



THE OLD SCHOOL
HENSTEAD

INDEPENDENT PREPARATORY SCHOOL

Henstead Headlines

If you were to wander around the school at the moment, you would be forgiven for thinking that the summer term had suddenly accelerated. From the hall comes the sounds of show rehearsals, with songs being polished and dance routines perfected, whilst outside on the field pupils are busy preparing for Sports Day.

Meanwhile, musicians and LAMDA pupils are putting the finishing touches to performances, and classrooms are focused on end-of-year assessments. Whilst these may not generate quite the same excitement as the school show, they provide an important opportunity for pupils to demonstrate just how much they have learned and how far they have come since September.

What is most striking at this time of year is the confidence with which pupils embrace these varied challenges. Whether on the stage, on the sports field or in the classroom, their enthusiasm and determination continue to impress. There is certainly no sign of winding down just yet!

Before I close, I would like to thank all of you for your generosity in supporting the school's fundraising efforts throughout the year. Whether through sponsorship for events such as the Sponsored Swim and Henstead Hike, or donations towards events such as the Easter Fair raffle hampers, your contributions have been greatly appreciated.

The funds raised will help us to further enhance the opportunities and experiences we are able to offer pupils, and I look forward to sharing news in the near future of how your donations have been put to good use.

Mrs Sonn

Summer Term
5th June 2026



Key Dates:

Wednesday 10th June – LAMDA Performance Assembly
(families of participating pupils warmly invited)

Wednesday 17th June – Sports Day & Summer Fair (Timings tbc)

Thursday 18th June – Senior School Parent-teacher Meetings

Friday 19th June – Instrumental Performance Assembly
(families of participating pupils warmly invited)

Tuesday 23rd June – Move-Up Morning (*revised date*)

Tuesday 23rd June – Sponsored Mini-Marathon

Wednesday 1st July – Summer Show at the Seagull Theatre (Details to follow)

Thursday 2nd July – Summer Show at the Seagull Theatre (Details to follow)

Friday 3rd July – Speech Day, Whole-School Picnic and End-of-Term
(Details to follow)





Reception

Since returning from our week off, the pupils have been very excited about the new ice cream role-play area. They have enjoyed taking turns serving each other, using the till, choosing ice creams from the menu, and serving different flavours.

In Maths, they have been exploring patterns, using cutting skills to place fruit in the correct order. They have also been developing their addition and subtraction skills by counting scoops of play ice cream and solving simple number problems.

The children have written some wonderful sentences about butterflies, carefully describing pictures and then writing about them. It has been lovely to see their confidence and independence continue to grow through their nurturing and hardworking approach.

In art, they have pressed flowers and used them to create beautiful cards for their families, which they really enjoyed.

It has also been wonderful to see how the boys have carefully nurtured their plants in the Reception garden!

Mrs Webster



Reception





Reception





Junior School—Mrs Dakin's Class

As we move into the second half of the summer term, we have lots of exciting events and activities to look forward to, and the children have thrown themselves into all of the co-curricular learning experiences that make life at Henstead so rich and rewarding

In Phonics and Spelling, we have been learning about words containing suffixes. We began by exploring words ending in -ed and have now moved on to -s and -es. The children have been learning rules to help them remember when to add -s. For example, words ending in sh, ch, as, s, x or a usually take -es.

Our dinosaur theme has continued across both English and Science. The children used Venn diagrams to sort dinosaurs into herbivores, carnivores and omnivores, discussing what each type of dinosaur would have eaten. We have also had a mysterious visitor in our classroom, as dinosaur footprints have suddenly appeared!

The pupils have enjoyed investigating where they came from and which dinosaur may have left them behind.

Mrs Dakin



Junior School - Mrs Dakin's Class





Henstead Hike—2026

What a wonderful day we had for this year's Henstead Hike! Blessed with glorious weather, our pupils, their families and canine friends enjoyed the beautiful Suffolk countryside at its very best.

Throughout the day, spirits remained high, with plenty of smiles, encouragement and laughter along the way.

A particular highlight was what has become a traditional lollypop pitstop, kindly provided by a very generous grandma, which was gratefully received by all and gave everyone an extra boost for the final stretch!

Well done to all pupils, who tackled the challenge with determination, enthusiasm and resilience. The fantastic Henstead spirit was evident throughout the day, with everyone supporting one another and embracing the adventure.

A huge thank you to all the families who helped make the day such a success. Together, we raised £980, which is a tremendous achievement and will make a real difference.

Thank you to everyone involved for making it such a memorable day.





Henstead Hike—2026





Suffolk Residential

Our Suffolk Residential was a tremendous success, providing the pupils with an unforgettable experience packed with adventure, teamwork and plenty of fun.

The trip began with a stop at the supermarket, where they took responsibility for purchasing food supplies before travelling to High Lodge in Thetford Forest. There, they embraced the challenge of the Go Ape course, showing courage and determination as they navigated the treetop walkways.

Following an action-packed afternoon, the pupils travelled to Three Rivers Pitch and Paddle in Geldeston. Working together, they set up camp, organised their tents and settled into their temporary homes for the night. A well-earned fish and chip supper rounded off a busy day before everyone retired to their sleeping bags.

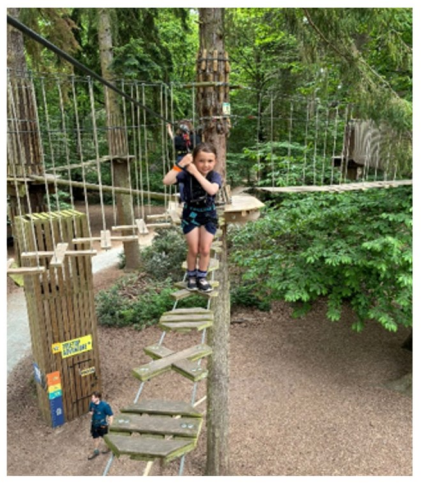
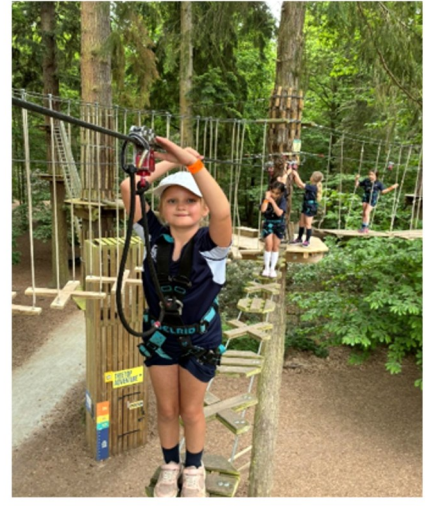
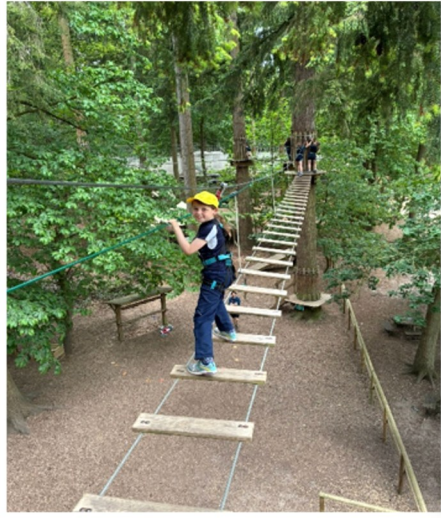
After a night under canvas, there were certainly a few sleepy faces the next morning, but once breakfast was finished, they worked efficiently as a team to strike camp and pack away all their equipment.

The adventure continued with a paddleboarding session, which resulted - inevitably - in a few splashes!

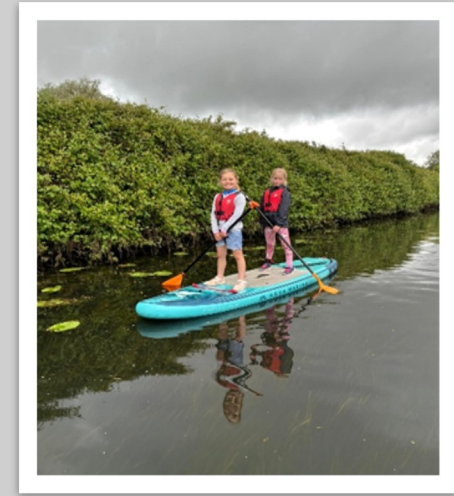
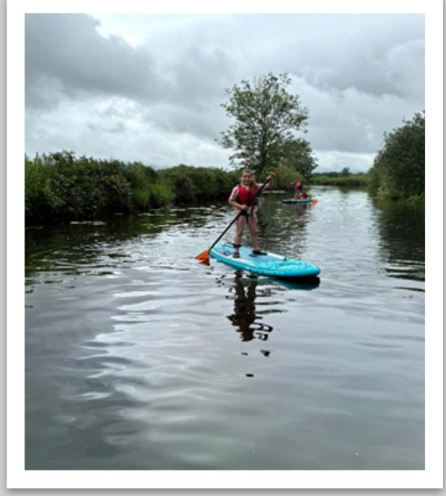
Residentials are about much more than outdoor activities. They provide opportunities for pupils to develop independence, problem-solving skills and confidence, whilst creating memories that will stay with them for years to come.

Mr Hunter and Mrs Braidwood











News—A Special Visit from our Feathered





News

Congratulations to Sophia on achieving a Distinction in her LAMDA Level 1 Award in Solo Performance. This is a fantastic achievement and recognition of her hard work, confidence and performance skills.

Well done, Sophia!





Congratulations

Congratulations to Margot, who recently earned her Swim England Rainbow Distance Award after successfully swimming 2,000 metres. This is a wonderful achievement and a testament to her determination and commitment.

We are delighted to celebrate her success!





Mascots & House Golds

House Golds Winners:

Yare — Rosie

Waveney — Robert

Orwell — Anna

Deben — Vincent



Mascots last week:

Reception - Lennon for his creative writing

Year 2 - Vincent for his analytical approach to fractions

Year 3/4 - Imogen for settling into life at Henstead with such confidence

Year 5/6—Johnny for his focused attitude to learning





Up & Coming Event—23rd June 2026



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!



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

**EVERY
PENNY
COUNTS!**



Let's run, jog and
cheer each other on!



Have fun, show team
spirit and get involved!



Together, we can
make a big difference!

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY!



Lunch Menu :- w/c 8th June

Monday:	Homemade quiche. Nursery: Tomato pasta
Tuesday:	Pulled pork with coleslaw
Wednesday:	Jacket potato with beans & cheese
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

Alternatives for vegetarian, vegan and food intolerances



Lunch Menu :- w/c 15th 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](#)

