



Issue 3 - February 2020

Henlow Heart

Dear Parents/Carers

Thank you all for contributing to the area wide consultation regarding possible changes to the age ranges of schools in the Shefford/Stotfold pyramid which we are part of. We await CBC's report on this consultation and hope the Regional Schools' Commissioner will give our school the permission we have requested to move to age 9 to 16 years.

After a very busy Autumn term including our musicians and actors delighting audiences in December, we have been in fine voice at Young Voices and been invited to take part in the VE day concert for Barnardos at the Barbican in May. Thanks to Mrs Fordham for all she gives to encourage our musical talents. We also extended a warm welcome to the Watoto Choir who gave two concerts in our sports hall. An inspirational evening was very well attended and we raised the roof (not literally thankfully!) with our voices. Thanks to Mrs Coster for ensuring we offer our visitors an experience of true hospitality.

Each year Henlow Academy enters groups in the Eastern region schools' acrobatic competition and we are so proud that yet again we have been so successful. The winners will be competing in the national final in Stoke on Trent and we owe a great deal to Miss Carter for the high standards she insists we strive for.

Year 6 will sit mock SATS at the beginning of March and I know that they are focussing on developing their potential in reading, writing and Maths in addition to enjoying all of the wider pursuits which make our school the wonderful community it is.

I wish you all an enjoyable half term break.

Yours sincerely



Mrs Caren Earp

Headteacher

Watoto Choir



**An amazing £539 in
donations was raised
for Watoto at the
concert**

On Wednesday 29th January 2020 Watoto Choir visited Henlow C of E Academy.

We enjoyed their visit very much and we appreciated your donations. If you hosted, helped on the night or sponsored a member of the Watoto choir we are very grateful. We would not have been able to welcome the Watoto choir perform without your help.

Some of our school action group members helped out by serving a meal for the choir, collecting donations and showing people where to go. The helpers who served the food also ate with them and the food that they ate was chicken and chips!

The choir performed fun and enjoyable songs like 'We will go', all of the songs that they sang let all the audience join in and have a great time.

Harry G, Carys J & Natalie M

5CC



Australia Day



On Monday 27th January we held our own Australia Day to raise awareness and funds for the bushfire relief in Australia. Thank you to everyone who sent in cakes and biscuits for our cake sale or to the hundreds of pupils who brought the cakes on the day. We raised an incredible £200.50. Mrs Cooper's geography classes looked at the environmental issues surrounding the bushfires and produced amazing posters. Pupils also produced 'joey pouches' that we will be sending to a wildlife charity in Australia. The school kitchen even put on a special Australian themed menu for the day! Thank you to everyone for all your support.



School Action Group



School Action Group News

It has been a busy half term for School Action Group. We have organised 2 awareness days; ran an art competition; helped at the Watoto Concert and helped appoint a new maths teacher.

Moebius Awareness Day raised £330.44



Young Carers Awareness day saw the school dressed in a riot of colour, flowers and bees. The mufti day raised **£393.61** and the Art Competition produced some stunning entries.

SAG helped at Watoto



The Young Carers Art Competition produced three joint winners and these are celebrated below. Miss Cave is planning on using them in all school communications.



Tilly
8SG



Scarlett
6SG



Holly
5SM

Sport @ Henlow



Our Competition Gym pupils produced amazing performances at the Eastern Region Schools Acrobatics Competition. The winners of this competition will now go through to the British National Schools Finals in Stoke on Trent in May.

Our fantastic results were:

Under 11 Girls Pairs:

1st - Neve B & Ruby S
3rd - Daisy P & Shania R

Under 14 Girls Pairs:

2nd - Bella R & Izzy M
3rd - Piper L & Caitlin D
4th - Ellie H & Bethan M

Under 14 Group 6:

1st - Bella R, Izzy M, Piper L, Caitlin D,
Ellie H & Bethan M



Sport @ Henlow



Henlow Academy took part in the county cross country competition in January. Our runners put in a fantastic effort.

Year 5/6 boys came 2nd overall

Year 5/6 girls came 3rd overall

Special congratulations to Amelie who came 1st in her race and Zac who came third in his race.

Well done to all our amazing runners!



Great to get a win for our basketball team in our brand new basketball kit. A 30-16 win over Woodlands saw lots of great hoops scored.



Thank you to Akuma Sports for our new rugby kit. We are looking forward to using it next year!



Congratulations to Year 7&8 girls for coming 2nd in the Handball County Tournament



Young Voices 2020

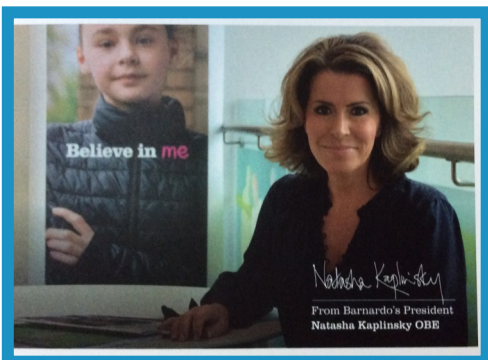


Henlow took part in the Young Voices concert series on Thursday 6th February. Music included the infamous Pop Medley, Queen Medley, A Thousand Hallelujahs sung with The Shires and Someone to Love led by Tony Hadley (formerly of Spandau Ballet).

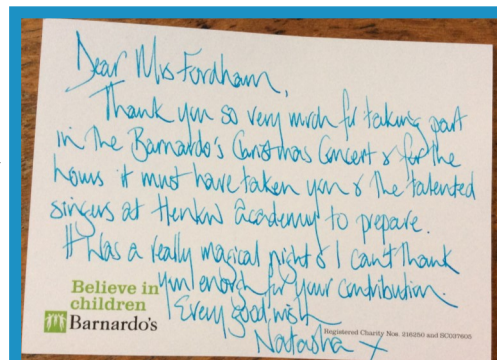
As always it was a long day but immensely enjoyed by the pupils and accompanying staff. Thanks to Mrs Fordham for organising, Mrs Marshall for her administrative help and Mrs Wild, Miss Chalkley, Mrs Jones, Mrs Pigram and Mrs Paine for accompanying the visit.

The next big event will be a VE Day concert for Barnardo's at the Barbican on the 4th May. If your child wishes to participate please contact Mrs Fordham.

Mrs Fordham is planning for 2021 already!



Mrs Fordham was delighted to receive a handwritten postcard from BBC Newsreader and Strictly Winner Natasha Kaplinsky congratulating the Chamber Choir on their performance at the Barnardo's Christmas Concert in December.



The Travels Of Henry Henlow



Henry Henlow's trip to South Africa December 2019

Safari

On the 2nd day in the Kruger we got up at 5am and set off in our jeep to the Paul Kruger Gate which is where we entered the Kruger National Park. On the way in, we saw many impala and families of giraffe on the side of the road. Going over the bridge, we were amazed by the sudden arrival of a male leopard walking on the road right in front of our jeep.

Further into the park we saw an elephant peeking through a bush with long white tusks gleaming through the branches but it wasn't just one -

immediately a herd of elephants

crossed the road before our eyes, close as 4 metres away.

Whilst driving around, we heard word of a sighting of a lion nearby. Down by the Great Sabie Sabie River, two purple

brown heads popped out of the water... HIPPOS!!!

Lolloping in and out of the water, the hippos played in the 51 degrees Celsius heat. Then something appeared out of nowhere, a crocodile, small, skinny and extremely secretive.

Heading back to the exit we spotted a lone rhino hiding from the sun between two small bushes. On our way out of the park, our guide pointed out and told us about a poisonous tree which has sap, when rubbed on your eyes, would blind you.



Table Mountain-Cape Town

Whilst visiting the famous city of Cape Town, we went to Table Mountain, a historic landmark and one of the 7 wonders of nature. Table Mountain from a distance, such as from Robben Island, looks like a long, and because it is flat, table. During our time on top of the mountain, we learnt about the history of the mountain, saw incredible sights of places around and in Cape Town and walked the paths on the mountain.

Izzy 7LC, George 5JF, Sienna 6RB (and another little person!)

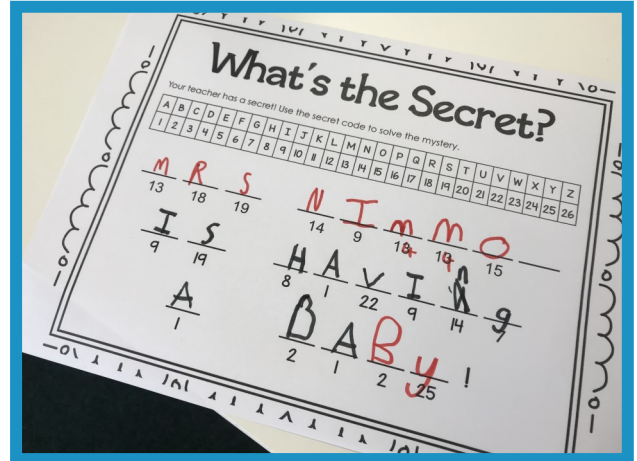


The Learning Centre



It's been a busy half term in The Learning Centre! The pupils have been doing a range of different activities.

We study a broad range of subjects in The Learning Centre. This term in Maths we have been looking at 2D/3D shapes, symmetry, measuring the perimeter and column addition. In art we have been able to practice our fine motor skills with sewing buttons and weaving. History has been very exciting because we have started a project on World War 2. We look forward to showing you them when they are finished!



We practiced our archery skills with Mr Worbey before taking part in an archery competition where we came 5th.

We had to do some code breaking to find out some exciting Learning Centre news!



We helped make dinner for the Watoto choir when they came to visit.



Library News

Library News and Information



Dreams and Aspirations

This half term pupils have had the opportunity to think about their '**dreams**' and have been filling our wings with colourful feathers of them.

A huge thanks to Trish and Adele (our Christian club leaders) for this wonderful idea.

Forthcoming Events in the library:

World Book Day is on Thursday 5th March 2020. For information about WBD, please see website:

<https://www.worldbookday.com/2019/09/world-book-day-2020-launch/>

Monday 2nd March - Thursday 5th March:

Book related activities will be on in the library during break and lunchtimes to tie in with World Book Day.

Friday 6th March:

Book character day. Pupils can dress up in their favourite book character. (We are not asking for any donations for this event.)

Reading Café: We are opening the library again to parents and carers at lunchtime. Please come and share a story with your children. We will provide a cuppa and a piece of cake! (An invitation will be sent out nearer the time)

World Book day £1.00 vouchers: These will be given out to pupils after half term. They can be used in book shops and most supermarkets.

Monday 16th March

Primary Books will be returning to host another book fair. Pupils will have the opportunity to look at the new books for sale. World Book Day vouchers can be used at this fair.

For further information please contact Carol White 01462 813733

cwhite@henlowacademy.org.uk

Top borrowers:

Pupils who borrow and read 6 or more books in a month are given a certificate and awarded 6 house points. This month 18 pupils borrowed 6 or more books! Pupils can gain an extra 6 house points if they write at least 2 book reviews On our Library 'Reading cloud' system.



Congratulations!

We would like to congratulate our very own Miss Sharp and Miss Farrington on their recent marriage. The Mrs Farrington-Sharp's will keep their maiden names in school to avoid confusion!

Parent Governor Appointment

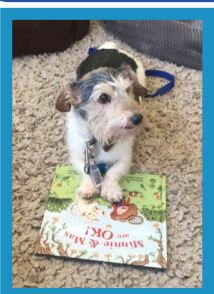
We would like to welcome Natalie Matthiae to our governing body after her success in our recent parent governor elections.

Can You Help Us?

On Friday 13th March from 9.30-12.30 we will have our third Careers Fair for Year 7 and 8 and we are hoping this year to make it the biggest and best yet.

To do this we need to have a range of careers represented. If you are able to join us for this or if you know people who might be able to attend, please contact Karen Bowskill kbowskill@henlowacademy.org.uk. It is a fantastic opportunity to help inspire our pupils and open their eyes to a range of possibilities. Thank you

Dave The Dog



Mrs Price would like to thank everyone for all the lovely messages and cards she has received following the sad news that our Pets As Therapy dog, Dave, has passed away. More details about the memorial we are planning for Dave will be sent out in due course.



Pupil Equipment

Please can you ensure your child(ren) has all the right equipment they need for school everyday. We are seeing an increasing number of pupils that are turning up to lessons without even a pen and pencil. As part of The Henlow Home School Partnership, pupils should attend school properly equipped.

The Need Project



The next half term The Need Project have asked us to collect dried rice (not microwave packets), tinned potatoes and tinned meat. Donations can be dropped off in the entrance hall basket.

Thank you for your continued support.



Dropping Children At School

At Henlow Academy we are committed to reducing the amount of traffic on the roads leading to the school grounds. With this in mind we would appreciate if you are dropping another child off at Raynsford, please let the Henlow pupils walk the rest of the way to school by using the path by the cricket pavilion to the back gate of the school, by Groveside.

Wrap Around Care



At Henlow Academy we offer a range of wrap around care to help with childcare. If you would like anymore information about what we have on offer please contact Mrs Marshall on 01462 813733 or email jmarshall@henlowacademy.org.uk



Breakfast Club

8:00am - 8:30am

£3 per day

No booking required

Pay through ParentMail or pay by cash

Homework Club

3:35pm - 4:45pm

Free



4:45 Club

4:45

4:45pm - 5:45pm

£6 per day

No booking required

Pay through ParentMail or pay by cash

2020/2021 School Dates



Please find below the academic calendar for the school year 2020 - 2021 for your information.

Henlow CE Academy Academic Calendar 2020/2021

School Holiday



Bank Holiday



Pupil Day



Training Day



September 2020						
Mon		7	14	21	28	
Tue	1	8	15	22	29	
Wed	2	9	16	23	30	
Thu	3	10	17	24		
Fri	4	11	18	25		
Sat	5	12	19	26		
Sun	6	13	20	27		

October 2020						
Mon		5	12	19	26	
Tue		6	13	20	27	
Wed		7	14	21	28	
Thu	1	8	15	22	29	
Fri	2	9	16	23	30	
Sat	3	10	17	24	31	
Sun	4	11	18	25		

November 2020						
Mon		2	9	16	23	30
Tue		3	10	17	24	
Wed		4	11	18	25	
Thu		5	12	19	26	
Fri		6	13	20	27	
Sat		7	14	21	28	
Sun	1	8	15	22	29	

December 2020						
Mon		7	14	21	28	
Tue	1	8	15	22	29	
Wed	2	9	16	23	30	
Thu	3	10	17	24	31	
Fri	4	11	18	25		
Sat	5	12	19	26		
Sun	6	13	20	27		

January 2021						
Mon		4	11	18	25	
Tue		5	12	19	26	
Wed		6	13	20	27	
Thu		7	14	21	28	
Fri	1	8	15	22	29	
Sat	2	9	16	23	30	
Sun	3	10	17	24	31	

February 2021						
Mon	1	8	15	22		
Tue	2	9	16	23		
Wed	3	10	17	24		
Thu	4	11	18	25		
Fri	5	12	19	26		
Sat	6	13	20	27		
Sun	7	14	21	28		

March 2021						
Mon	1	8	15	22	29	
Tue	2	9	16	23	30	
Wed	3	10	17	24	31	
Thu	4	11	18	25		
Fri	5	12	19	26		
Sat	6	13	20	27		
Sun	7	14	21	28		

April 2021						
Mon		5	12	19	26	
Tue		6	13	20	27	
Wed		7	14	21	28	
Thu	1	8	15	22	29	
Fri	2	9	16	23	30	
Sat	3	10	17	24		
Sun	4	11	18	25		

May 2021						
Mon		3	10	17	24	31
Tue		4	11	18	25	
Wed		5	12	19	26	
Thu		6	13	20	27	
Fri		7	14	21	28	
Sat	1	8	15	22	29	
Sun	2	9	16	23	30	

June 2021						
Mon		7	14	21	28	
Tue	1	8	15	22	29	
Wed	2	9	16	23	30	
Thu	3	10	17	24		
Fri	4	11	18	25		
Sat	5	12	19	26		
Sun	6	13	20	27		

July 2021						
Mon		5	12	19	26	
Tue		6	13	20	27	
Wed		7	14	21	28	
Thu	1	8	15	22	29	
Fri	2	9	16	23	30	
Sat	3	10	17	24	31	
Sun	4	11	18	25		

August 2021						
Mon		2	9	16	23	30
Tue		3	10	17	24	31
Wed		4	11	18	25	
Thu		5	12	19	26	
Fri		6	13	20	27	
Sat		7	14	21	28	
Sun	1	8	15	22	29	

Request For Absence

We are not able to authorise holidays during term time. Please complete a request form if you require for your child to be absent from school for any reasons, other than illness. Forms can be obtained from the school office or downloaded from our website.



Attendance Matters!



Things to remember:

- ☒ You can be prosecuted if your child has unauthorised absences from school.
- ☒ If you do not let us know why your child is not in school their absence will be marked as unauthorised.
- ☒ Looking after other children, going shopping and waiting in for deliveries are not valid reasons to keep your child off school and will be marked as unauthorised absences.
- ☒ Parents can request to take children out of school during term time by writing to the Attendance Officer. However, holidays are only granted in exceptional circumstances. Absences taken without permission will be recorded as unauthorised and a fine will be issued.

FAQ

Q. My child has a tummy bug and isn't well enough for school. What do I need to do?

A. Call the school office on 01462 813733 before 9:00am to let us know. Children should not return to school after a sickness bug for 48 hours after their last episode of sickness/diarrhoea.

Q. I need to take my child to the dentist next week, do I need to let school know?

A. Yes please! Please inform the school office. Where possible please try to make appointments outside school hours/during school holidays. If that is not possible please make them for the start or end of the school day.

Q. I sometimes struggle to get all of my 3 children to school before the school gates close, being 5-10 minutes late doesn't really make that much difference does it?

A. It is important for all children to be in school on time as it can be upsetting for the child and disruptive for the rest of the class when children are late. Children who are late need to arrive via the school office and will get a late mark.

Our Attendance Team

Attendance Officer: Kelly Jando

Education Welfare Officer: Caroline Northover

Useful Numbers

School Office: 01462 813733

App - Parentmail

School Arrival

8:40am Warning Bell

8:45- 9:00am Registration

9:00 –9:15am Late mark will be issued

9:15am onwards Unauthorised absence

Did you know?

- ☹ 97% attendance means your child will have missed 6 days of school throughout the year.
- ☹ 90% attendance means that your child will have been absent for the equivalent of one half day every week.
- ☹ If you take a two week holiday during term time your child's attendance will automatically be reduced to less than 95%.
- ☹ A two week holiday each year in school means a total of 14 weeks teaching time missed. This is the equivalent of a whole term and can have a real impact on your child's literacy and numeracy skills.
- ☹ If your child does not attend school regularly and you fail to work with the school and The Education Welfare Service, you may be fined up to £2500 and in extreme cases sent to prison.

General Reminders



Please ensure all money sent into school is in a sealed envelope and has your child's name, class, what the money is for and the amount of money on the front.

Please make sure that all your child's clothes and property is clearly named. If your child has lost any items please make sure they check lost property ASAP.

The school office aren't always able to call home if your child forgets something they need that day at school. Please ensure your child checks their timetable and brings all they need each day.

ALL children are required to bring in a named water bottle daily. The school do not have cups to provide to children who do not bring a water bottle and the canteen no longer sells bottles of drinks. Bottles can be purchased from the school shop.

If a club/fixture is cancelled on the day it is meant to occur, we will send a message home via ParentMail. Your child will be sent to the homework club after school which finishes at 4:45pm unless you contact the school providing alternative arrangements which you would like them to do. We are unable to ring all parents individually and ask what their preference is for their child.

Please can all parents and carers check their child/ren's ParentMail accounts and ensure they are in credit. We are not able to provide snacks at break time to anyone who is overdrawn.

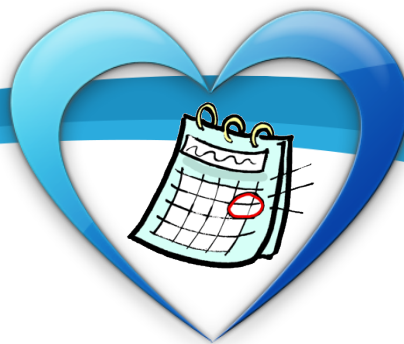
Please be aware that Breakfast Club runs from 8:00am until 8:30am.

Staff are not available to supervise children before 8:00am and therefore children are not authorised to be on site before this due to safeguarding and health & safety.

If you are interested in your child attending Breakfast Club, the cost is £3 per day.

Coming Up Next

Half Term



Date	Event	Additional Information
Monday 24th February	Back to school	
Monday 2nd - Thursday 5th March	Year 6 Mock SATS week	
Monday 9th - Friday 13th March	Sports Relief Week	Further information about our fundraising efforts to follow.
Friday 13th March	Year 7 & 8 Careers Day	
Tuesday 24th & Thursday 26th March	Year 6 & Year 7 Parents Evening	Further information about appointment booking will be sent out after half term.
Thursday 26th & Friday 27th March	House Sports	
Wednesday 1st April	Key Stage 3 Drama Performance	
Friday 3rd April	End of term	