



# The Old School Henstead

Newsletter 18 March 2022

## MESSAGE FROM THE HEADMASTER

As we continue to support those caught up in conflict in our thoughts and prayers, it seems strangely poignant that Shackleton's ship has finally been found some one hundred and seven years after it became stuck on the ice. Adventure is on our minds in this half of term and it is appropriate that the assessment of the achievements of both Scott and Shackleton resurfaces. We see in them the heroic sacrifice of one and the finding of endurance of the other. Both are needed now.

*WJ McKinney MA Hons PgDip MA*





## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY.

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

Wednesday 30 March - Inter-House Cross Country Competition (unfortunately no visitors)

Thursday 31 March - 08:50 Easter Service at St Mary's Church Henstead

Friday 1 April - Easter Bonnet Parade

Saturday 2 - Sunday 24 April - Easter Holidays

Friday 20 May - The Henstead Charity Hike

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



THE OLD SCHOOL  
**HENSTEAD**  
INDEPENDENT PREPARATORY SCHOOL

join us for an  
**EASTER  
BONNET PARADE**  
Friday 1st April

The Old School Henstead is delighted to invite all pupils to take part in this Easter tradition! The task is to create an Easter Bonnet to wear in a parade at the end of term.

The prizes that will be awarded are:

- Most Colourful**
- Most Creative**
- The Largest (This must stay on the head)**

Any questions please email:  
[i.bennie@theoldschoolhenstead.co.uk](mailto:i.bennie@theoldschoolhenstead.co.uk)



EASTER BONNET  
PARADE.





## Humanities - Framlingham Castle.



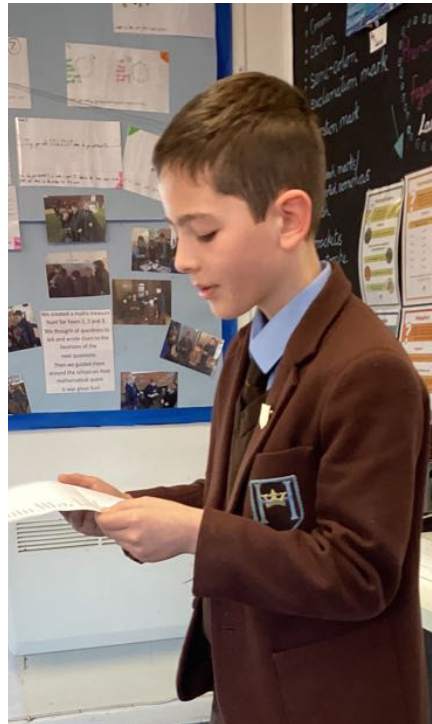
Year 4 and 5 pupils had a wonderful visit to Framlingham Castle this week. We were amazed to see how much of the castle still remains, including the curtain wall all the way around the castle and the towers (thirteen in all). The castle was originally built by the Bigod family (Roger Bigod 1) in 1101. Not long after this, Henry II became king, who then built some of his own castles (including Orford Castle) as the Bigods had five castles! The pupils loved the 'wall walk', where they could see far across Framlingham. We walked around the outside of the castle to see the moat and get an even better view of the arrow slits in the walls. The children were surprised to find out that the castle had been used as a prison for a while, as well as a workhouse. A great time was had by all!

- Mrs Solomon





## Poetry in Motion.



The girls and boys in Year 6 are putting their acting and speech skills into practice in preparation for the individual poetry competition, to be held at the end of term. It is not just a chance to read poetry aloud, but to turn it into a dramatic performance in front of an audience, and to bring meaning and pleasure to the listeners. Pupils will be judged on how they interpret the words, their use of expression, pace, tone and physical gestures to bring their poems to life, and their aim is to both entertain and move those watching.

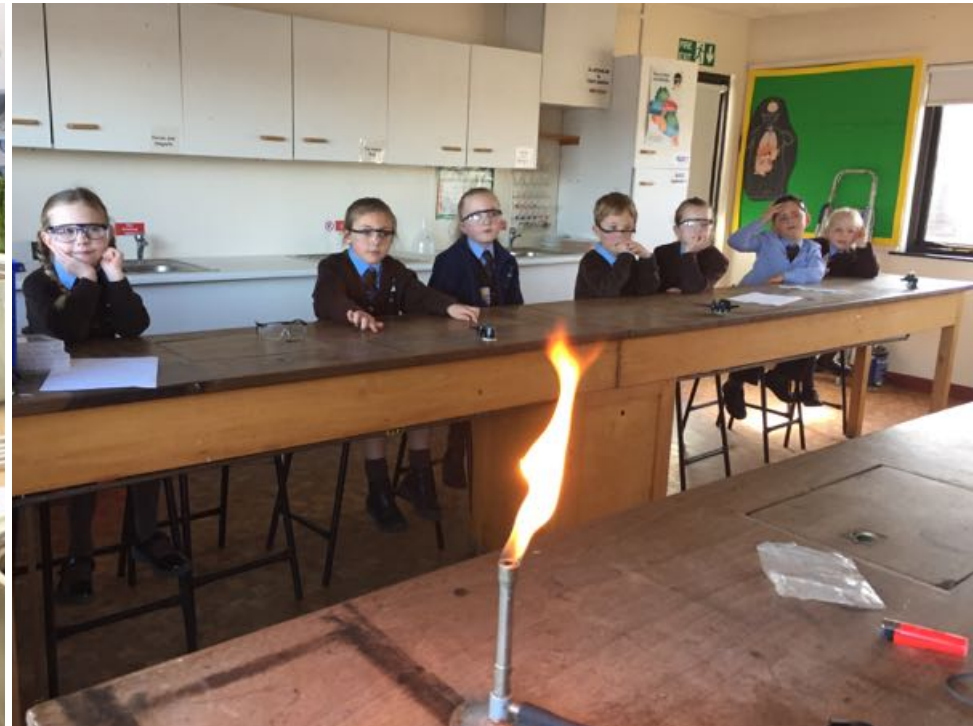
Why is poetry important? Well, according to the writer Alice Osborn, it helps us to understand and appreciate our world and ourselves. Its strength 'lies in its ability to shed a 'sideways' light on the world, so the truth sneaks up on you.' The pupils are working hard on developing their performance skills to do just that, and we look forward to seeing the fruits of their labour, while highlighting poetry's vital place in English literature. - Mrs Sonn







## Science Week.



Celebrating British Science Week, pupils enjoyed a number of experiments across the school - from explosions to musical bottles! See more in the pages which follow.





## Science Week.



Year Four and Year Five pupils observed capillary action, watching the coloured water move up the paper and work its way into a new jar. Year Six enjoyed testing the effects of propulsion and friction when creating balloon rockets. Various balloon shapes and sizes were tested to various levels of success!



Science Week.



Demonstrating air resistance, using parachutes; the spread of a viral infection using yellow stickers with attacking antibodies; and the enduring appeal and brightness of magnesium.





## Science Week.



Year One pupils were tasked with building a tall, strong structure out of dried spaghetti and marshmallows. Budding structural engineers!





## Scientific Studies.



Year Three is investigating how to be safe in the sun. Their topic of light this term has led them to talk about the different ways that we can be safe when dealing with such a powerful light source! - Miss Bennie





## Greek Pottery.



Year Three has been investigating the Ancient Greeks in Humanities and in Art they wanted to have a shot at making their own pots. They created the main form of their pots and next week they will complete them using black paint and scraping layers off to replicate the pots of the day. - Miss Bennie





## Eric Carle - Year One is hungry for more...



Year One has been studying Eric Carle's *The Hungry Caterpillar*. In Art the pupils made some no-sew caterpillars. They used the process of dying to create these beautiful gradients on their caterpillars. They will complete them next week by adding eyes and legs. - Miss Bennie





Number Hunger.



The Reception children had a great week mastering number representation. They have been looking at all the calculations that can represent numbers up to 10 and finding different ways to illustrate them. As a challenge, they even took on some Year One maths questions before having even more fun putting their fine motor skills to the test by building wobbly 'gem' towers to represent different numbers. Great maths! - Miss Doughty





## Growing in Wisdom and Stature.



This week's learning in Year Two has very much focused around our science topic: Plants. Last week, we planted cress seeds inside egg shells in cotton wool. We have been using our observation skills to track changes over time as the seeds begin to germinate and we have been amazed at the differences we have seen every day. Inside the egg shell, we have watched the seed coat open up and the tiny hair-like stem emerge, followed by tiny green leaves appearing days afterwards. To help us understand this process better, we have also planted pea plants so that we can observe this germination and growth on a larger scale.

Our English work has also revolved around this theme, where the children have been analysing explanation texts. We have been working together to identify the key features of the text to better understand the requirements for when we write our own.

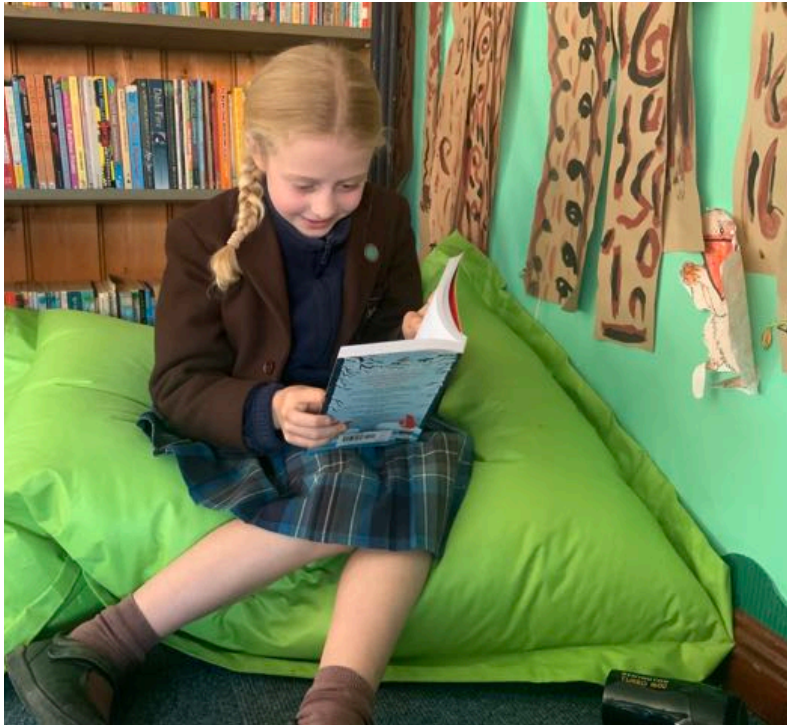
Great enthusiasm as ever Year Two!  
Well done. - Mrs McCarthy







## Running with the Pack.



This week, Year Four has continued to study wolves in English. Using a range of fictional and non-fictional accounts, we have explored their place in literature and reality. As the topic comes to a close, the pupils are working on their final piece, a formal report detailing the wide range of information we have been able to research on wolves.

As in previous weeks, our class reader, *Wolf Wilder*, has been a thoroughly enjoyable read. Key to our enjoyment has been finding the balance between analysing the literary devices the author has employed and becoming lost in the descriptive prose.

As always, Year Four is a pleasure to teach.

Well done,

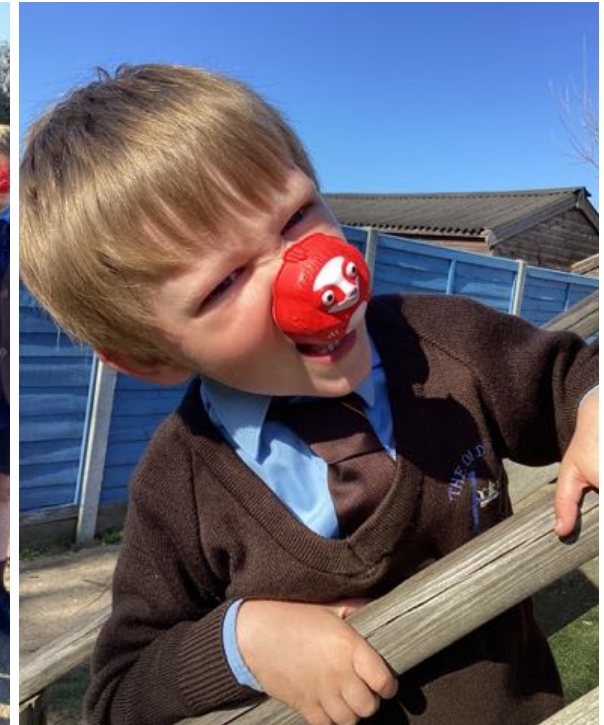
Mr Hunt.







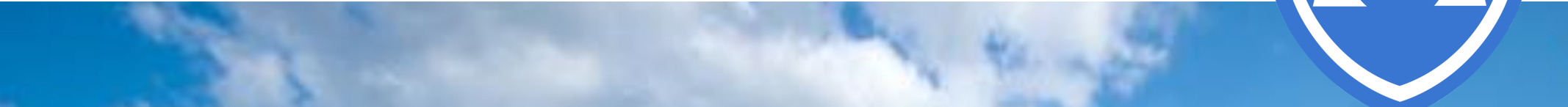
## Red Nose Day.



There was much excitement as we raised money for Red Nose Day through the purchase of red noses. Making a difference.



Sports Gallery.





## OTHER NEWS.

### Mascots

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

Reception: Hugo for his analysis of *The Gruffalo*.

Year One: Izaak for carefully analysing his maths work.

Year Two: Max for fantastic analysis of seed germination.

Year Three: Louis for his detailed analysis of *The diary of a Lively Labrador*.

Year Four: Robin for a wonderful piece of mathematical analysis.

Year Five: Ted for his adventurous spirit with climbing along the walls on the wall walk at Framlingham Castle.

Year Six: Rafferty for his skillful analysis of the animal skulls we examined on last week's trip to the Zoology Museum at Cambridge University.

### Certificates Awarded This Week

Silver: Emily

Bronze: Eddie

### National Cross Country Finals

We will be cheering on Rafferty at the ISA (Independent Schools Association) National Cross Country Finals at Worksop College on Saturday 18 March.



@OldSchoolHstead



YouTube

