

# The Old School Henstead



Newsletter  
Autumn Term 2010 – Issue 2  
17<sup>th</sup> September 2010

**Letters issued this week:** New Parents' Evening  
Year 6 Trip to The Time and Tide Museum

**PTFA** – A reminder that the first PTFA meeting of the year is next Tuesday at 7.30pm in the school hall. Everybody is very welcome.

## Calendar Additions –

**Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> September** – Years 3 and 4 Trip to Benacre

**Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> October** – ISA Regional Swimming Gala in Ipswich.

Sadly this clashes with another fixture but we still hope to take some children.

**Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 5.30 – 6.30pm** Choir to sing at Southwold Christmas Lights Switch On.

**New Parents' Evening** – All new parents are invited to school on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> September between 7.30pm and 9.00pm. This is an opportunity to meet other new parents, the staff and some governors of the school, for drinks and nibbles. I do hope that you will be able to come.

**Cub Scouts and Beavers** – We are hoping to start a Beavers and Cub Scout group at school next year. The first step is to try to find some people who are willing to help with this venture. The group will be run by Mr Dakin (Mrs Dakin's husband) who is an experienced scout leader, but we will need others who are able to help out as well. The group will be open to those at school and to others from our community and will run during our activity time after school. If you are interested in helping, or know someone who might be, please have a word with Mr Griffin.

**Day at the Beach** - On Tuesday, Y2 enjoyed a trip to Lowestoft beach to introduce this term's "Seaside" topic. Our first "port of call" was a tour of the old Lowestoft trawler, "Mincarolo", followed by a close look round the £1million Lowestoft lifeboat, where the coxswain invited us to sit in the crew's seats and try out some of the controls! Inside, we were completely surrounded by a multitude of hi-tech, electronic instruments and dials – very space-age, and very impressive! The coxswain was obviously very grateful for all the donations, which had paid for this wonderful boat "Spirit of Lowestoft". We were then shown round the lifeboat station, and we also managed to spot a young seal in the water as we made our way back to Claremont Pier for lunch in Captain Nemo's! (My grateful thanks to Mr Scott for providing such welcome hospitality for us all!) Having set off in the rain, we were pleasantly surprised to see the sun come out for the afternoon, and we were able to enjoy building sandcastles as well as flying kites, which the children had made at school, the previous day. Many of the kites flew amazingly well, and there was a real buzz of excitement as the kites rose into





the air! Needless to say, the kites returned to school a little worse for wear – BUT – we had great fun with them, and our science work on wind power was really brought to life! My thanks to Mr Butcher for his invaluable help, and Y2 must be commended for their excellent behaviour throughout the day – a most enjoyable experience for us all.

P. Suffolk

**Cadarn 2010** - During the summer a lucky group of children from Years Five and Six spent four happy days roaming the Black Mountains in Wales on horseback. Our annual visit to Cadarn is always eagerly awaited and even some rather wet weather could not dampen our spirits. This is a particularly scenic area and the bunkhouse is located right in the heart of the mountains. The children were carefully matched to ponies suitable for their ability and were responsible for grooming and tacking up before each day's ride. They helped mix feeds and, once the ponies were safely back in their field at the end of the day, were armed with spades and a wheelbarrow to clear the yard.....a task popularly known as 'poo picking'! The rides covered a variety of terrain, including local forestry tracks, but the favourite was the five mile trek across the mountainside to Twin Streams where, as soon as the sandwiches had been devoured, the children devoted much energy to building dams. Thanks to Cathy and Tara for all their care and enthusiasm. We hope to be back next year. We must also express our gratitude to Mrs Burgess who very kindly agreed to act as a volunteer helper.

**Harvest Festival and Macmillan Coffee Morning** - Our Harvest Festival Service will be held at St Mary's Church in Henstead next Friday morning at 9.15 a.m. Parents (and grandparents, aunts and uncles etc) are very welcome to join us for the service. The children will travel to church by minibus. However, if you would like to take your child directly to church, please let your form teacher know. We always ask if children could bring harvest gifts that do not include eggs and soft fruit and in addition ask that children could bring a donation to the collection which this year will be shared between the church and Macmillan Cancer Support.

Following the service tea, coffee and cake will be served in the school hall for parents as part of the Macmillan 'World's Biggest Coffee Morning' and we hope to run a cake stall for the children at the end of the school day. We do hope that as many of you as possible will be able to join us for this and all donations of cakes both for the children and the coffee morning will be most gratefully received. They should be left in the office please.

**Hockey** – Next Wednesday, all the girls in years 4, 5 and 6 will be travelling to The Abbey in Woodbridge for a fun hockey session which starts at 2.00pm. They should be back at school by 4.10pm.

**As the weather is getting colder**, please ensure that your child has a coat at school every day.

**Senior School Open Days** – I have had notification of the following Open Days for entry into year 7 at Norwich School on Saturday 25th September at 9.30am and St Felix School on Saturday 9th October at 10.00am.