



The Old School Henstead

Newsletter 4 February 2022

MESSAGE FROM THE HEADMASTER

The week opened with a thoughtful celebration of Candlemas, led superbly by our Senior and Junior Choirs. They were in fine voice, growing in confidence as the school year progresses and as at home in our Hall as they are in St Mary's. Mr Spencer's programme for our service began with *Colours of Day*, with its message of spreading the word of Jesus in the way that a flame takes hold, and ended with *Shine Jesus, Shine*. The theme of light was also present in both choirs' items: the Senior Choir performed *Like a Candle Flame* and the Junior Choir a rousing version of *This Little Light of Mine*, complete with actions and a clapalong chorus to finish!

The newly elected School Council is also making a difference and I have numerous suggestions upon which to ponder and revert already!

WJ McKinney MA Hons PgDip MA





DATES FOR YOUR DIARY.

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

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

Saturday 19 February – Sunday 27 February inclusive - Half Term

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

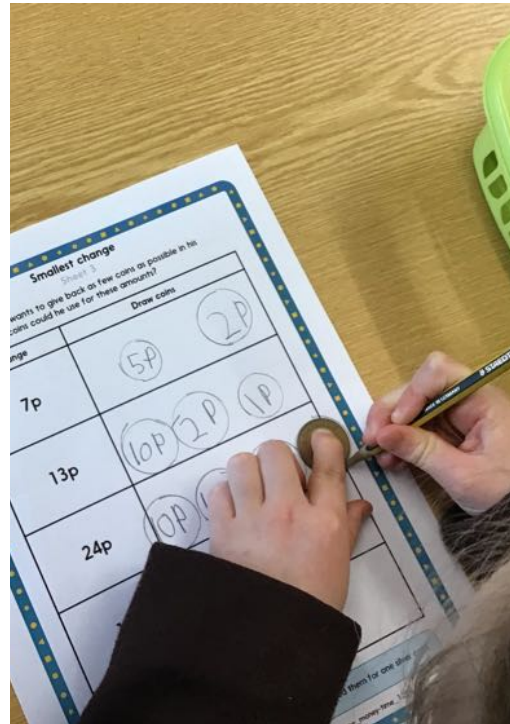
Friday 18 March - Red Nose Day (Red Noses will be available for sale at school on the day) Normal uniform to be worn.

Friday 20 May - The Henstead Charity Hike

Sunday 22 May - Friday 27 May - Year Six Residential Trip to Snowdonia



Year One Shines Brightly.



Our Light and Dark Science topic has complimented our Literacy work perfectly. The children enthusiastically created their own storyboards on The Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch. Just how did Mrs Grinling stop those pesky seagulls stealing Mr Grinling's lunch?

Some Ocean topic-themed inspired writing had the children thinking about the qualities and behaviour of The Rainbow Fish. The children had to use adjectives to describe the selfish Rainbow Fish character at the start of the story and the delighted Rainbow Fish at the end.

Our maths topic on money was initially challenging for the children as they assured me you just pay on a card! However, we looked at how using the fewest number of coins to buy toys in a shop is much easier than carrying and drawing around lots of 1p coins! We also explored different ways of making 10p, 20p and so on.

Chinese New Year dragons were carefully coloured and will form part of our Excellence Wall display for the school community to enjoy. Prawn crackers were devoured at snack time and chopsticks were gratefully received by the children to try at home. - Mrs Dakin





Art & Design - Celebrating Chinese New Year.



This week in art across the years we explored Chinese New Year. The pupils enjoyed creating different pieces using a variety of materials.

Year 1 created 'Dancing Dragons' using folded paper!

Year 2 created Tigers in the Jungle, inspired by Henri Rousseau. Using mixed media they were able to celebrate the year of the tiger.

Year 3 created hanging Chinese lanterns using tissue paper. They were able to create a 'stain glass effect' using layering and ripping.

Year 4 created beautiful paper flowers using a form of origami.

Year 5 painted their own blossom trees. Using paint they were able to create some beautiful blossom trees, each one was different!

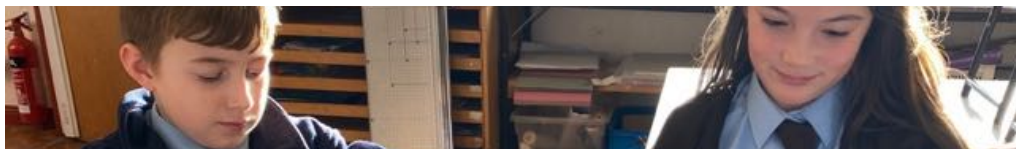
Year 6 created their own watercolour tiger. Over the past few weeks the pupils in year six have shown an interest in watercolour and this was developed further this week with some brilliant tiger paintings.



Enjoy the galleries on the following pages.
- Miss Bennie



Art & Design - Chinese New Year.



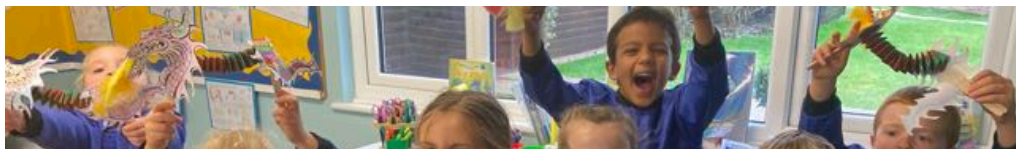


Art & Design - Chinese New Year.





Art & Design - Chinese New Year.





Nursery News.



This week we have been learning about the Lunar New Year. It is the year of the tiger so we have been learning about tigers as well. The photographs above show the children using chopsticks, drawing Chinese numerals in red rice, drawing tigers and making a dragon ready for our Chinese New Year assembly next week. We have also been learning a song about Chinese New Year with Mr Spencer. - Mrs Vorster



Quests, Fractions and Sea Creatures!

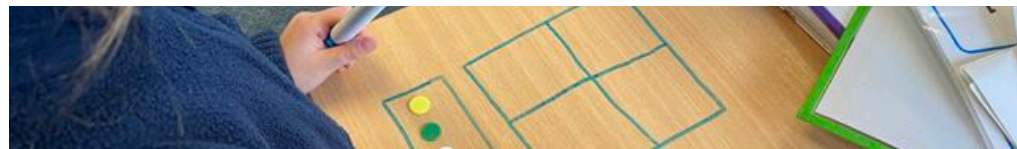


Year Three has had a great week! We explored King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table and started to plan our own quest that we might go on if we were to live in Camelot. So far we have quests that include defeating the evil sea queen and stealing back a giant diamond from a fire-breathing dragon. The pupils will be writing their new quests next week with illustrations to accompany them.

In Maths the pupils have been working hard calculating $\frac{1}{2}$'s, $\frac{1}{4}$'s and $\frac{1}{3}$'s of numbers and shapes. They have been calculating these using a variety of methods, the most popular using smarties/skittles (for obvious reasons!).

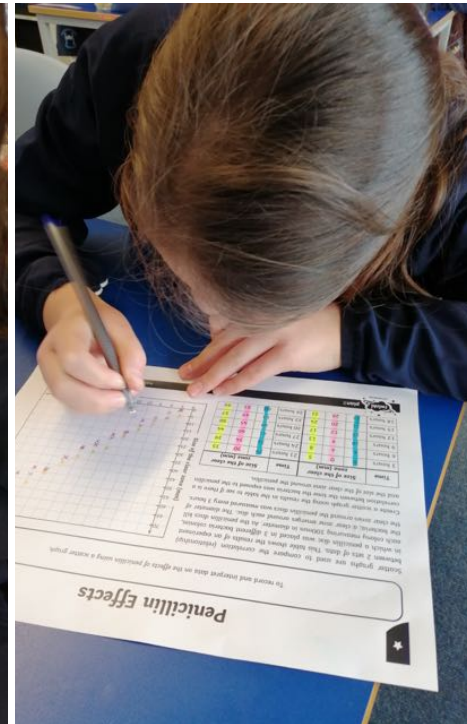
Our topic this term has been focusing on life Under the Sea and this week the pupils expressed an interest in learning about turtles. They learnt that there are over 365 known species of turtles in the world. They focussed on the loggerhead, green turtle, leatherback, hawksbill, Kemp's ridley, flatback, and Olive Ridley. They were particularly amazed by the fact that turtles can hold their breath for up to five hours!

- Miss Bennie





Seeds, Science and Medicine.



Year Five has been busy across all areas of the curriculum. This week we were looking at 'The parable of the sower' in our RE lessons. When the farmer was sowing his seeds, some of it fell on the path, some between rocks, some in thorny bushes and finally some fell on good soil. We learned that parables were told by Jesus to teach the people something about God. From this parable we learned that Jesus was teaching that some people want to follow God and some do not.

In science we have been looking at many different scientists. This week we learned about Alexander Fleming and his discovery that led to the invention of penicillin, a life changing medicine. We looked at some data about the effect of the mould on bacteria around it and put this data into a graph.

They demonstrated bacteria being killed by the penicillin disc in the middle of the dish. The pupils made a scattergraph to show the effects of penicillin on bacteria over a period of time. - Mrs Solomon



Football Tournament.



Highly anticipated and long awaited, the ISA football tournament hosted by Alleyn Court in Southend-next-the-sea took place last Friday. With an early start, donned in blue, the Henstead boys occupied a school minibus ready to impress. The two hour drive to Southend quickly became an opportunity to test the boys' vocal ranges, with some excellent singing which Mr Spencer, Head of Music, would find encouraging.

While the forecast rightly predicted fog and mist, our dampened kits had little effect on our spirits. And, as the fog dissipated, the boys took to the football pitches ready to perform. With games coming thick and fast, the team's fitness was put to the test.

With impressive performances between the sticks from Tom, our goal was looked after well. In front of him, the security provided by Jack and Adam offered a degree of solidity. In the engine room of the midfield, Elliot, Isaac and Rafferty didn't shy away from reclaiming possession and looking to progress the ball. Our attacking players needed to be patient and employ sang froid because chances weren't aplenty. But, when opportunities did present themselves, our finishing was clinical.

Well done, team. - Mr Hunter and Mr Hunt





Sports Gallery - Football.





OTHER NEWS.

Mascots

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

Reception: Rose for her confidence in displaying empathy.

Year One: Darcie for experimenting with map design.

Year Two: Eddie for empathising with a character in a story

Year Three: Emily for empathy towards her friendship group.

Year Four: Debbie is taking a well-earned sabbatical.

Year Five: Ruby for her great work on the scientist Marie Curie.

Year Six: Millie for experimenting with voice in drama lessons.

Certificates Awarded This Week

Congratulations to the following pupils who were awarded Certificates for achieving five A1's (Bronze) and ten A1's (Silver):

Bronze

- Freddie R
- Louiza
- James
- Violette
- Louis
- Edward
- Bobby

Silver

- Christabel

