

HEADMASTER'S WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

WEEK 7, 28TH FEBRUARY, 2025



Dear Parents

It has been wonderful to wish everyone a warm welcome back to the second half of the term and what a vibrant first week back it has been. Over half term, Mr Woods and Miss Goddard led a fantastic 'Gymnastics and Dance Day' in the Sports Hall. Having popped in to have a watch myself, it was great to see the children who attended learn a number of new dance routines as well as hone their gymnastics skills on a range of equipment. We will be looking into further opportunities for additional holiday activities and programmes going forward to complement our already popular Activate programme in the summer.

Our Mini Explorers ventured out into the Woodland Walk. Taking inspiration from the much-loved story 'We're Going On A Bear Hunt', they enjoyed a range of crafts in the Outdoor Classroom before a walk through the woods and a chance to explore the adventure play equipment. A well-earned hot chocolate with a homemade biscuit concluded a fantastic visit. This was not the only activity involving hot chocolate and the Woodland Walk this week; to mark 'International Polar Bear Day' and in continuation of their topic work on 'The Frozen North', our Reception children ventured outdoors for their story time. Warmed by the fire pit and some delicious hot chocolate, they listened intently to Mrs Harries read a number of sweet stories all about polar bears. Staying on the theme of the Woodland Walk, our Year 3 pupils were excited and proud in equal measure as they took a walk around the Woodland Walk to view the new, and incredibly beautiful, oak information boards. Very kindly sponsored by our fabulous PTA, the boards feature the project work our current Year 3 pupils completed in Year 2 about the flora and fauna in our Woodland Walk. Covering a diverse range of animals, trees, pond life and fungi, the boards display beautiful illustrations alongside illuminating facts, all written and drawn by the children. Well done, Year 3, and huge thanks to our PTA. It was also great to speak to so many Year 3 parents at Parents' Evening yesterday evening and I was so pleased to hear lots of positive comments about how your children are thriving at Town Close.

On a note of thriving, I was very pleased to hear that our Year 8 pupils who had applied to either Norwich School or Norwich High School for their onward education received some welcome news over the half term break, with all of them gaining places and a number of scholarships and awards as well. A 100% success rate is a tremendous achievement and something for the Town Close community to be proud of. We will share more about the onward destinations (both independent and state) of our Year 8 pupils, once they all know where they will be heading after life at Town Close, but I wanted to take the opportunity to say well done and good luck to those who are still involved in ongoing processes.

You will see from our sports reports that it continues to be busy on the sporting front and as I type this, I have heard hot off the press that our Colts A Boys' Hockey Team have become county champions – a tremendous achievement and we wish them all the best for the next round. It was also pleasing to see every Year 3 girl had the chance to showcase their netball skills and teamwork at a Netball Festival we hosted in our Sports Hall this week. The matches were played in great spirit, with all girls demonstrating impressive enthusiasm and determination! Our Games staff were thrilled with their progress, and to see their confidence grow with each game they played. Well done, girls!

My highlight of the week was seeing our Year 5 pupils set a challenge by Liz from [Konflux Theatre in Education](#) to devise & perform 'a play in a day'. Using the inspiration of the suffragette movement and their motto 'deeds not words', they worked well together in Read Hall and the Library, practising their stage directions as well as creating suitable placards before performing to parents and staff. Year 5 were challenged and Year 5 delivered! It was a fantastic performance entitled 'Deeds Not Words'. Well done, Year 5! Thank you to Liz from [Konflux Theatre in Education](#) for her infectious enthusiasm and guidance, as well as to the very supportive audience who laughed and clapped in all the right places.

I hope that all of the pupils have a wonderful weekend.

Mr. Nick Tiley-Nunn