



THE OLD SCHOOL  
**HENSTEAD**

INDEPENDENT PREPARATORY SCHOOL



# *Henstead Headlines*

Autumn Term  
5th October 2025





Dear Families,

This week's fine autumn weather has meant the children have been able to take advantage of our lovely outdoor space and it is wonderful to see them bounding across the field, running along the mound and playing in the willows.

I've also noticed impromptu lunchtime clubs appearing, such as art club, run entirely by the pupils. It's great to see them taking the initiative to share their passions with others, while also learning what it's like to organise, lead and even teach. These experiences encourage independence, self-reliance and responsibility – qualities that will serve them well both inside and outside the classroom.

I'm looking forward to seeing what other clubs and ideas the children come up with as the term goes on!

Warm regards,

Dana Sonn







## *Key Dates:*

**Tuesday 7th October** - Mrs Sonn's class visit to the Norfolk & Suffolk Aviation Museum

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**Monday 13th October** - Pumpkin Carving Contest

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**Wednesday 15th October** - U8/11 Cross country @ Gosfield School, Halstead

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**Wednesday 15th October** - Spooky Disco (Reception to Year 6)

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**Friday 17th October** - Parent-Teacher Meetings

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**November (date tba)** - School Photographs

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**Friday 7th November** - Henstead bonfire and fireworks night!

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**Monday 17th November** - Flu Immunisations

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





## *Nursery*

This week, our nursery children have been busy strengthening their fine motor skills with pinchy finger arts and crafts activities linked to our All About Me topic. The children used glitter, pom poms, tissue paper, and a range of colourful craft materials to decorate the first letter of their names. Each creation is unique and the results are beautiful!

We also had some special visitors this week! Older children from across the school joined us to share stories, complete puzzles, and sing songs with our nursery group. It was a heartwarming experience for everyone, and our little ones thoroughly enjoyed the experience. We're already looking forward to their next visit!

- Miss Johnson











# Reception

Reception have been busy exploring their new classroom and the new areas of learning. They have really enjoyed the construction area in particular. The highlight of the week was Spanish - we learnt about colours for our first lesson!

- Mrs Webster





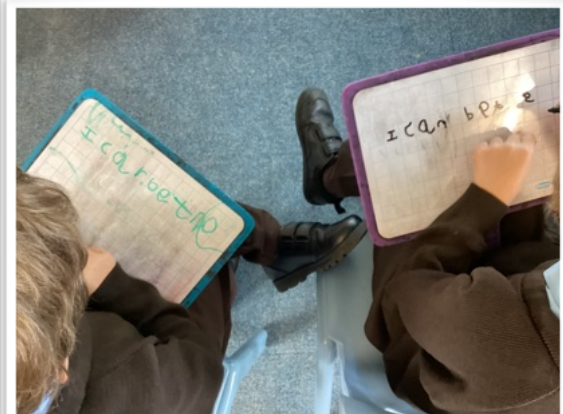
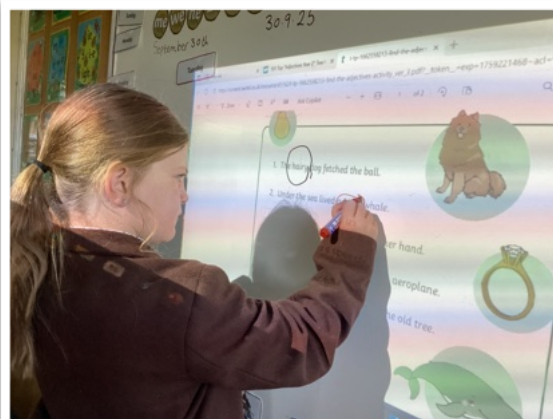


## *Junior School - Mrs Dakin's Class*

In English, we have been learning about adjectives - what they are and how they help us describe nouns in more detail. The class has been working together on the whiteboard to read sentences and spot the adjectives. This has helped us see how adjectives can make writing more interesting and descriptive.

This week we are learning the 'ea' spelling pattern. We are practicing writing words with 'ea' and using them in our own sentences.

-Mrs Dakin







## *Senior School - Mrs Braidwood's Class*

This term, the children in years three and four are learning all about the ancient Egyptians in their history lessons. Recently, they discovered how the ancient Egyptians would prepare the bodies of important figures for their journey to the afterlife. It seemed fitting that they should then follow these steps to mummify their own great Pharaoh 'TutanOrange'. The children decided he was once their benevolent leader and took turns to complete the steps of his mummification. He is currently hidden away from the risk of tomb raiders, somewhere within our classroom (which we have of course, decorated with cartouches of his name for when he is eventually found, to ensure that he is remembered in the afterlife). The children are all looking forward to when we can take on the role of archaeologists and uncover this 'find' in November, to see how well we mummified our Pharaoh.

- Mrs Braidwood











# Senior School - Mrs Sonn's Class

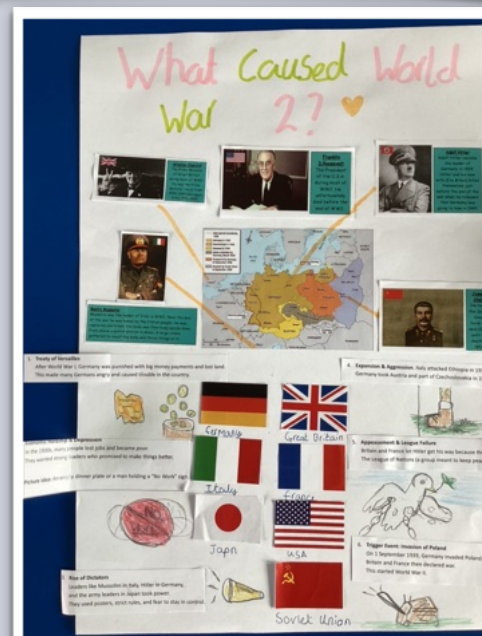
## History in Focus: World War Two

This half-term, the pupils have been delving into one of the most significant periods of modern history – World War Two. We began by exploring the causes of the war, and the children were introduced to a new word: appeasement. They enjoyed discussing what this meant and how it shaped events in the late 1930s.

We'll also be exploring what life was like on the Home Front, including the Blitz, rationing and the experiences of child-evacuees. The pupils will also have the chance to explore wartime propaganda posters, thinking about how messages were communicated to the public and how people were encouraged to stay positive in very challenging times.

It has been wonderful to see how engaged and curious they are, asking thoughtful questions and making links between the past and the present. We're also looking forward to our trip next Tuesday to Norfolk and Suffolk Aviation Museum in Flixton, where we'll learn more about the experience of children living in East Anglia during the war.

- Mrs Sonn







## Science

Some of our pupils have been gathering and exploring soil in science, testing its texture, composition and how well it holds water, to see how it affects plant growth.







# Harvest Festival

Thank you to you all for attending our harvest festival service, and for your kind food donations for the Waveney Food Bank.







# Autumn Bake Sale

This has been our second year of hosting an Autumn baking competition and sale and we have been blown away by the quality and quantity of entries. It was incredibly difficult to judge as there is just so much talent within our school. Well done everyone!

Thanks to your generosity, we managed to raise an incredible £146.20







# *Competition Winners*

*EYFS Best Decorated - Oskar*  
*EYFS Most Creative - Esmerelda*  
*EYFS Highly Commended - Henry*

*KS1 Best Decorated - Robert*  
*KS1 Most Creative - Amelie*  
*KS1 Highly Commended - Rosie*

*KS2 Best Decorated - Izaak*  
*KS2 Most Creative - Emma*  
*KS2 Highly Commended - Florrie*







# Mascots

Last week's winners were:

**Reception** - Oskar for having a wonderful attitude to learning and trying hard everyday.

**Year 1/2** - Amelie for becoming more confident with everything she does.

**Year 3/4** - Anna for having a fantastic attitude towards all of her learning and her creative work in English.

**Year 5/6** - Sophia for her empathy and teamwork.



This week's winners were:

**Reception**- Lennon for trying his hardest in phonics and maths.

**Year 1/2** - Vincent for his amazing work in science.

**Year 3/4** - Hollie for her attitude to learning and ownership over her progress.

**Year 5/6** - Izaak for his empathy and teamwork with a new pupil who came for a visit.







## House Golds

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

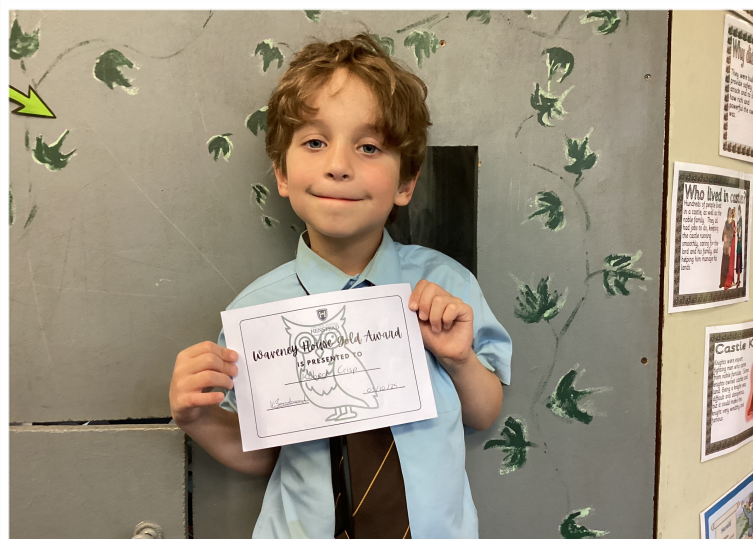
**Deben - Vincent**  
**Orwell - Henry**  
**Waveney - Julius**  
**Yare - Oskar**



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

**Waveney - Robert**

**Deben - Lexi**  
**Orwell - Beatrix**  
**Yare - Emma**







## *LAMDA Results*

Hollie Shines!

Congratulations to Hollie for passing her first LAMDA exam with a distinction.

Her talent, hard work, and passion for performance are inspiring – watch this space, because she's just getting started!



## *School Council Election*

We are excited to announce that our new School Council has been elected by the children. They are; Rosie, Anna and Sophia.

The council gives every pupil a voice in shaping the school. Representatives will work together to share ideas, suggest realistic changes, and to help make our school a better place for everyone. The children already have plans and ideas, so watch this space!







# Upcoming Events



Our Henstead bonfire and fireworks night will be held on Friday 7th November. You can purchase tickets by scanning the QR code on the poster or by clicking the link below.

[\\*BOOK HERE\\*](#)

We'd love your help spreading the word! If you see our bonfire night post online, please share it with your family and friends or repost it on social media.

Every share helps us reach more people, and will make this event an even bigger success!

If you have any wood that you would like to dispose of, please feel free to drop it off at the school for our bonfire!







## *Lunch Menu - w/c 6th October*

|                  |                                                                                                            |
|------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>MONDAY</b>    | Jacket potato with cheese, beans or tuna                                                                   |
| <b>TUESDAY</b>   | Cottage pie                                                                                                |
| <b>WEDNESDAY</b> | Chicken fajitas<br>Nursery - Sausage, mashed potato & peas                                                 |
| <b>THURSDAY</b>  | Pesto pasta & garlic bread<br>Nursery - Roast chicken, seasonal veg, boiled potatoes and yorkshire pudding |
| <b>FRIDAY</b>    | Homemade pitta pizza with a choice of toppings<br>Nursery - Fish, chips and peas<br>Dessert of the week    |

Daily salad/fruit bar and yoghurt

*Alternatives for vegetarian, vegan and food intolerances.*





## *Lunch Menu - w/c 13th October*

**MONDAY** Jacket potato with cheese, beans or tuna

**TUESDAY** Lasagne

**WEDNESDAY** Roast Chicken, seasonal veg, potatoes and Yorkshire pudding

**THURSDAY** Beef burgers, potato wedges and corn on the cob

**Nursery** - Homemade pitta pizza

**FRIDAY** Hot dogs  
Dessert of the week

Daily salad/fruit bar and yoghurt

*Alternatives for vegetarian, vegan and food intolerances.*





## *Social Media*

See the magic of Henstead – follow us on **Facebook & Instagram!**

Want to see what our pupils are up to? Follow us on Facebook and Instagram for updates from school, trips, and special events.

It's a fun way to stay connected and see all the exciting moments happening at Henstead.



Instagram – [@theoldschoolhenstead](https://www.instagram.com/theoldschoolhenstead)



Facebook – [@theoldschoolhenstead](https://www.facebook.com/theoldschoolhenstead)







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