



THE OLD SCHOOL HENSTEAD

INDEPENDENT PREPARATORY SCHOOL



School Newsletter
Spring Term
4th April 2025



Looking back on this term, my heart is full when I reflect on everything the children have experienced - both through their studies and in the lighter, fun-filled moments of life at Henstead.

There is a truly special, symbiotic relationship between staff, pupils and parents, and it's this close connection that makes our school such a remarkable place. And - at the risk of sounding a little boastful - if there was an award for the happiest school children in the country, I have no doubt that we would be a strong contender!

I often take the opportunity to thank our parents and grandparents for their continued support, and with very good reason. But today, I'd like to extend a heartfelt thank you to our incredible staff, who place the children's education, happiness and wellbeing at the heart of everything they do.

Wishing all our families a peaceful and restful Easter break. We look forward to welcoming you back on 28th April for what promises to be a joyful and enriching summer term.

With very best wishes,

- Mrs Sonn





Key Dates:

Easter Holiday Clubs - Monday 7th April - Wednesday 9th April

Easter Holiday Clubs - Monday 14th April - Wednesday 16th April

Monday 28th April - Start of the summer term

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



Easter Carol Service

Thank you to everyone who attended our Easter carol service.





Nursery

We have thoroughly enjoyed the sunshine and lots of outdoor time in the Nursery garden. We were fortunate to have a visit from Miss Johnson's step-dad, who taught us about planting and gardening, and we even got to plant our own sunflowers. We also had a fabulous Mother's and others afternoon tea.

Have a lovely Easter, everyone!

-Miss Coote







Year One and Two

The children were treated to a French breakfast this week, partly to celebrate finishing their assessments, but also to complement our topic on French food. There was a selection of delicacies to choose from, with crêpes au chocolat being the firm favourite! We used language such as 'Je voudrais', 'merci' and 'bon appétit.' Traditional French berets were worn and French music played to set the tone of being in a real French café.

Oh là là!

- Madame Dakin







Year Three and Four

The children in years three and four have been exploring block printing techniques this term in art. This week, they have learnt how to make lino prints. The children all demonstrated great care and responsibility when using sharp tools and created some beautiful prints inspired by the work of Annie Soudain.

- Mrs Braidwood

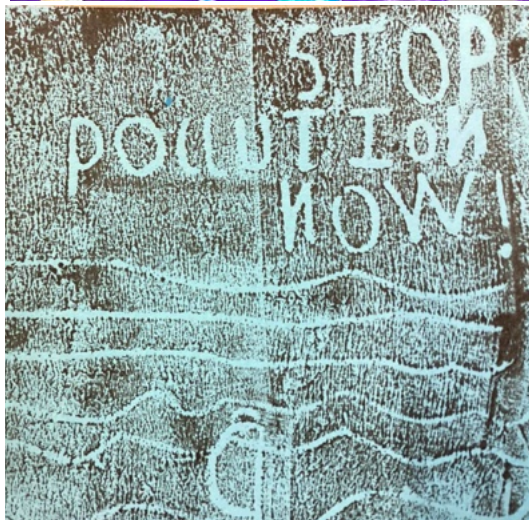
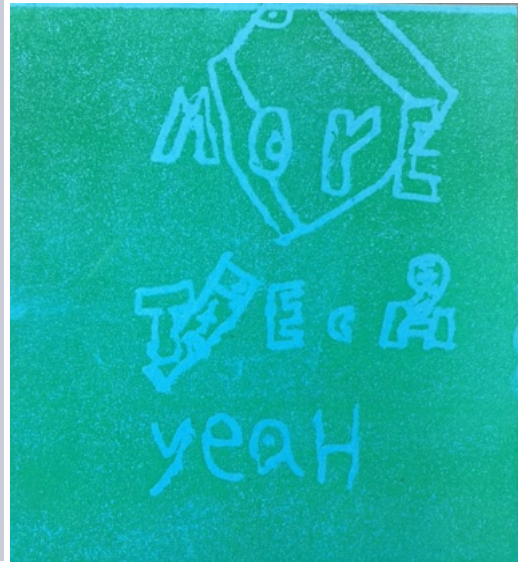




Year Five and Six

This half-term, art met activism as lessons became a platform for expression and change. Pupils explored the power of screen printing, creating bold slogans that conveyed messages they felt the world needed to hear. Through creativity and craftsmanship, they turned art into a voice for what matters most to them.

- Mrs Braidwood





Food Museum

Last Wednesday, the senior school visited the Food Museum in Stowmarket, to explore the journey of our food, from farm to lunchbox.

During our tour of the 84-acre site, we learned how bread is milled, gained insight into seasonality and discovered which ingredients are grown, reared and processed. We also explored the museum's fascinating exhibits, finding out what school dinners have looked like over the past seven decades. The pupils were both amused and bewildered by dishes such as semolina, turkey twizzlers, and sponge with pink custard! The key takeaway from the trip was the importance of understanding where our food comes from and how our choices impact our health and well-being. So perhaps it's time for less turkey twizzlers and more kale and broccoli for us all!

-Mrs Sonn







Henstead Arts and Crafts Lunch

We all enjoyed a lovely walk to Henstead Arts and Crafts Centre for lunch during the week.

Thank you for having us, Kerry!







A Showcase of LAMDA Talent



Pupils, staff, and parents were treated to excellent performances by our dedicated LAMDA students. Their hard work and commitment were evident in every moment on stage. We wish them the very best of luck with their upcoming exams results!







An Epic Showdown at Bungay Swimming Pool!

The stage was set for an unforgettable contest: teachers versus pupils in the first-ever Henstead Swimathon! Everyone gave it their all, pushing themselves to complete as many laps as possible. There were even some playful accusations of teacher trickery, although rest assured, this writer can confirm they were entirely unfounded!

The final results were:

Junior School: 500 metres

Senior School: 750 metres

Teachers: 550 metres

With the pupils' combined lengths surpassing the teachers, victory was theirs!

A huge well done to all who took part, and an enormous thank you to our wonderful families for their generosity in raising an incredible £420! These funds will go towards the marquee and our much-anticipated summer show this July.

What a fantastic event - same time next year?

-Mrs Sonn





Crochet Club

Crochet Club pupils' most recent creation: Easter Eggs



Total Raised:

£44.00

Thank you to everyone who donated!

If you love Disney and enjoy watching a show, Mrs George-Broom (music teacher) is Musical Director for 'The Little Mermaid', which is being performed this week at the Players Theatre in Lowestoft. This is a youth production, with a group that produce a show every year, for children aged 6-18 years and auditions are open to everyone.

Would be great to see some of you there! -Mrs George- Broom





House and Individual Poetry Competition





Computing and Outdoor Education

During this half-term, we have been working on our touch-typing skills. Pupils have really enjoyed having the keyboards out and trying to touch-type where possible. We have been trying to use the correct finger or thumb for the correct key, and some have even been typing without looking at the keyboard! We look forward to imovie making in the summer term.



As the weather is improving, we have been busy during our Outdoor Ed lessons, continuing to design our own 'Outdoor Ed.' area with ponds, fire pit and den building areas, along with our very own shed. We've been looking at teamwork and how we can work together to reach our end goal. We have also been keeping a close eye on our duck eggs, which have finally hatched! We look forward to learning all about them during the summer term.



- Mr Hunter



Cross-country

Our nursery children eagerly await our Cross-country runners to cheer them on!



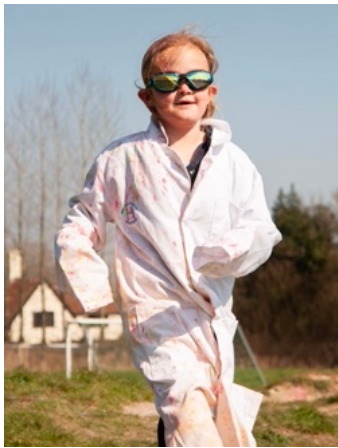






Colour Run







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.

This week's winners were:

Waveney - Rose

Orwell - Anna

Deben - Florrie

Yare- Emma



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

Last week's mascot winners were:

Year 1 & 2 - Ayla for working so hard and achieving great results in her maths assessments.

Year 3 & 4 - Sophia for working hard and making good progress in all of her assessments.

Year 5 & 6 - Hazel for enthusiastically challenging herself with extra assessments.





Spring Disco





PTFA Easter Bingo Night

A big thank you to the PTFA for a great Easter bingo night. It was lovely to see so many of you there. Thanks to the generosity of our wonderful parents and families, we raised £433!





Easter Bonnet Parade

Congratulations to all of our Easter bonnet winners and runner ups. It was extremely hard to choose from all of the wonderful creations.

Our winners were:

Nursery - Albie & Henry H

Tallest - Vincent

Most Creative - Monty

Most Detailed - Florrie

Runners up - Hollie & Ottilie P

Well done everyone!







Lunch Menu - w/c 28th April

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 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 6th May

MONDAY	Jacket potato with cheese, beans or tuna
TUESDAY	Chicken in a wrap with salad and mozzarella sticks
WEDNESDAY	Macaroni cheese with broccoli
THURSDAY	Beef burger or sausages with potato wedges and corn on the cob
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.

We wish you all a wonderful Easter!



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