



THE OLD SCHOOL HENSTEAD

INDEPENDENT PREPARATORY SCHOOL



Newsletter Issue 54,
April 28 2023



Thank you to all our pupils, our staff and our parents for a superb start to the Summer Term. During the past two weeks I have enjoyed many ‘Learning Walks’ – an opportunity to pop-in and join a lesson in progress. Without exception, I have slipped in (almost unnoticed) and experienced the fantastic atmosphere, enthusiasm and desire to achieve within each and every year group. This week we have also had the pleasure of welcoming Polly Dunbar into school, who worked with our children on story telling and illustrations. Well done to all for a great week.

- Miss M J Clifton



Key Dates:

Monday 1st May - Bank Holiday (school will be closed)

Friday 5th May - Henstead Hike & Coronation Tea

Monday 8th May - Bank Holiday (school will be closed)

Thursday 11th May - Year 1 and 6 trip to Roarr Dinosaur Adventure Park

Friday 19th May - PTFA Quiz Night

Saturday 10th June - School Open Morning

Thursday 15th June - Year 3 and 4 trip to Go Ape and Thetford Forest

Tuesday 20th June - Concert by pupils of Mrs Lincoln (Singing and Piano)

Tuesday 27th June - Concert by pupils of Miss Bullen (Violin and Guitar)

Friday 23rd June - Sports Day

Monday 3rd July - EYFS Concert

Wednesday 5th and Thursday 6th July - Summer Show

Friday 7th July - Speech Day



Henstead Hike 2023

Friday 5th May

Our annual Henstead Hike will take place on Friday 5th May. This year we are raising funds for our Summer Show, Frozen Jr!

Thank you to everyone who has donated and sponsored their children so far, we are almost half way towards our target of £750 which is fantastic!

Full details of the hike have been emailed to all including the schedule, and meeting points for each year groups.

We welcome you all to come and join us, from the start or at any part of the route. On return to the school, we would like to invite you to stay and join us for a **Coronation Celebration with Tea and Scones!**

Donations can be made using the link below. We thank you for your kind support.

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/hensteadhike2023>

Target £750

£371





This week we have been busy getting in touch with nature. We have been working with the Reception children to learn all about the parts and life cycle of a plant. We also spent some time getting creative to make nature bracelets with the beautiful spring flowers and foliage that have sprung up in the Nursery garden.

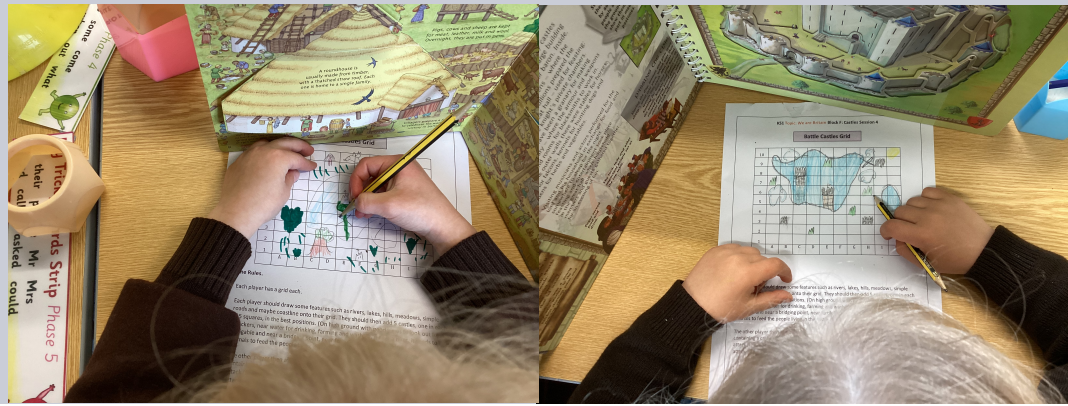
- Mrs Braidwood

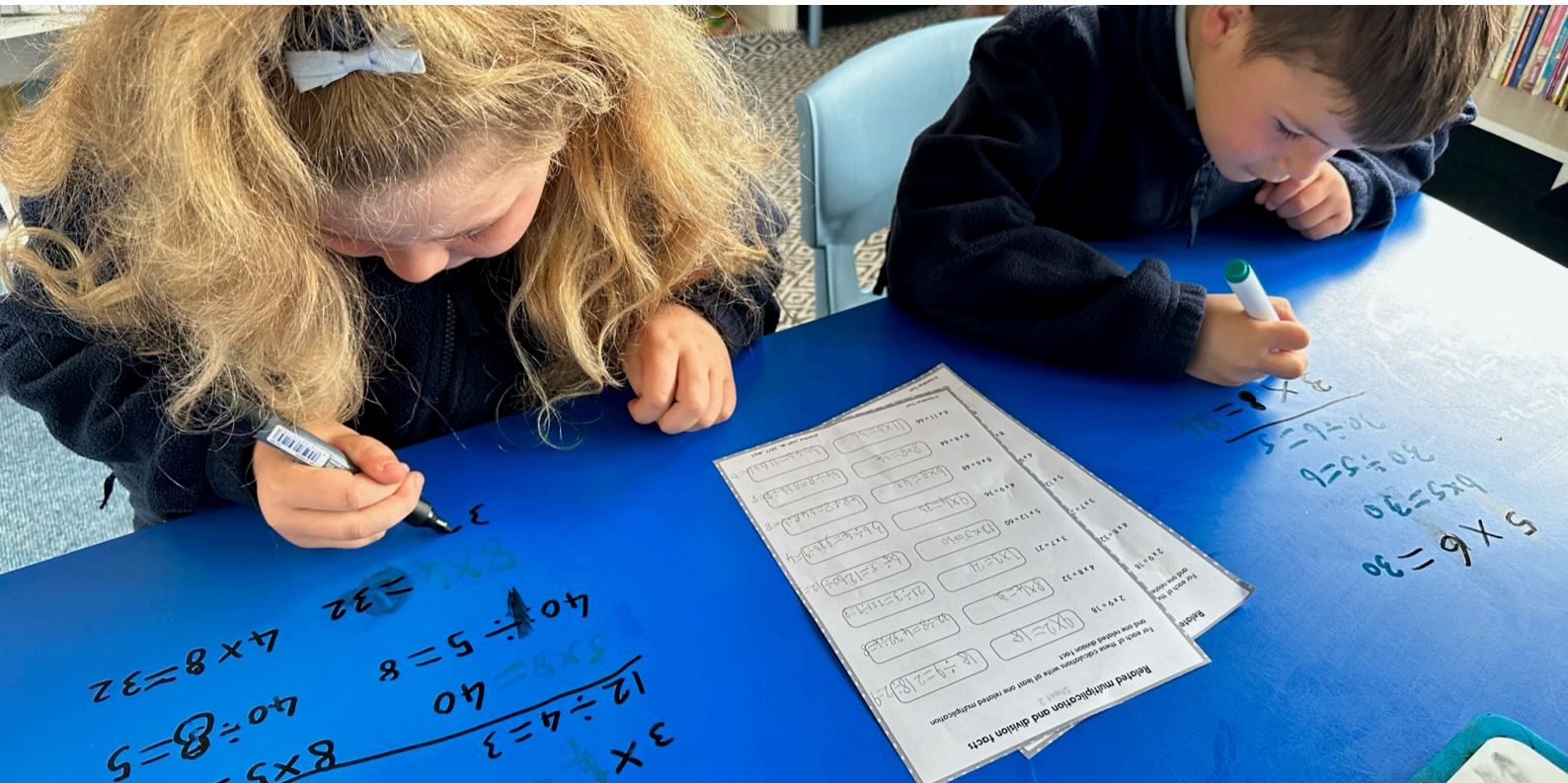




Our Knights and Castles topic has inspired us to be creative! We used toilet rolls, foil, paper and stickers to produce our own kings, knights and queens! We looked at Motte and Bailey castles and how and why they progressed onto being built out of much stronger and longer lasting stone. Then for a strategic game of Battle Castle Grid. Each player drew features on their grid such as rivers, lakes, meadows and then added 5 castles, one in each of 5 squares in the best positions such as on high ground with a good view of potential attackers. Their opponent attacks and overcomes a castle by correctly naming a square containing a castle using co-ordinates. The first person to conquer all five of your castles is the King or Queen of the Castle! Great tactics from all the children.

- Mrs Dakin





Year Three hit the ground running this week with their timetables knowledge. We have been looking at the relationship between division and multiplication. The pupils have had to solve division problems using their multiplication knowledge. Although difficult at times, the pupils have shown resilience and determination when solving the problems.



- Miss Bennie



Props Club

Prop Club is now in full swing for this term. We are preparing for the magical and frosty Frozen Junior. The pupils have started working on the scenery for show painting the back boards white in preparation for Arendelle and the Snow palace. We are excited to show you the different items that we create over the next few weeks!

- Miss Bennie and Mrs Webster





School Council

Votes have been counted after yesterday's elections, and we now have a fresh batch of councillors all ready to do their bit this term. We look forward to hearing from them as they represent their classmates at our weekly meetings, and to working together to bring their ideas to life!

Thanks to the Head and Deputy Head of the School Council, Ted and Adam, for doing an excellent job of organising and running the elections.

Congratulations go to the following new councillors:

Reception: Grace and Grayson

Year 1: Rose, Teddy and Bethany

Year 2: Sophia and Jonah

Year 3: Sonny and Minty

Year 4: James and Alex

Well done to all.

- Mrs Sonn



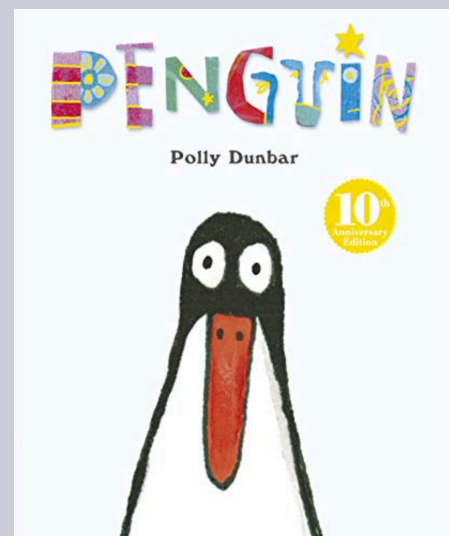


Workshops with Polly Dunbar

We were very lucky to have the amazing Author and Illustrator Polly Dunbar come to visit us this week. Polly is the author and Illustrator of books such as 'Penguin' and 'Hello, Mum' and has also illustrated books such as 'Owl or Pussycat?' by Michael Morpurgo. Polly started off the week with a story session in assembly that included the whole school participating in some acting and dancing.

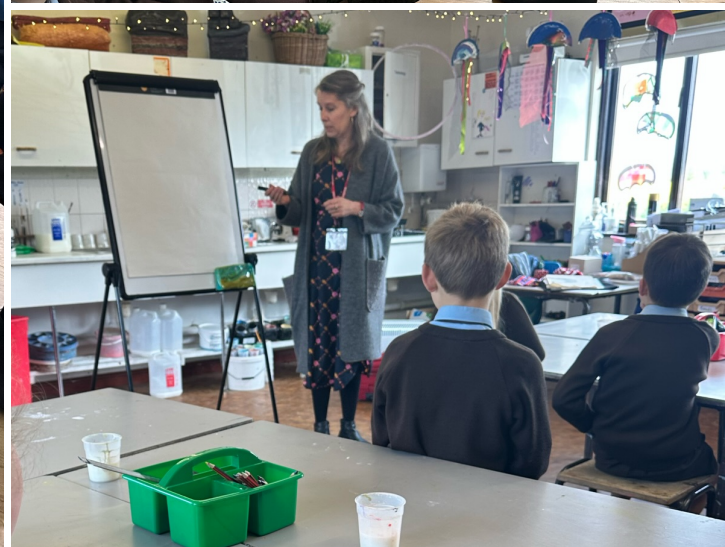
Each year group then took part in one to one workshops with Polly. Polly encouraged the pupils to think about 'Bad ideas' and 'Good ideas' which were then shared amongst the class. We had some creative and crazy ideas from walking your younger brother on a lead, to fire being extinguished by a giant squid. The pupils thoroughly enjoyed their workshops with Polly and I hope that they continue to nourish their creativity. A massive thank you to Polly for coming to visit us!

- Miss Bennie



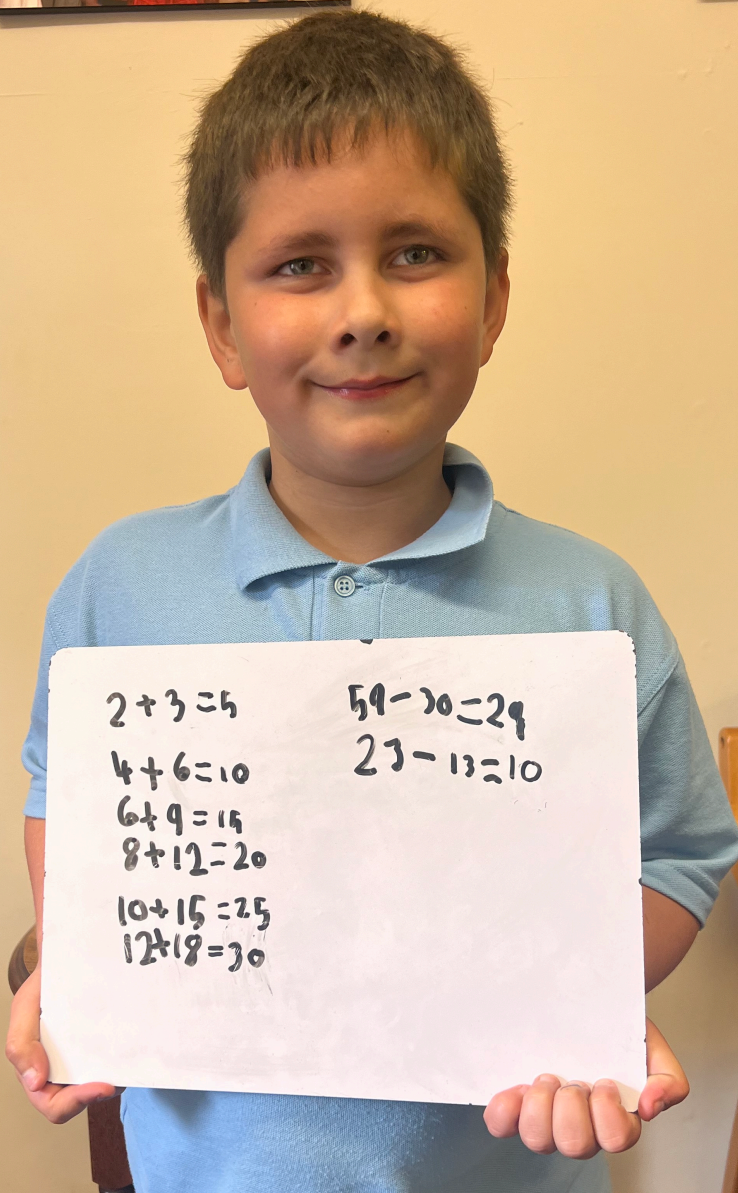


Workshops with Polly Dunbar





Achievements



Well done to Carter who was awarded his Bronze certificate this week.

Congratulations to Ruby, who has been offered a Drama Scholarship at Langley for when she joins them for Year 7. Well Done, Ruby.





School Mascots



Well done to all of our mascot winners this week!

Reception: Reuben

Year One: Aurora

Year Two: Jonah

Year Three: Betsie

Year Four: James

Year Six: Chloe



School Notices



The Great Book Exchange

We are organising a book swap. Please could you have a rummage around at home and bring any books you no longer read into school, so that they can be read and loved by someone new.

Open Morning

Our next Open Morning will be on Saturday 10th June. Children will need to arrive at school for 9.45am.

Open Morning will finish at 12pm.





THE OLD SCHOOL HENSTEAD PTFA

QUIZ NIGHT



Friday 19th May

6.30pm, for 7.00pm start

Teams of 6 people (fill a table, or let us make up a team for you!)

£5.50 per ticket (adults)

Children are welcome to come along (Reception to Year Six) for a PJ party, with a movie and board games!

Book your tickets online:

<https://ticketlab.co.uk/event/id/15925#/>





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