



THE OLD SCHOOL
HENSTEAD

INDEPENDENT PREPARATORY SCHOOL

Henstead Headlines

Wednesday's Sports Day and summer fair were a great success and it was wonderful to see pupils competing in the races with such enthusiasm, determination and good humour. Thank you to all the parents and family who came along to support the children. We're now looking forward to Nursery Sports Day next week, which will give our youngest pupils their opportunity to shine.

One of the highlights of Sports Day was seeing several former Henstead pupils return to help. It was lovely to welcome them back and to see the confident, capable young people they have become. Next week, we'll also be welcoming back a former Head of School for a period of work experience.

I often say, "Once a Henstead pupil, always a Henstead pupil," and there is certainly truth in that. Many former pupils remain strongly connected to the school and look back fondly on their time here. Their willingness to return and support the school is something of which we are very proud and reflects the strong sense of community that makes Henstead such a special place.

With best wishes,

Dana

Summer Term
26th June 2026



Key Dates:

Tuesday 23rd June – Move-Up Morning

Tuesday 23rd June – Sponsored Mini-Marathon

Wednesday 1st July – Summer Show at the Seagull Theatre

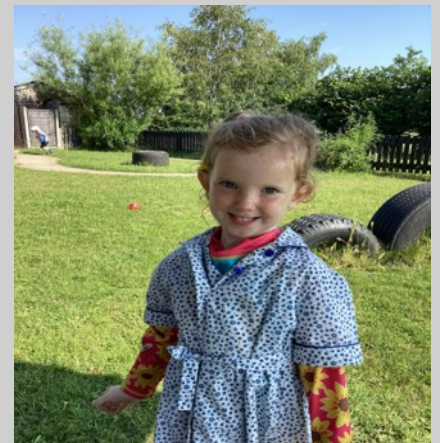
Thursday 2nd July – Summer Show at the Seagull Theatre

Friday 3rd July – Speech Day, Whole-School Picnic and End-of-Term



Nursery

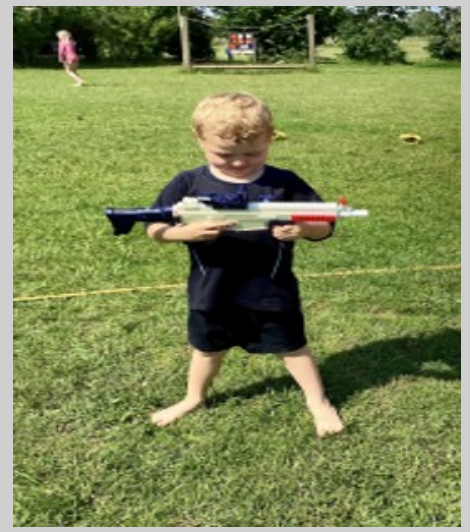
The children have been loving the sunshine at Henstead this week, partaking in a range of garden activities including practicing for sports day - trying to keep the balls on the parachute and splashing in our new paddling pool. They particularly enjoyed the water sprays we had out, especially getting the teachers wet!





Junior School—Reception

The pupils have had a busy week this week with rehearsals, and cooled off on Friday afternoon's slip and slide!





Junior School—Mrs Dakin's Class

The children have thoroughly enjoyed our dinosaur topic over the past few weeks. They have been learning about different dinosaurs and finding out fascinating facts about how they lived. Rosie has shown great enthusiasm by creating some fantastic dinosaur artwork at home, including detailed dinosaur drawings and a creative leaf collage dinosaur.

As part of our topic, pupils became palaeontologists and took part in a dinosaur egg excavation. They carefully chipped away at the eggs to discover the baby dinosaurs hidden inside, just like real fossil hunters! The activity was a huge success and sparked lots of discussion about fossils and prehistoric life.

The children are now busy creating fact files about their favourite dinosaurs, researching information from books. Robert also proudly shared a wonderful paper model he had made, demonstrating his creativity and careful crafting skills.

Alongside our topic work, it has been a very busy couple of weeks with end-of-year assessments, summer show rehearsals and Sports Day practice. The children have worked incredibly hard, shown great perseverance and continued to approach every activity with enthusiasm.

Mrs Dakin





Senior School - Mrs Braidwoods's Class

The pupils have all been working extremely hard on show rehearsals for the past few weeks. We have been running the entire show and slowly introducing props and scenery; I have been extremely impressed by how quickly they are improving and remembering their cues. The progress in confidence in the past year has been astounding and the children are all excited to show you what they have been working on!







Senior School—Mrs Sown's Class

Looking Back on a Wonderful Year

As we come to the end of another busy year at Henstead, our Year 5 and 6 pupils have been looking back on the experiences, achievements and memories that have made this year so memorable.

For many, the year has been full of new opportunities and personal growth. Johnny reflected on how sport had opened up new experiences, saying, *"Long jump, high jump, bench-ball and ball throw have really broadened my sporting horizons."* He also spoke about the confidence he has gained, reflecting, *"I have grown in confidence, feel able to express how I see the world, and have learned many valuable life lessons. This school is truly a lovely corner of the world."*

Academic and extra-curricular success has also been a source of pride. Beatrix highlighted an outstanding personal achievement, explaining, *"I am proud that at the beginning of the year I took my first LAMDA exam and achieved a distinction with 82% – the highest result in the school."* She also reflected on the progress she has made in the classroom and the freedom to be herself, commenting, *"Over this year I have improved in maths, and I love that nobody at this school gets bullied or teased if they don't fit into a particular mould."*

Cont'd



Senior School—Mrs Sonn's Class

The residential trip to Yorkshire was, unsurprisingly, a highlight for many pupils. Lexi described it as the biggest adventure of the year, recalling, *"The climbing was a challenge – I got almost halfway up before having to come down again because I'd seen a spider!"* Alongside these adventures, friendships and special moments have continued to grow. Emma remembered, *"I loved the tea party I had with my friends to celebrate working really hard,"* while Lexi added, *"I've really enjoyed making friends with the Year 5 pupils this year."*

Our pupils have also enjoyed exploring fascinating topics across the curriculum. Sophia said, *"I loved learning about crime and punishment,"* and also reflected on how she feels she *"has grown in confidence throughout the year."*

These reflections capture so much of what makes Henstead special: achievement, adventure, friendship, confidence and a community where every child is encouraged to be themselves. We are proud of our Year 5 and 6 pupils and look forward to seeing what they achieve in the year ahead.

Mrs Sonn



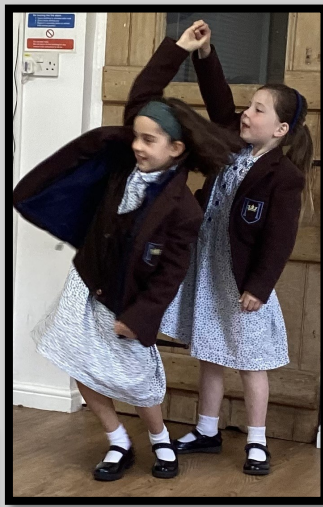
Year 5-6 - Class of 2025-26





LAMDA Performances

Congratulations to our LAMDA pupils, who recently gave a wonderful performance in assembly.





Mini Marathon



OUR 3RD & FINAL SPONSORED CHALLENGE OF THE YEAR

MINI MARATHON



PUPILS VS STAFF & PARENTS

We're lacing up our trainers for our Sponsored Mini Marathon – one final challenge before the finish line of the school year



TUESDAY 23RD JUNE

Just a few **PENNIES** of sponsorship would be **GREATLY APPRECIATED**

EVERY **PENNY** COUNTS

SCAN THE QR CODE FOR SPONSORSHIP



THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY!



Sports Day

Sports Day is always one of the highlights of the school year, and this year's event certainly did not disappoint. With glorious weather, pupils threw themselves into every event with enthusiasm, determination and excellent sportsmanship.

The morning saw pupils competing in the long jump, high jump and ball throw, before attention turned to the athletics track in the afternoon. Pupils raced their hearts out, earning valuable points for their houses.

Of course, no Sports Day would be complete without the traditional mums' and dads' races, followed by the annual Parents vs Pupils Tug of War. Despite the pupils' best efforts, the parents emerged victorious once again – although some suspect the result may have been fixed!

The fun continued with the slip-and-slide competition before the day concluded with the traditional soaking of the House Leaders.

Congratulations to Deben, this year's worthy champions, and thank you everyone who came along to support the pupils and make the day such a success.











Mascots & House Golds

House Golds Winners:

Yare — Robert

Waveney — Rosie

Orwell — Anna

Deben — Florrie

Mascots last week:

Reception - Julius for his confidence in maths, particularly with addition.

Year 2 - Rosie for her focus working on her dinosaur project.

Year 3/4 - Ottilie P for her confidence and independence during her assessments

Year 5/6 - Lexi for having a fantastic attitude and doing so well in her assessments.





Lunch Menu :- w/c 22nd June

Monday:	Homemade quiche Nursery: Tomato pasta
Tuesday:	Pulled pork with coleslaw
Wednesday:	Jacket potato with beans & cheese Nursery: Chicken carbonara
Thursday:	Beef burger with wedges & corn on the cob Nursery: Homemade pizza
Friday:	Homemade sausage rolls with potato wedges and corn on the cob Nursery: Fish, chips and peas

Dessert of the week

Soup served daily
Salad/fruit bar and yoghurt
Sandwiches served each day



Lunch Menu :- w/c 29th June

- Monday:** Pesto pasta with garlic bread
- Tuesday:** Sausage, chips and peas
- Wednesday:** Jacket potato with beans and cheese
- Thursday:** Butter chicken with rice & naan bread
- Friday:** Fish, chips and peas

Dessert of the week

Soup available each day

Salad/fruit bar and yoghurt

Sandwiches served each day

Alternatives for vegetarian, vegan and food intolerances.

Social Media

Stay up-to-date with the magic of Henstead!

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

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



Instagram – [@theoldschoolhenstead](#)



Facebook – [@theoldschoolhenstead](#)

