



THE OLD SCHOOL HENSTEAD

INDEPENDENT PREPARATORY SCHOOL



School Newsletter
Spring Term
7th March 2025



Although winter's bite can still be sharp at this time of year, it has been wonderful to see that spring has sprung, to borrow a well-known phrase. The children have been gamboling across the field like little lambs, clearly delighting in the sunshine. This is the time of year when our outdoor space truly comes into its own, offering pupils the chance to observe nature, build their physical fitness and spark their imaginations through outdoor play. How fortunate we are to have such a fantastic outdoor space!

- Mrs Sonn





Key Dates:

Monday 10th March - Friday 14th March - Science Week

Monday 10th March - Friday 14th March - Open Week
(nursery and prep School)

Monday 17th March - EYFS trip to Waveney Gymnastics Centre

Thursday 20th March - Visit to Langley to watch senior school show (Years 3 to 6)

Friday 21st March - Red Nose Day

Tuesday 25th March - Sponsored Swimathon

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

Wednesday 26th March - Spring Disco

Thursday 27th March - Easter Service at St Mary's Church, Henstead (8.45am - parents welcome)

Monday 31st March - House and individual poetry competition

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

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

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



Key Dates:

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

Friday 4th April - Easter Bonnet Parade and last day of term (in the garden or hall, weather dependant - parents welcome)

Friday 4th April - Easter Bingo (start time tbc.)

Monday 7th April - Friday 11th April - Premier Education Holiday Camp

Monday 14th April - Thursday 17th April - Premier Education Holiday Camp

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



Announcements

We are thrilled to announce that James has been awarded his prefect's tie. Over the last few months he has consistently demonstrated maturity, responsibility and a willingness to help others, setting a fantastic example for both his peers and younger pupils.

Congratulations, James



A huge thank you to you all for taking the time to bake some amazing cakes for the Valentines' Day baking competition.

Total raised - £131





Nursery

In Nursery we have loved getting outside, especially in the sunshine. The children have engaged in lots of wonderful activities, from climbing and painting to large-chalk drawing and writing. We have also started phonics sessions and have been practising writing our names and learning new sounds.

- Miss Hammond







Year One and Two

At last the sun is shining! This has been a great aid to our Science lessons as we are learning about plants and how they can grow from seeds as well as bulbs. A bulb contains everything a plant needs to grow, having it's own source of food.

The children planted their own bulbs in a transparent container to see how it would grow. We are checking each one to see it's progress, looking out for roots, shoots and eventually a flower.





In Maths we are finding fractions. We created paper pizzas with different toppings to show quarters, halves and thirds in a visual way. Pancakes were very much enjoyed on Tuesday, with different toppings this time around. The children also had a go at tossing a pancake, which was great fun!

- Mrs Dakin





Year Three and Four

Last week the children in years three and four went on a trip to the Norwich Theatre Royal to see a Horrible Histories production of 'The Terrible Tudors'. This was a fantastic way for us to tie up our history topic this term and consolidate learning the children had already undertaken. The show included 'boggle' vision which meant that 3D elements seemed to jump into the audience when you were wearing the (very snazzy) glasses. The children were all exceptionally well behaved and it was commented on by members of the public how smart they all looked as well as being a credit to the school. I am incredibly proud of them all.

- Mrs Braidwood





Year Five and Six

We've started exploring poetry, and the pupils are discovering the many different forms it can take - from ballads and sonnets to narrative and nonsense poems. Reading poetry offers a window into the thoughts of others, fostering empathy and providing fresh perspectives on the human experience. Writing poetry, in turn, allows children to express themselves, develop language skills, and build literacy, all while engaging in a wonderfully creative art form. Best of all, poetry is for everyone!

Here is a selection of their diamante and free verse poems.

- Mrs Sonn

266
Your Number
the first Game
"red light, Green light
Contestans the first Game is"
"Green light, 266 eliminated red light"
you hear Can Gun shot
than 453 more shots
Player 266 Wins
you win
Survivor

Spring,
bright, new,
growing, flourishing, warming,
Roots, leaves, trees, branches,
blooming, bleating, buzzing,
Joyful, jubilant,
freedom.

chick
TASTY eggs
pecking All day
Shedding feathers All year
running from fox
delicious fried
chicken

Food
tasty, filling
frying, roasting, boiling
sushi, burger, pizza, noodles
chopping, slurping, chewing
chunchy, munchy
Dessert

foot-ball
shiny boots
Run, jump, compete
goalie, defender, midfielder, forward
scoring block repeating
fast destroy
win!!!!

Panda
Lazy, forgetful
eating, sleeping, capeting
Black, white, bamboo, trees
relaxing, calming, laying
cute, fluffy
China



KS1 Art

This term the children in KS1 are studying simple printmaking techniques. This week they have been learning about the Japanese art of Tataki-Zome. This is sometimes called flower pounding. The children selected their flowers and leaves and used small hammers to transfer the natural dye from the plant to the fibres of the materials. Although it was a very noisy lesson, it was an excellent opportunity for the children to explore a technique where the process is as important as the outcomes.

- Mrs Braidwood







Clay Club



In clay club, we have been looking at different techniques of building, such as slab building, coil building and pinch pots. We have also been exploring different decorative techniques. In the past few weeks, we have been exploring using sgraffito; a technique where you scrape away the glaze or finish on your pottery to leave behind a pattern. The children explored this technique on the pinch pots they made the week before. I loved the bright colours they chose to work with and the detailed designs they created!

- Mrs Braidwood





The Arrival of Spring







Mascots

This term the Mascots are being awarded to children who are demonstrating the school values of adventurer and analyser.

Last week's winners were:

Year 1/2: Otilie for her adventurous approach to her fractions work in maths.

Year 3/4: Emma for her analytical maths work which is paying off, particularly her incredible conversions between decimals and fractions.

Year 5/6: James for showing all of the school values and being awarded the position of school prefect.



This week's winners are:

Year 1/2 - Robert for being extremely kind to everyone this week.

Year 3/4 - Louiza for her focus on maths leading to great improvement with difficult concepts.

Year 5/6 - Louis for being ambitious with all his work, especially his sport.





TTRS Champions

Last week our Times Table Rock Stars award went to Margot in year three, who completed over 40 days on TTRS this year.

Well done Margot!



This week, the top studio speed in the school (how quickly they answer correctly) was awarded to:

1st - Hazel

2nd - Margot

3rd - Ayla





House Golds

Last week's winners of the house gold awards were:

Orwell - Ottilie M
Waveney - James
Yare - Louis
Deben - Jayden



This week's winners of the house gold awards are:

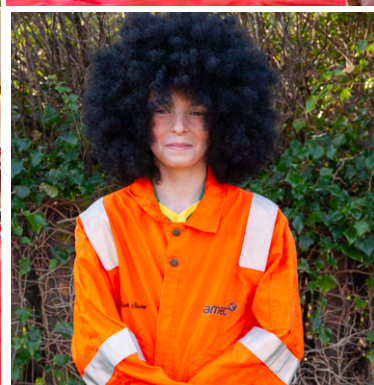
Waveney - Freddie
Yare - Emma
Orwell - Sophia
Deben - Louiza





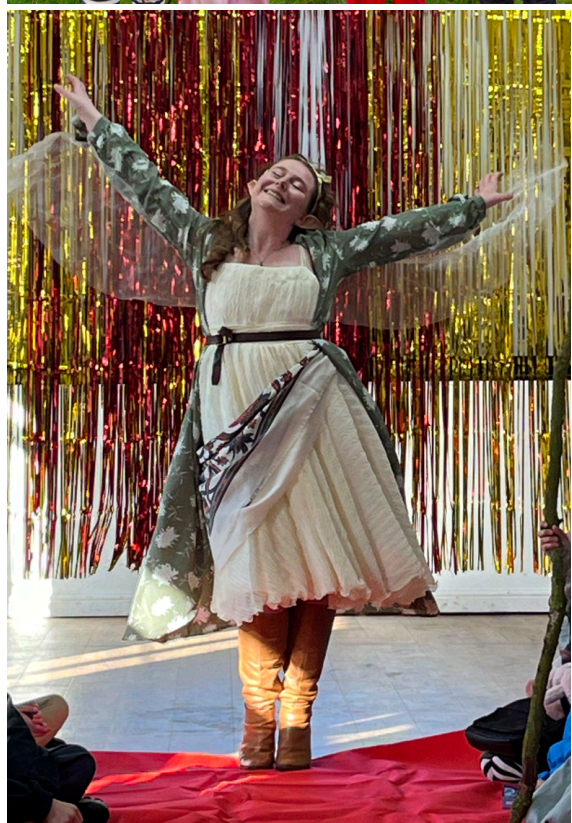
WORLD
BOOK
DAY

World Book Day











Lunch Menu - w/c 10th March

MONDAY	Jacket Potato with Cheese, Beans or Tuna
TUESDAY	Chicken Fillets with Potato Waffles
WEDNESDAY	Tomato Pasta and Garlic Bread Nursery: Fish Fingers
THURSDAY	Beef Burger and Chips Nursery: Tomato Pasta and Garlic Bread
FRIDAY	Pizza

Daily - Soup of the Day

Carrot/Cucumber/ Pepper Sticks

Piece of Fruit, Yoghurt, Raisins and Biscuit

Alternatives for vegetarian, vegans and food intolerances.



Lunch Menu - w/c 17th March

MONDAY	Jacket Potato with Cheese, Beans or Tuna
TUESDAY	Chicken Fillets with Potato Waffles
WEDNESDAY	Tomato Pasta and Garlic Bread Nursery: Fish Fingers
THURSDAY	Beef Burger and Chips Nursery: Tomato Pasta and Garlic Bread
FRIDAY	Hot Dogs

Daily - Soup of the Day

Carrot/Cucumber/ Pepper Sticks

Piece of Fruit, Yoghurt, Raisins and Biscuit

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