



The Old School Henstead

Newsletter 6 May 2022

MESSAGE FROM THE HEADMASTER

Hope has a name...

We are so grateful to the many members of the school community who have responded to the Backpacks of Hope appeal. More are coming in as I write and we have reports from the Soul Foundation volunteers who have already made the first delivery run. The Ukranian families, the children in particular, have told us that it is as if Christmas had come again. Hope has a name. Thank you again.

WJ McKinney MA Hons PgDip MA





DATES FOR YOUR DIARY.

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

Friday 20 May - The Henstead Charity Hike

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

Saturday 28 May - Sunday 5 June - Half Term

Monday 6 June - Garden Party to celebrate Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee

Wednesday-Friday 8-10 June - Years Four & Five Residential Trips

Wednesday 15 June - Year Three visits Wild East, Somerleyton Hall

Thursday 16 June - Overnight Camp & Outdoor Movie Night - Years 4-6

Saturday 18 June - Open Morning

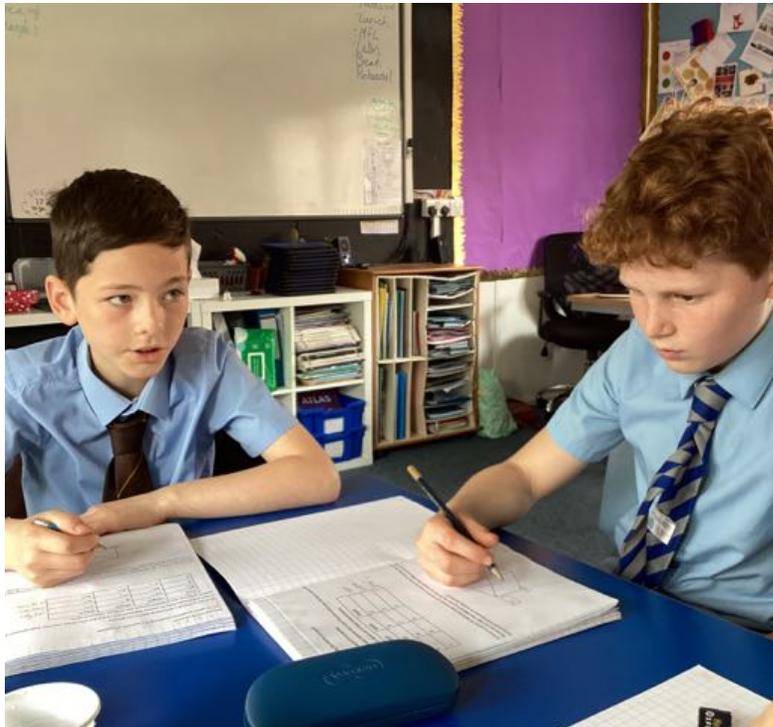
Wednesday 22 June - Sports Day & Adult versus Children Cricket & Rounders Matches

Wednesday 6 & Thursday 7 July - Performances of Oliver Musical

Friday 8 July - Speech Day and End of Term



The Power of Mathematics.



This week Year Six has been tackling word problems in our current maths topic of measurement. There are many reasons why it is important to understand word problems, one of which is that they enhance the pupil's mental skills, enabling him or her to think analytically and creatively. They must also use their existing knowledge and extract relevant information in order to solve unfamiliar problems. Developing this particular ability shows children how to apply maths concepts to real-world situations. After all, life's dilemmas don't always present themselves in easy-to-understand, neatly packaged formats. Furthermore, pupils need to use their reading and comprehension skills to decode a question and work out the steps required to find an answer.

Perhaps most importantly, all these skills build that most precious of feelings in a child - confidence, and confidence can be the key to a happy and fulfilling life.

So, if you've ever wondered what good learning trigonometry did you, now you know. Never underestimate the power of maths! - Mrs Sonn





School Council Election.



After a 100% turn out in the election yesterday, we have a fresh batch of councillors all ready to do their bit this term. It's wonderful to see the members of our school exercising their democratic right to vote, in preparation for the day when they will be choosing our country's leaders. Who knows - there may even be a future prime minister amongst them!

Head of School Council, Rafferty, and Deputy Head, Amelie, did an excellent job of organising and running the elections and counting the votes.

Congratulations go to the following new councillors:

Reception: Hugo and Orlando

Year 1: Carter and Louiza

Year 2: Minty and Lexi

Year 3: Emily and James

Year 4: Grace-Marie and Robin

Year 5: Chloe and Sam

Well done all.

Mrs Sonn



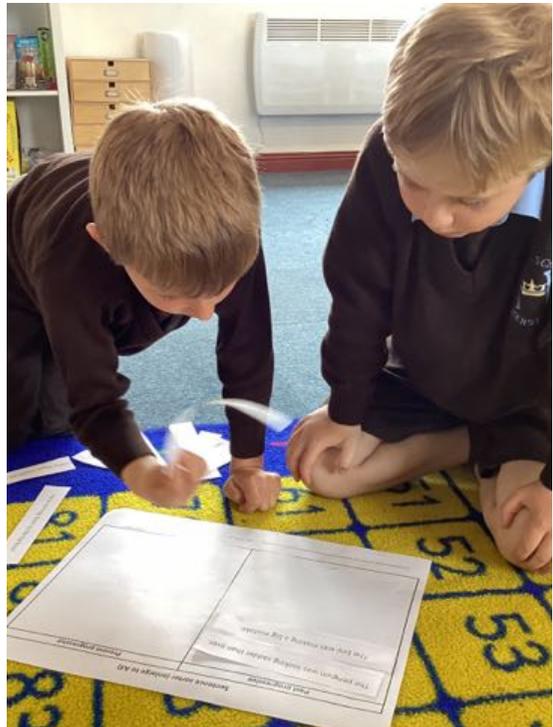
Pony Club.



At today's Pony Club the beginners learnt the aids to stop, start and steer. The more advanced pupils were riding changes of rein across the diagonals and how to ride forward towards a jump with impulsion. The groups also learned more about the basic needs of ponies.



Year Two Finds A Way...



What a fantastic start we have had to the summer term! It would seem that the pupils have all grown a foot taller over the Easter break and have returned to school hungry for learning!

Our focus this term is, Journeys and Quests. We have been reading the beautiful story by Oliver Jeffers, *Lost and Found*. The children have taken great interest in the characters in the story and have been able to produce some wonderful creative writing pieces following the same style of the book. There has been some critical thinking when exploring the grammar in the book and the children can now identify and use the past progressive and present progressive tense.

Our topic work this week has included learning about maps and all the children created their own map of the school grounds creating symbols and colour coded systems explained in their key.
- Mrs McCarthy





Coffee Culture.



We held an Ethiopian coffee ceremony in Year Six's Humanities lesson today. We learnt how coffee (Ethiopia's main export) was discovered in Ethiopia, based on the story of 'The Dancing Goat'. We made coffee from authentic green coffee beans, roasted them and ground them up before boiling the coffee on the coal. We loved trying out the coffee, along with the traditional popcorn and 'shiro!' - Mrs Solomon



Outdoor Ed After School Club.

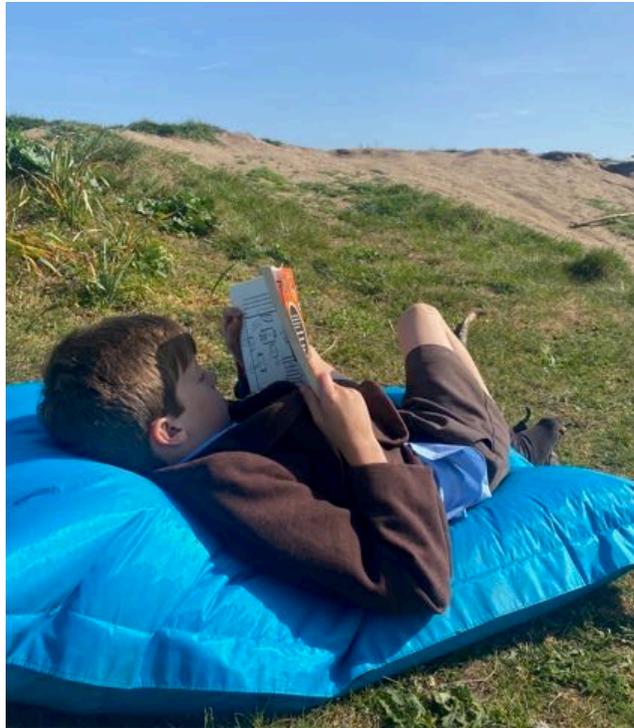


For our first outdoor education after school session the children had fun collecting natural resources to create their clay whimsical tree faces.

- Mrs Dakin and Mrs Webster



Budding Authors.



Year Four continues to delight with their wonderfully engaging and present writing styles. In English this week, we wrote a biographical recount along with a fictional letter to a character from literature. I have come to expect a high quality of writing from this class, such is their imagination and ability to conceptualise their thoughts on paper. I am delighted to say, however, that their attitudes to capturing and harnessing effective and powerful tone was a surprise. As such, their efforts earned them an A1 from Mr McKinney on Wednesday.

- Mr Hunt





Sports Gallery - Nursery.



Nursery children are taking their athletics sessions seriously in preparation for Sports Day later in the term.



Sports Gallery - Long Jump.



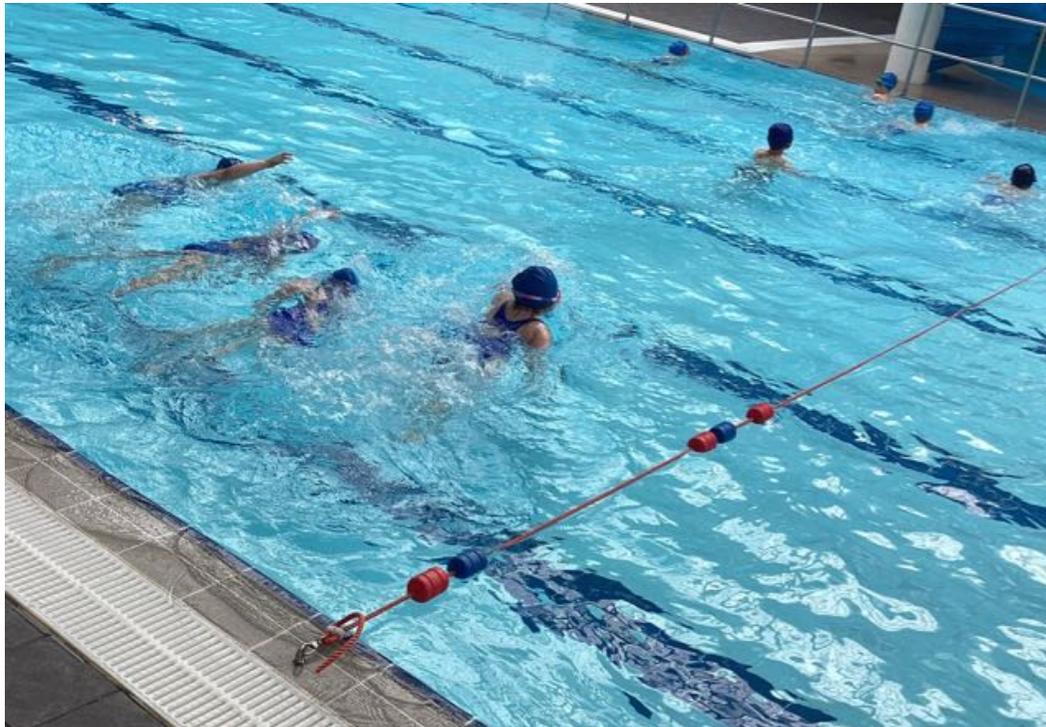


Sports Gallery - High Jump.





Sports Gallery - Swimming.





OTHER NEWS.

Mascots

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

Reception: Rose for thinking about her phonics and leading Nursery.

Year One: Darcie for thinking carefully about how to spell words using a dictionary.

Year Two: Lexi for working tremendously hard in all areas of her learning.

Year Three: Emily for approaching her columnar addition work with careful thought.

Year Four: Grace-Marie and Robin for their A1 winning fictional letters in English.

Year Five: Ariane for thinking carefully and empathising with characters in a fictional story.

Year Six: Bobby for creatively approaching how best to improve his high jump abilities.

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Certificates This Week

Max Year Two Silver



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YouTube



independent schools council

