



The Old School Henstead

Newsletter 27 May 2022

MESSAGE FROM THE HEADMASTER

Teamwork? I should say so. Across the school the range of learning activities and environments brings joy to the heart. I am hugely grateful to the staff team who give so freely of time and expertise. You will forgive me if I single out the Year Six adventurers - they have needed all of our school values to achieve beyond what is attempted in most senior schools and I congratulate them - trust your boots!

WJ McKinney MA Hons PgDip MA





DATES FOR YOUR DIARY.

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

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

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

Friday 24 June - Open Day (change of date)

Wednesday 6 & Thursday 7 July - Performances of Oliver Musical

Friday 8 July - Speech Day and End of Term



Snowdonia - Climbing Snowdon.



The boys and girls climbed Snowdon in the fastest time of any year group that has tackled the challenge. It was a little foggy at the top but as we descended the sun came out and we were treated to spectacular views. After dinner we headed down to the local lake, Lyn Padarn, for a jump in the water and a swim in the evening sunshine.



Snowdonia - Down the Mine We Go.



Adventures in the Rhiwbach Slate Mine in Cym Penmachno, exploring some of the tunnels worked in by Welsh miners of days gone by. We learnt that children as young as 8 or 9 worked in conditions of terrible hardship and danger in near dark conditions. As well as exploring tunnels and chambers, the boys and girls navigated their way through using climbing techniques such as Via ferrata and Tyrolian traverse.



Snowdonia - On the Lake.



Learning how to paddle and navigate Canadian canoes.



Snowdonia - Climbing Lion Rock.



Climbing Lion Rock on Lyn Padam (Lake Padam). Learning to move together roped up, the placement of hands and feet, and how to belay another team to ensure their safety.



Snowdonia - Gorge Scrambling.



The pupils learned canyoning skills - how to ascend a river gorge in full flow safely, up waterfalls, down slides and into plunge pools.



Snowdonia - Plunge Pool Jumping.





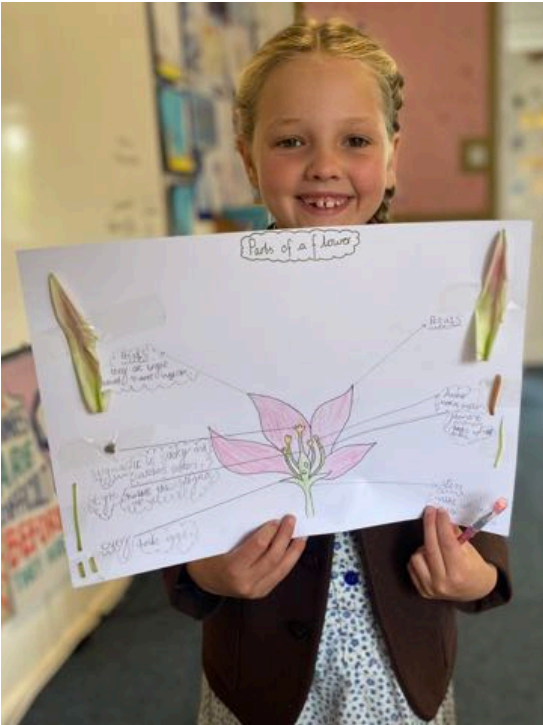
Humanities.



For our recent topic on the Maya civilization, we were looking at evidence that tells us how the Maya used to live. We found objects that had been made from clay, with drawings and writing on them that gave us clues as to how they lived and what they believed. The drawings and writing were carved into clay. We decided to make our own clay pictures, telling things about our own lives and what life is like now. Some of us chose to illustrate the things we enjoy doing, whilst others chose to represent things that have harmed our environment, such as plastic rubbish waste in the sea or elephants being killed for their tusks. We used the clay tools to carve out these pictures from the clay. - Mrs Solomon



Botany.



Year Three has been hard at work completing assessments and the pupils have demonstrated great problem solving skills.

In science we have been exploring plants and their needs and as a treat for their hard work, Year Three took part in a dissection of a Lily. The pupils created great posters showing the different parts of a flower and explaining their purpose.

- Miss Bennie





Outdoor Ed Club.



In this week's Outdoor Ed Club the children had to figure out the clues to find the hidden treasure. - Mrs Webster & Mrs Dakin



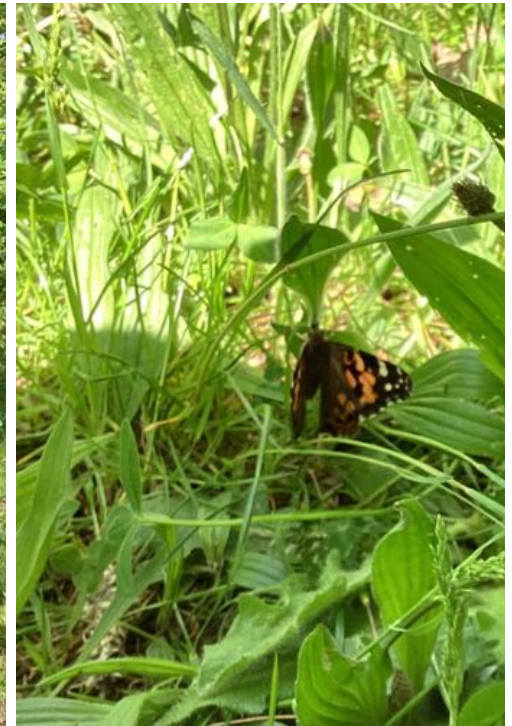
Nursery News.



There was lots of outdoor learning whatever the weather. The children found insects in the garden and were inspired to draw and craft various bugs and butterflies in the art area. *The Hungry Caterpillar* book has been the story time choice, which means that will certainly be the next theme. - Mrs Vorster



Butterfly Release.



Having nurtured some caterpillars and watch them grow from tiny caterpillars to large caterpillars, they formed a chrysalis. We were so excited to see them hatch out into beautiful Painted Lady butterflies. We had rather mixed feelings when we released them outside to fly away! - Mrs Solomon



Kings and Queens.



In art Year One explored royal crowns and their composition. The pupils created their own crowns and now believe that they are royalty! - Miss Bennie



Timing and French.



The children have been working very hard in maths assessments at the start of their week.

We looked at Time, including ordering the months of the year and knowledge on which months belong to seasons. The children have also had a go at measuring time, using a stop watch to help decide which tasks might take seconds, minutes or hours to complete. They all had fun at trying out different tasks and timing each other.

Qu'est-ce qu'il y a dans ma trousse? has been one of our topics in French this term. The children have been pronouncing various items that might be in their pencil case. J'ai une gomme dans ma trousse. We also correctly matched items to their French labels. Playing Lotto helped us to identify the months of the year in French and linked in with our maths topic perfectly. - Mrs Dakin





Pony Club.



Our Pony Club riders have made excellent progress and are all beginning to understand the art of communication between horse and rider. In addition the need to respect the size and strength of their mounts is becoming embedded, confidence and competence being key to grooming, leading and stable management. - Miss Clifton



Prop Making.



The After School Club for Stage Props and Construction has been very industrious. We cannot wait to see how these stage props look when they are finished, in preparation for our end of year musical Oliver. - Miss Bennie

Sports Gallery - Swimming.





QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS MONDAY 6 JUNE.

We will be celebrating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee with a special tea on 6 June - the first day back after half term.

Hat & Cake Competitions

The school council is inviting pupils to participate in a cake-baking competition and a jubilee hat competition. Children can enter one or both! Prizes will be awarded for the best cake or hat for: Nursery/Reception, Years 1/2, Years 3/4 and Years 5/6. In order to make the competition as fair as possible, the council will be looking for those cakes

and hats which reflect the time and effort put in by pupils.

We look forward to seeing what wonderful creations our boys and girls come up with!

**Remember to bring your entries
into school on the first day back
after half term.**

-- Mrs Sonn





OTHER NEWS.

Mascots

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

Reception: Orlando for thinking carefully about his writing.

Year One: Louiza for wonderful team-working in PE.

Year Two: Max for excellent thinking when counting in fractions this week

Year Three: Violette for a considered approach to games.

Year Four: Year four collectively win Debbie this week for their well-thought out biographies on Rosa Parks.

Year Five: Isabella for thinking creatively in maths.

Year Six: The Year Six mascot goes to the whole year, for rising to challenges, working together and supporting one another throughout the week in Wales. We are proud of them all. A special commendation goes to Millie, for her outstanding thinking and teamwork skills.

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You may now follow us on Instagram <https://www.instagram.com/theoldschoolhenstead/>

Sponsorship Money

We would appreciate if families who raised sponsorship funds for the Henstead Hike would send their monies through as soon as possible, either by bank transfer or cash or cheque when we return from half term, so that we may send the money to the charity supporting relief in Ukraine. Thank you.



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