



THE OLD SCHOOL HENSTEAD

INDEPENDENT PREPARATORY SCHOOL



School Newsletter
Spring Term
21st March 2025



I always thoroughly enjoy the final week or two of each term because it's filled with wonderful events that bring us all together - children, staff and parents. This term is no exception, with poetry, drama, swimathons, parades, bingo, and of course, celebrating mums! Henstead is all about the children, and we truly value the opportunity to come together with you to celebrate them.



Their learning and happiness are at the heart of everything we do, and as a teacher once remarked to me, our role goes beyond providing a great education; we want to create wonderful memories that they'll look back on with deep affection, for the rest of their lives.

- Mrs Sonn



Key Dates:

Tuesday 25th March - Sponsored Swimathon

Wednesday 26th March - LAMDA Performances (8.45am in the hall - parents welcome)

Wednesday 26th March - Spring Disco - 4.10pm - 5pm

Thursday 27th March - Easter Service at St Mary's Church, Henstead (8.50am - parents welcome)

Monday 31st March - House and individual poetry competition (8.45am in the hall - parents welcome)

Monday 31st March - EYFS Mothers Day Afternoon Tea - 3pm - 4pm

Wednesday 2nd April - Trip to the Food Museum (Years 3 - 6)

Thursday 3rd April - House Cross-country & Colour Run

Friday 4th April - Easter Bonnet Parade in the orchard or hall, dependent on weather (8.45am - parents welcome)

Friday 4th April - Easter Bingo 4pm - 6pm (Families welcome)

Friday 4th April - Last day of term

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



School Events

We have lots of wonderful events to look forward to in the coming weeks ahead.

Our **Swimathon** will take place on Tuesday 25th March. If you would like to sponsor Team Student or Team Teacher, please click [here](#)

The **Easter Bonnet Parade** is on Friday 4th April at 9am in the orchard. There will be prizes for the most detailed, most creative and the tallest!

Our **PTFA Easter Bingo** will take place on Friday 4th April at 4pm - 6pm. Tickets will include your bingo book and dabber!

Tickets can be purchased [here](#)

The Great Henstead

SWIMATHON

Which team will you vote for?

TEAM STUDENT OR...
TEAM TEACHER?

To raise money for our Summer Show, our students and teachers will be competing to swim the most lengths in an hour. Please place a donation on the team you think will win!

JOIN US FOR OUR

Easter Bonnet Parade

Friday 4th April 2025
9am in the Orchard

You are invited to take part in this years Easter Bonnet Parade! Please create an easter bonnet to wear in the parade at the end of term.

THERE WILL BE PRIZES FOR THE:

- The most detailed
- The most creative
- The tallest

Hop on over for our

EASTER Bingo!

Join us on
April 4th at 4pm
for some egg-citing fun in
the school hall!

Three games of Bingo with
Easter egg prizes!
Hotdogs, crisps, tea, coffee and soft
drinks available.

Please purchase tickets online

£8 With Food £5 Without Food



Easter Service

You are all warmly invited to our Easter Service at St Mary's Church, Henstead on Thursday 27th March. Please could your child/ren arrive at the church for 8.45am. If you are unable to attend and would like us to transport your child via our minibus, please email the office - office@theoldschoolhenstead.co.uk



EYFS Mothers Day Afternoon Tea



Calling all nursery mums and grandmas. Come and be spoiled at an afternoon tea just for you! If you would like to attend or require more information, please speak to the nursery team.



Spring Disco

Spring Disco tickets are on sale now at £3 from the office. Please ensure children bring a change of clothes to school. A tuck shop will be available, so feel free to send them with some small change to spend!





Summer Show

Our summer show this year will be a musical medley tied together with an original story. This will give children from all year groups a chance to shine. We are holding soloist auditions for everyone in KS1 and KS2 and they will be held on the afternoon of 4th of April.

If your child would like to audition, please can they prepare a short song to perform.

Selections will be announced in the first week after the Easter Holidays. I can't wait to hear all of your wonderful voices!

- Mrs Braidwood





Nursery

The nursery children thoroughly enjoyed experimenting with herbal teabags, observing as the water changed colour. They were excited to explore using real-life resources such as china cups, saucers, bowls and jugs, which sparked conversations about home life while encouraging turn-taking and sharing.

The variety of teabags provided a sensory experience, as they eagerly smelled the different aromas, deepening their exploration. This activity also offered a great opportunity to incorporate mathematical skills, as they counted the teabags and measured the liquid.

- Miss Hammond

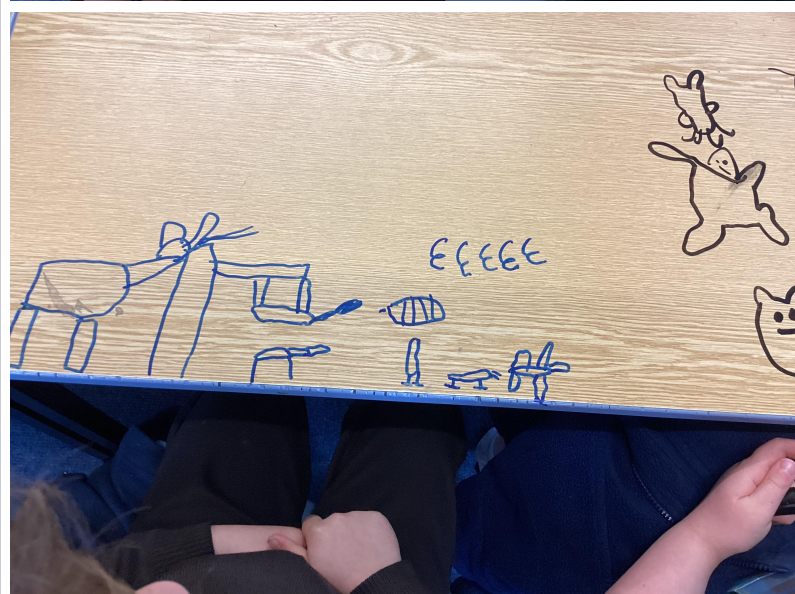
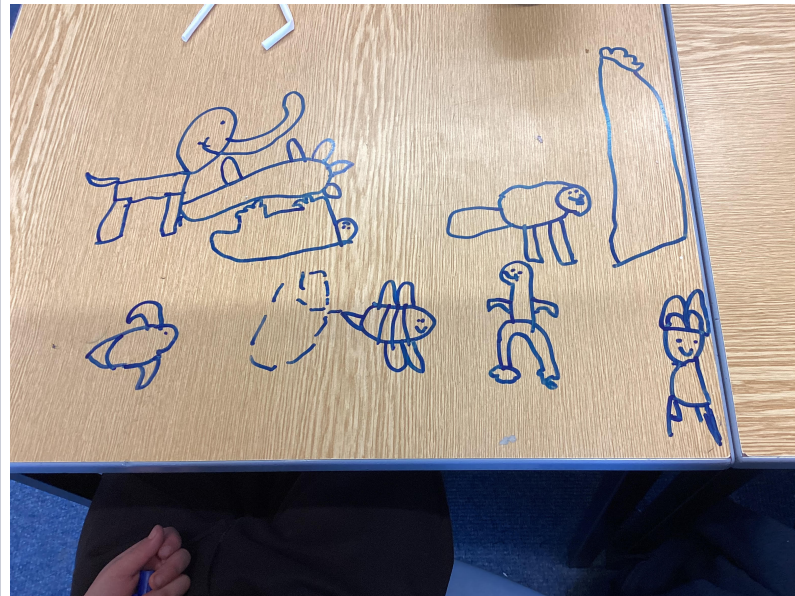




Year One and Two

British Science week with a theme of 'Change and Adapt' was a great opportunity to test the children's understanding of animal adaptations. We had a fun quiz where the children had to draw what animal was being described from a set of three clues that ranged from clue one being the hardest to clue three being the easiest. Some great answers and drawings!

- Mrs Dakin

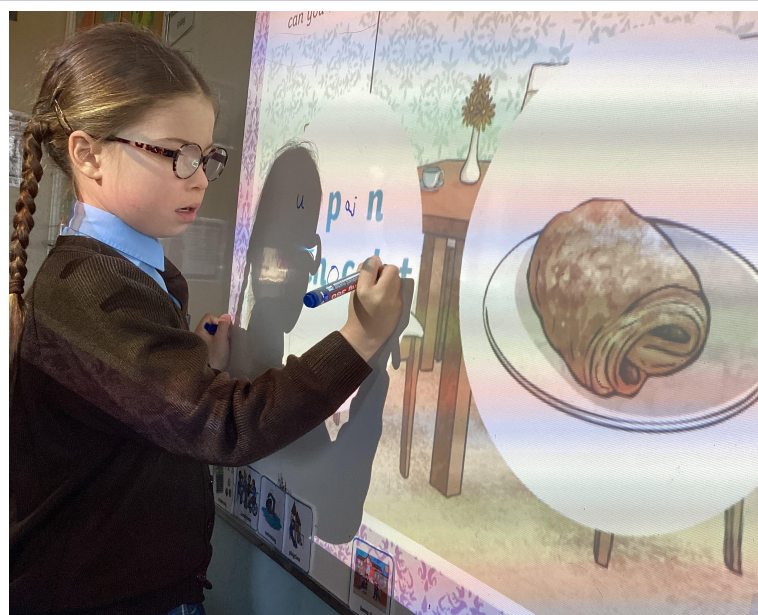


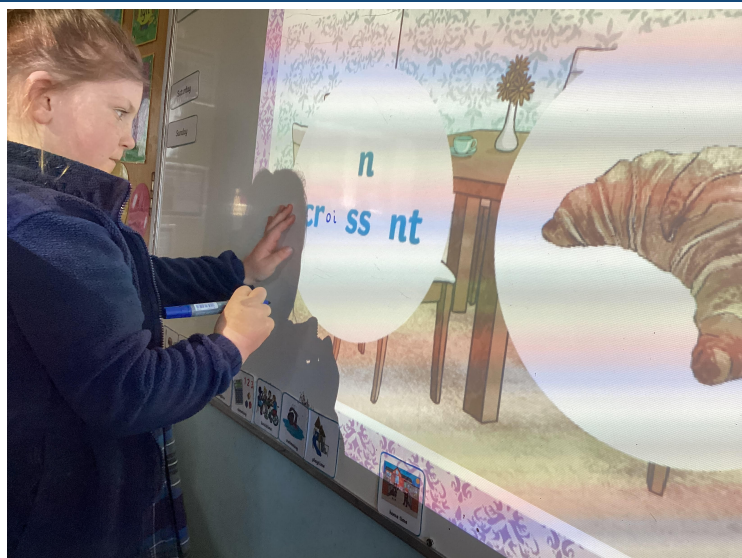


Year One and Two

In French we have continued with our food theme, looking at Le petite dèjeuner. We used our knowledge on vowels to help fill the missing gaps to complete the spellings of some popular breakfast items. The children are looking forward to a French breakfast next week!

- Mrs Dakin



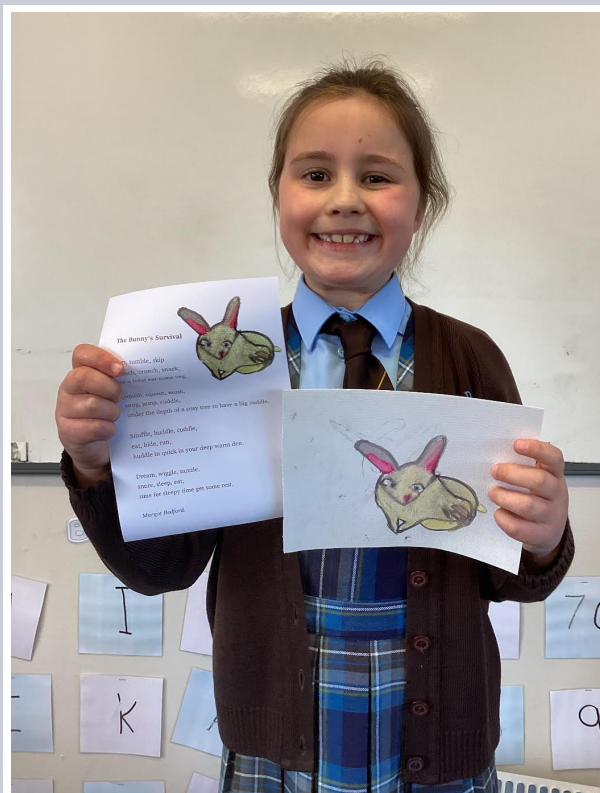
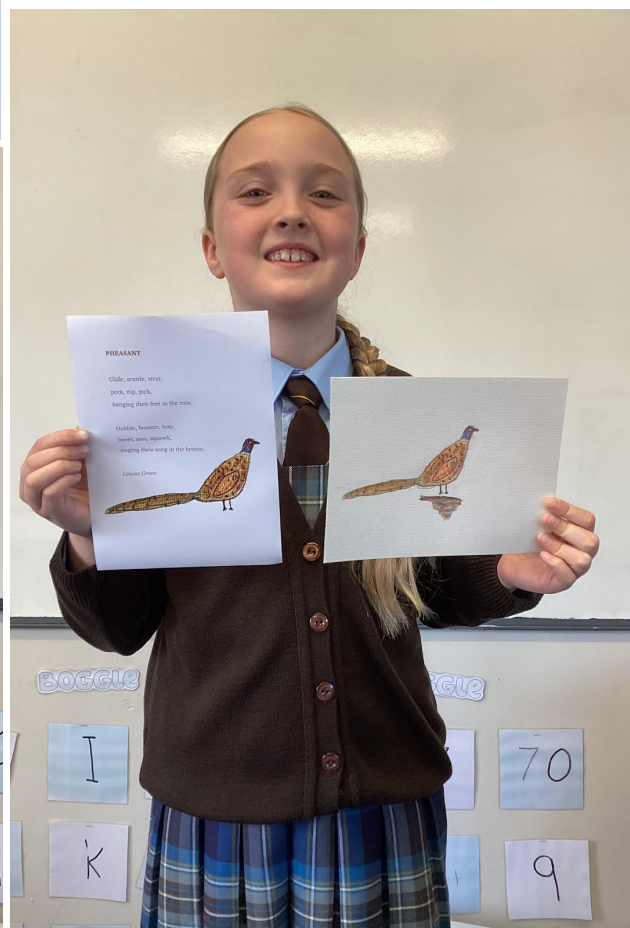


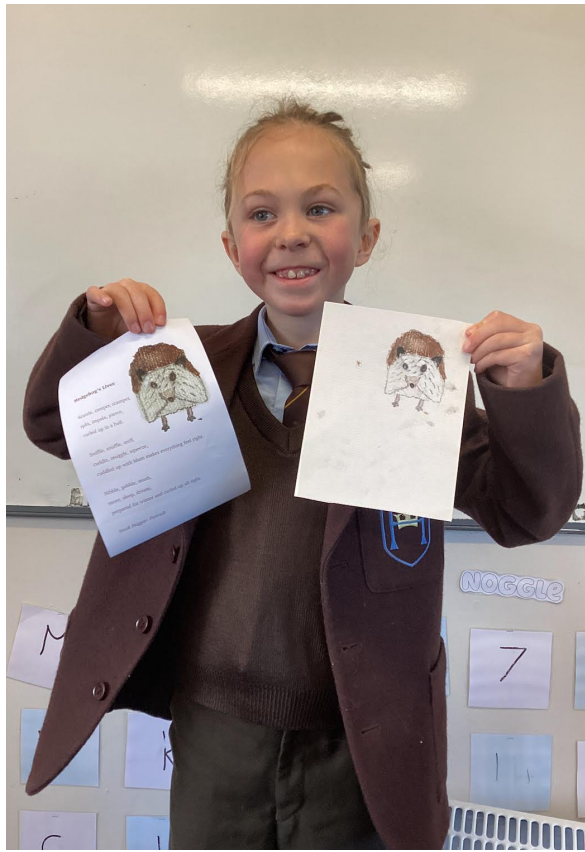


Year Three and Four

The children in years three and four have been exploring poetry this term. We have been looking at the work of Robert Macfarlane and Jackie Morris who wrote 'The Lost Words' and 'The Lost Spells' which are poetry anthologies based around the natural words, which have been sadly lost from the dictionary. This week, the children have written their own 'verb poems' based on an animal they found in the glossary of words, to bring that creature back to the world. They then created a detailed watercolour painting of their chosen animal inspired by the illustrations that they found in the books.

- Mrs
Braidwood







Year Three and Four

On the Friday of science week I set the children a challenge. We discussed how some animals have adapted to be able to camouflage themselves against predators. Each child had to hide a paper butterfly somewhere in the room and blend it into its surroundings. On Monday, my task was to see how many I could find. The person who camouflaged the butterfly the best would win. Look at the amazing places the children hid them!

- Mrs Braidwood





Spotlight on...

End-of-term assessments are underway in the prep school, and pupils are putting their knowledge to the test. I'm always impressed by their attitude and conduct during these exams, as they approach them with a calm maturity and quiet determination to do their best. They understand that these evaluations are not just about results but about celebrating their successes and identifying any gaps in their learning, helping them reach their full academic potential. It's important to remember that a child's education is not defined by exams alone, but by a rich and stimulating learning experience throughout the year. This not only enhances academic achievement but also fosters social and emotional development, confidence, problem-solving skills, and—arguably most importantly—resilience, a skill that will serve them well in the years beyond Henstead.

- Mrs Sonn



Year Five and Six - Food Tech Lesson



Sponge cake was on the menu in last week's Food Tech lesson, all washed down with a lovely cup of tea!

- Mrs Sonn





Science Week





Crochet Club

Crochet Club pupils most recent creation: beautiful coasters, perfect for resting drinks on.



Achievements

A huge well done to Izaak and Sophia, who performed their LAMDA duo piece at the Norfolk County Music Festival.

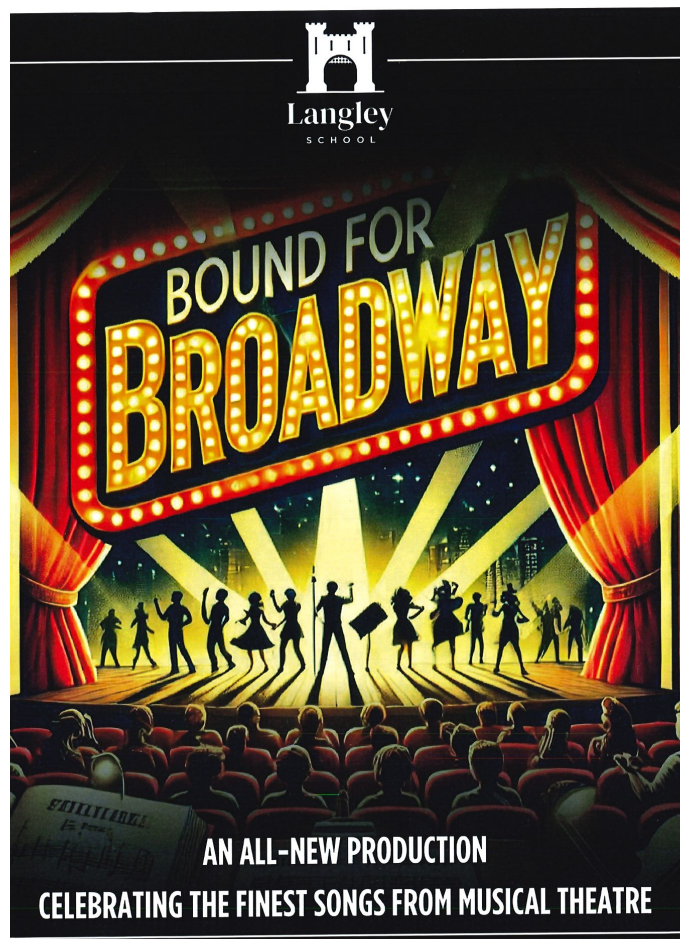




Langley School Senior Show

A great time was had by all at the Langley School Senior Show 'Bound for Broadway'.

All of the children were exceptionally well behaved and did the school proud.





Mascots

This half-term our school values are adventurer and analyser.

Last week's mascot winners were:

Year 1/2 - Amy for settling in so well and trying her hardest in all her lessons.

Year 3/4 - Anna for great progress across all subjects - particularly English and maths.

Year 5/6 - Monty for exceeding expectations in science and applying critical thinking skills to his work.



This week's mascot winners are:

Year 1/2 - Rosie for an adventurous approach to the science topic this week.

Year 3/4 - Margot for her infectious enthusiasm and hard work on the poetry topic this week.

Year 5/6 - Jayden for analysis of a range of poetry.





House Competition (Golds)

Each week the children are awarded golds for good work and behaviour. These golds are individual awards and feed into the running total points for their house.

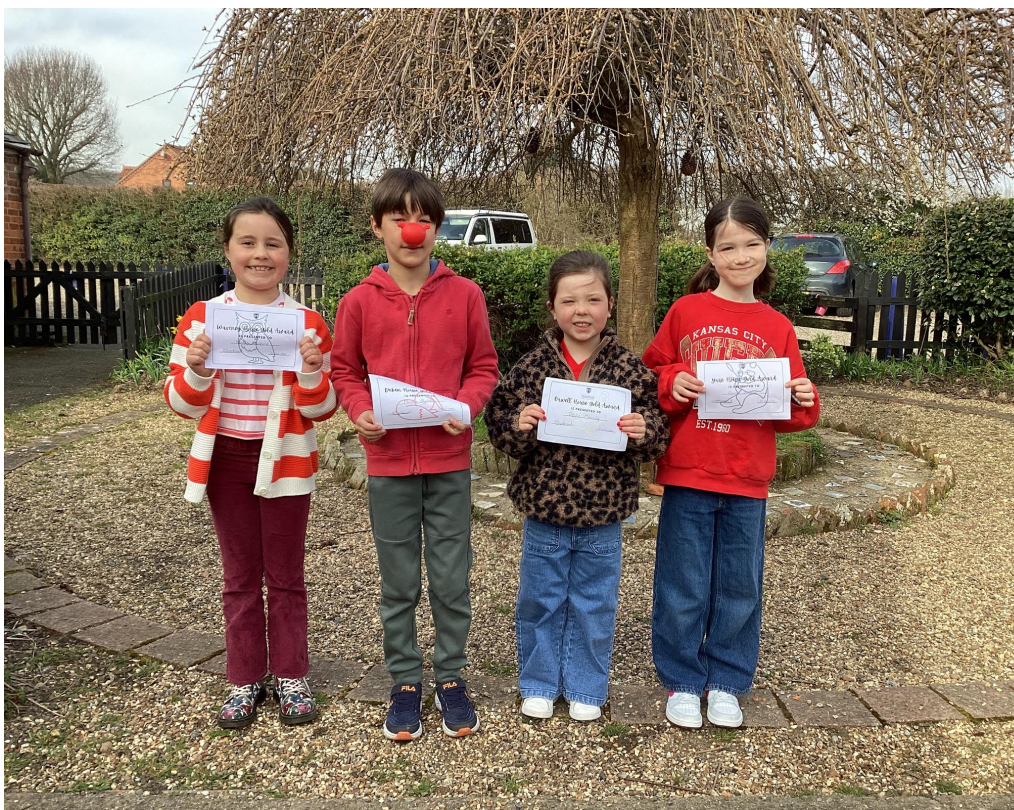
Last week's winners were:

- Waveney - Otilie M
- Deben - Lexi
- Orwell - James
- Yare - Hazel



This week's winners are:

- Waveney - Margot
- Deben - Monty
- Orwell - Otilie
- Yare - Emma





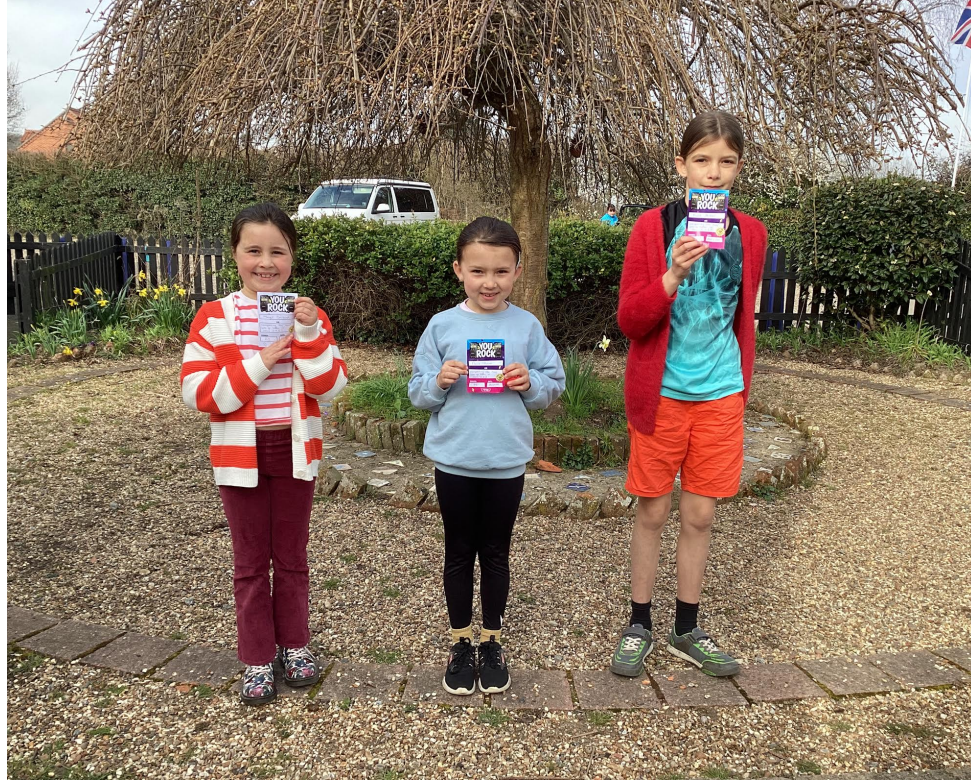
TTRS Champions

TTRS highest
complete sets of
tables all correct.

Year 1/2 - Florrie

Year 3/4 - Margot

Year 5/6 - Hazel



Premier Education Holiday Camp

Unfortunately, due to
reasons beyond our
control, the Premier
Education Easter
Holiday Camp has
been cancelled.



Premier
Education



Red Nose Day







Lunch Menu - w/c 24th March

Thank you for your feedback on school lunches. We've updated our menu with some new dishes which we are confident the pupils will enjoy. If children do not like the lunch on a specific day, a personal choice of sandwich is provided along with accompaniments.

MONDAY	Jacket potato with cheese, beans or tuna
TUESDAY	Chicken with rice and peas
WEDNESDAY	Tomato pasta with sweetcorn and garlic bread
THURSDAY	Beef burger or sausages with potato wedges and corn on the cob Nursery: Sausage, mashed potato and carrots
FRIDAY	Fish and chips with garden peas

Daily - Soup of the Day

Carrot/Cucumber/ Pepper Sticks

Piece of Fruit, Yoghurt, Raisins and Biscuit

Alternatives for vegetarian, vegan and food intolerances.



Lunch Menu - w/c 31st March

MONDAY	Jacket potato with cheese, beans or tuna
TUESDAY	Chicken in pitta bread with salad and mozzarella sticks
WEDNESDAY	Macaroni cheese with broccoli
THURSDAY	Beef burger or sausages with potato wedges and peas
FRIDAY	Pizza and carrot sticks

Daily - Soup of the Day

Carrot/Cucumber/Pepper Sticks

Piece of Fruit, Yoghurt, Raisins and Biscuit

Alternatives for vegetarian, vegan and food intolerances.



@theoldschoolhenstead



@theoldschoolhenstead



@OldSchoolHstead



independent
schools
council



INDEPENDENT
SCHOOLS
ASSOCIATION
Accredited Member