Solving in Mathematics and Science.



In Year Five, we have been using our multiplication skills to solve problems. We tried to see how many of them we could solve that were placed around our classroom.

Example:

Year Five need 43 new paint brushes. If they come in packs of 6, how many packs need to be bought?

We have also been using our scientific skills to find out about materials. We wanted to know which of the materials we examined was the hardest. We used a scratch test to find out. We tried this on several different materials, including brick, plastic, metal, wood and chalk. When we tried this on a metal spoon, it hardly made a mark at all. However, when we tried a chalk rock, it was easy to make a scratch mark, showing that metal is a lot harder than chalk.

- Mrs Solomon





Oceans Deep.



This week the pupils have been particularly excited as we have started their new topic for the term - learning all about the zones of the oceans and the animals that we might see there. They carried out an experiment that looked at the saturation of light in relation to the depth of the ocean. They were amazed to find out that the deepest part of the ocean called "The Challenger Deep" is as deep as a plane is high – over 36,000 feet deep! In art we thought about the concept of a really deep area of the ocean and created some art pieces as if they were looking up from the deep.

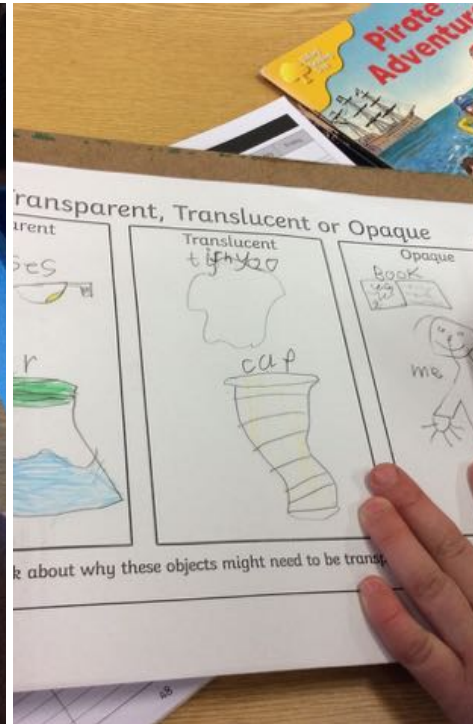
In science we have been exploring rocks. The pupils were to organise rocks by different characteristics and carry out a series of experiments. This included dropping rocks into water, pouring water on top and rubbing them against some sand-paper.



What a great week for Year Three, full of experimentation, imagination and creation! Well done. - Miss Bennie



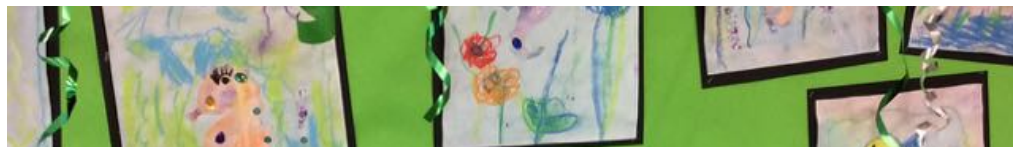
Shaping Up.



This week we started to look at 3D shapes and their properties in numeracy. Lucy had a great idea to use a plastic tray propped at an angle to create a ramp to test which shapes could roll. Deciphering labels for the mathematical names for the shapes also tested phonic knowledge.

In Science three more tricky words were used to describe several objects, depending on the amount of light that could or could not be passed through them. A torch helped the children determine whether objects were transparent, translucent or opaque.

Our topic on oceans has inspired Year One to produce some beautiful seahorse pictures using pastels, paint, sequins and gems. The children are currently working on a diorama to create an ocean scene. Watch this space!
- Mrs Dakin





Design Technology.



In our Design and Technology Club the pupils threw themselves in with enthusiasm! They were challenged with designing and then building their own roller-coaster. They were encouraged to use their imagination to come up with different rides. Ideas ranged from horror rides, to city themes and a rainbow roller coaster! Working in pairs the boys and girls had to work on their communication skills when designing their rides, completing their plans and thinking about how they might use different materials to actually build their models, while problem-solving as part of the process.

- Miss Bennie





Photography Masterclass.



Year 4 have been exploring collage and photography this term. They were introduced to the Dutch photographer Ruud van Empel, and explored the different works that he created. The pupils described his work as quite scary and almost doll-like due to the process he used in his collages. After a discussion the pupils decided that they wanted to explore different ways that they would be able to recreate work similar to van Empel.

For the lesson the pupils were able to explore and have a go at using a larger camera. They were able to play with the settings on the camera and take a series of photographs that they would be able to use when creating their own collages next week. - Miss Bennie





Junior Drama Club.



This week in Junior Drama Club the children had to think of different ways to say their name. They could sing it or say it in a different accent. The possibilities were endless!

Our next game was to “guess what job I do?” The children worked in pairs and acted out different job roles for everybody else to guess! It was fun to watch and to hear so much laughter.

- Mrs Dakin and Mrs Webster

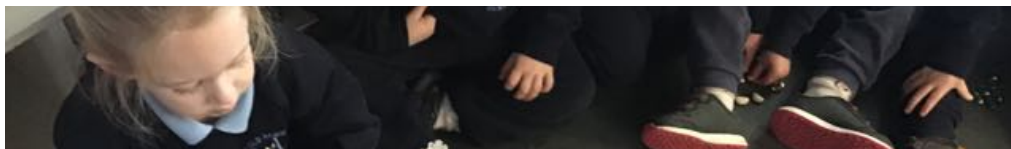




Nursery News.



This week we have been celebrating the childrens' confidence in their own abilities to take new steps. I am thinking specifically of Tuesday afternoon in the swimming pool when many of the children had to muster all their courage to be in the water, getting their faces wet and listening to the instructors. We are also very proud of our new starters this term who have settled in so well with their new friends. Like the swimmers they have been brave too, saying goodbye to parents at the gate and walking down to the nursery to work with new friends and teachers. Our children display confidence every day in their learning. We encourage them to try new approaches, take risks, try new resources and be proud of their achievements. - Mrs Vorster



Sports Gallery - Swimming.



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Sports Gallery - Cross Country.



Some great cross country drills in the winter sunshine this afternoon.



OTHER NEWS.

Mascots

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

Reception: Hugo for showing empathy towards his friends.

Year One: Sophia, for displaying empathy for the characters in her reading book who were going to be evacuated during the war.

Year Two: Olivia for experimenting in science, observing how objects float and sink.

Year Three: Louis for his experimentation skills when investigating characteristics of rocks.

Year Four: Robin for experimenting well during a science lesson, in which he created panpipes.

Year Five: Isabella for continued patience and kindness when working with others.

Year Six: Rafferty for creating a creature adapted to his environment.

Swimming Certificates

Congratulations to all the recipients of swimming certificates this week.



Certificates Awarded This Week

Congratulations to the following pupils who were awarded Bronze Certificates for achieving five A1's: Araminta, Carter, Darcie, Edie, Hugo, Izaak and Ted E.



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