



THE OLD SCHOOL HENSTEAD

INDEPENDENT PREPARATORY SCHOOL



School Newsletter
Autumn Term
1st December 2023



It is difficult to comprehend how quickly we have arrived at this point - just two more weeks of term left!

Christmas decorations adorn the classrooms, lights illuminate the pathway and anticipation is building. Next week is busy: the official opening of the new library on Monday, the Christmas Disco on Thursday, and the Christmas Fair on Friday.

How lucky we are to have so much to look forward to.

- Miss Clifton



Key Dates:

Monday 4th December - Official Opening of The Hub by Polly Dunbar, with a reading of her new book.

Thursday 7th December - Christmas Disco

Friday 8th December - Christmas Fair 3.30pm - 5.00pm

Friday 8th December - Christmas Jumper Day

Tuesday 12th December - EYFS Nativity (N&R)

Wednesday 13th December - School Nativity (Y1,2,3)

Thursday 14th December - Carol Service

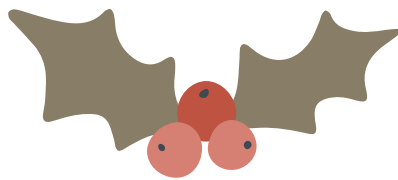
Monday 18th - Friday 22nd December - Christmas Holiday Club

Monday 8th January - Spring Term Starts

Monday 22nd January - School Photographs

Full details regarding each of these events will be provided nearer the time and more dates will be added weekly.

FRIDAY 8TH
DECEMBER



3.30PM - 5PM

PTFA

CHRISTMAS FAIR



GAMES
& STALLS



SANTAS
GROTTO



MULLED
WINE



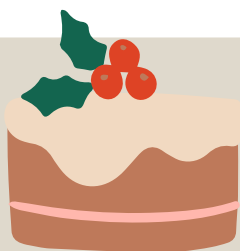
HOT
CHOCOLATE



TURKEY,
BRIE &
CRANBERRY
ROLLS



SAUSAGE
ROLLS



CAKES &
SWEETS

BOTTLE
TOMBOLA



HAMPER
RAFFLE



THE OLD SCHOOL
HENSTEAD

CRAFTS



CHRISTMAS
COMPETITIONS

Christmas Holiday Club

Monday 18th to Friday 22nd December

9am - 3.30pm

Reception to Year Five

Monday	Christmas Baking	Miss Bennie/ Mrs Guildea
Tuesday	Christmas in France	Mrs Dakin/ Mrs Guildea
Wednesday	Christmas Fun & Games	Mrs Dakin/ Mrs Guildea
Thursday	Christmas Crafts	Mrs Dakin/ Miss Bennie
Friday	Christmas Movie & Party	Mrs Dakin/ Mr Hunter

£40 per session

[BOOK HERE](#)

£160 full week
(receive 1 session free)

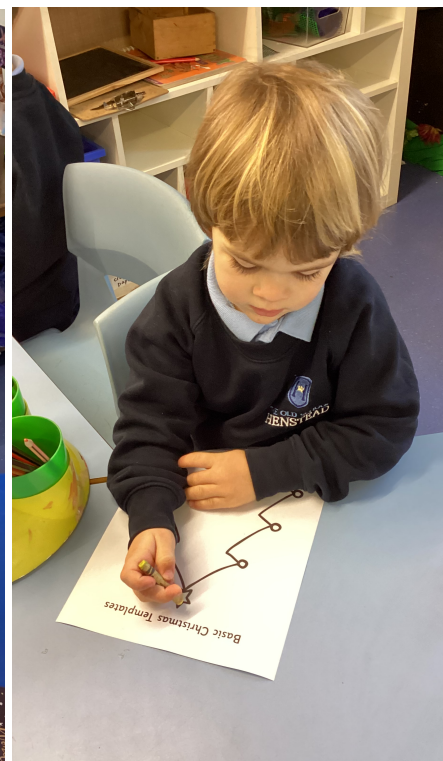




Nursery

This week in Nursery the countdown to Christmas has begun! We have been decorating our classroom and enjoying lots of Christmas-themed crafts and activities. Our Christmas card writing station was particularly popular and so was our gingerbread man tuff tray with the malleable materials.

- Mrs Braidwood

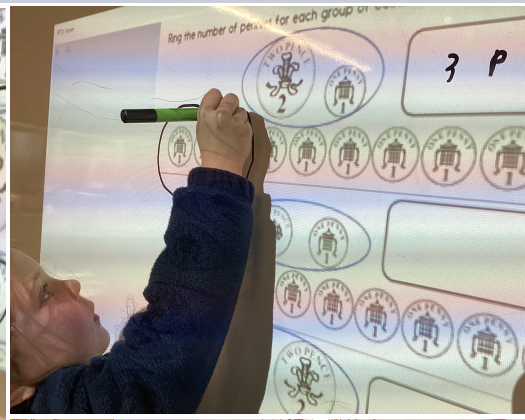
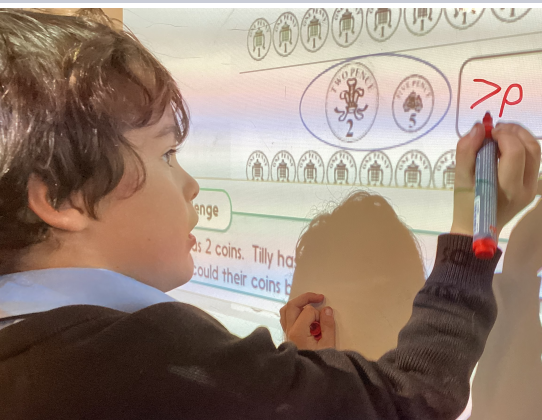




Year One

An exciting week with Christmas class decorating almost done and daily Christmas arts and crafts enjoyed by all the children.

We have started our next maths topic on money. Firstly the children looked at different coins ranging from 1p to 10p as a starting point. We compared the coins and decided which had the least value and which had the most value. Next on the whiteboard we had to calculate the different coin amounts and then ring the correct amount of 1ps to match that value. Finally there was a challenge! We had to find out how two coins could have the same value as four coins. Great maths everyone! - Mrs Dakin





Year Three



This week, Year Three have been exploring what we as humans need to survive and be healthy. We learnt that in order to survive we need air, water and food! With this in mind, we explored a balanced diet and how different food gives us different nutrients. They had a selection of different foods that they had to sort into the different food groups. A great science lesson.

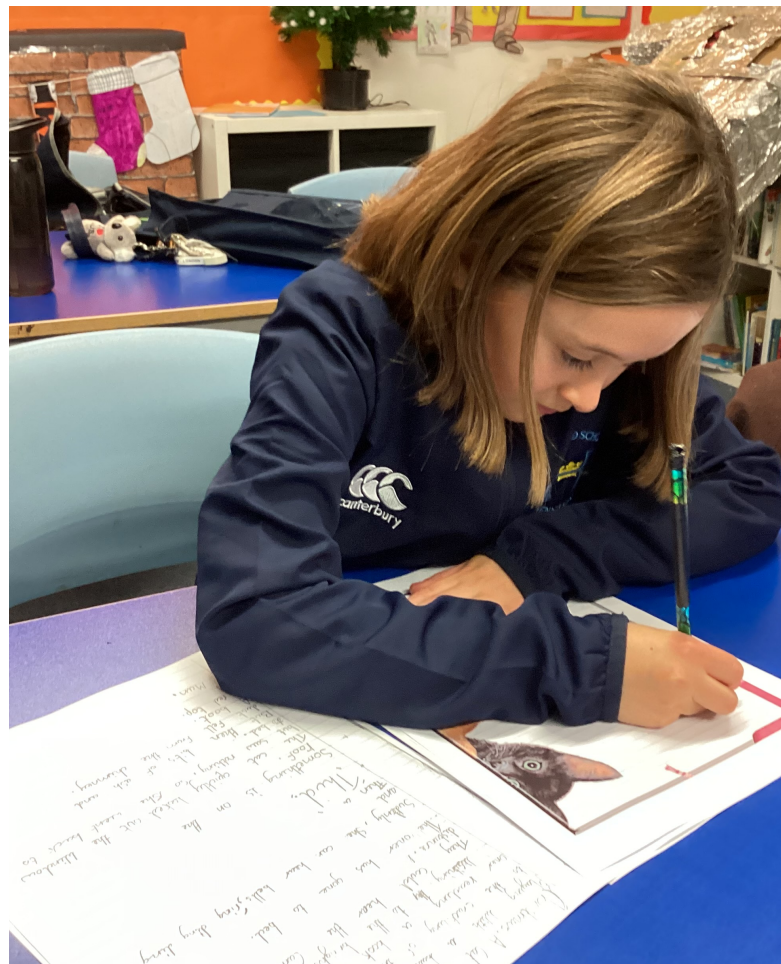
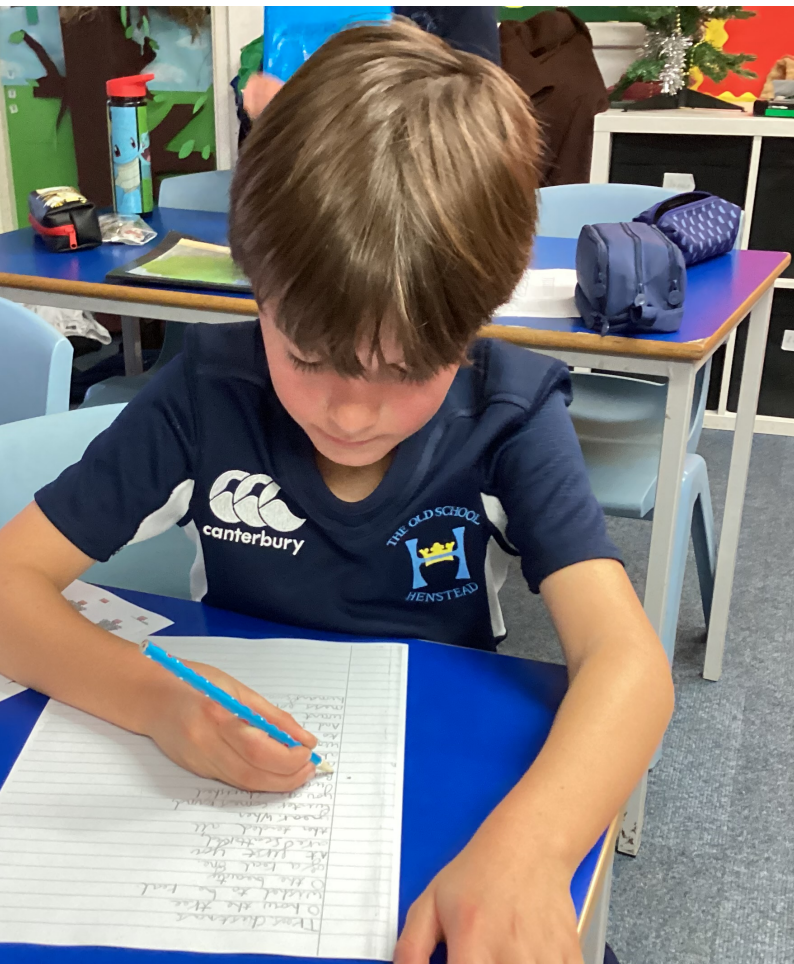
- Miss Bennie



Year Five

The year 5 pupils have been writing some beautiful and humorous free verse poetry this week, and have said how much they've enjoyed the process. One of the reasons they have found it such a pleasure is that none of the usual rules of poetry apply. This means - and the clue is in the name - that they are free to write without worrying about rhyme scheme, metre or length of line and can use language to immerse their reader in a vivid emotion or experience. Watch this space to read the fruits of their labours.

- Mrs Sonn





French Breakfast

Year Three and Four enjoyed a french style breakfast during their lesson this week.

On offer for their petit dejeuner were croissants, pain au chocolats, crêpes or brioche. Also on offer was chocolat chaud, jus d'orange or jus de pomme.

The children had to ask what they would like to eat in French and also remember their “merci” and “ s’il vous plaît”. Bon appétit! - Madame Dakin





You are warmly invited to attend the School Carol Service on Thursday 14th December, at which the Junior and Senior choirs will be performing (Year 1 onwards). The service will begin at 6.30pm and all children should be at St Mary's Church, Henstead for 6.15pm.

Members of the Senior Choir should be wearing their choir robes and ruffs and members of the Junior Choir should wear school uniform. Although heaters will be on, the Church can be cold so please, all wrap up warm.

We look forward to celebrating Christmas with you.





School Mascots

Mascots were awarded this week to the pupils best demonstrating our school values for this half term: researcher and resilience.

Well done to all of our mascot winners from this week:

Reception - Rosie
Year One - Arthur
Year Two - Orlando

Year Three - Emma
Year Four - Eddie
Year Five - Alex





Christmas Disco



Thursday 7th December - 4.15pm - 5.30pm
(For children in Reception onwards)

Children are welcome to stay at school until the Disco starts. Please send children with a change of clothes for the Disco.

Tickets are £3, and are on sale NOW!

There will be a tuck shop at the disco, so please bring pennies!

Christmas Jumper Day



Friday 8th December will be our Christmas Jumper Day!

Children may come to school wearing their Christmas jumpers over their uniform, for a

bottle donation towards our Bottle Tombola at the PTFA Christmas Fair. Please could all bottles be given to class teachers between now and Thursday 7th December. Thank you in advance for your contributions to this.



Lunch Menu - w/c 4th December

MONDAY

Chicken Korma with Rice and Naan
Bread and Salad Bar
(A,b,d,g,i,n)

TUESDAY

Tomato and Roasted Vegetable Pasta
Bake with Garlic Bread and Salad Bar
(a,b,d,g,i)

WEDNESDAY

Jacket Potato Bar with Tuna Mayo,
Cheese and Baked Beans and Salad Bar
(a,b,d,g,i)

THURSDAY

Toad in the Hole served with Seasonal
Vegetables
(a,b,d,e,g,i,m,n)

FRIDAY

Breaded Cod served with Chips,
Garden Peas or Baked Beans and Salad
Bar
(a,b,d,e,g,i)

Daily - Selection of Fresh Fruit, Yoghurts, Cheese and
Biscuits with a Sweet Treat on a Friday (g,b)

Alternatives for vegetarian, vegans and food intolerances.

(a=celery, b=gluten, c=crustaceans, d=eggs, e=fish, f=lupin, g=milk, h=molluscs,
i=mustard, j=nuts, k=peanuts, l=sesame seeds, m=soya, n=sulphur dioxide)



Elf Post

Elf Post is back! Christmas cards to your friends can be posted in the post box near The Hub, and our elves will sort and deliver them! Please ensure the recipients name and class is on the front of the envelope.



Litter Picking





PTFA

Christmas Competition

category one

Make a Christmas card

category two

**Make a Christmas
decoration**

category three

Write a Christmas poem

Bring your entry (you can enter more than one category) to school on Friday 8th December.

A winner from each category will be announced at the Christmas Fair.

£1.00 per entry





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