

# HEADMASTER'S WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

WEEK 10, 22ND NOVEMBER, 2024



Dear Parents

It well and truly has felt like Winter this week and I can safely say that the snow flurry that we experienced on Wednesday caused significant excitement - one Year 2 pupil that I spoke to told me that it was the best breaktime of their 'whole, entire life' (all 6 years of it)! Whilst the snow was great fun, it also meant that many of our matches this week were unfortunately cancelled. However, I am pleased to inform you that our U11 girls who competed in the IAPS National Hockey finals last Friday made it through their group without conceding a goal. A narrow loss in the quarter finals to the eventual runners-up means that they can proudly hold their heads high having not only given their best but finishing in the top 8 schools in the country – well done! We also hosted a Year 5 and 6 swimming gala against Norwich School with all children swimming with great enthusiasm and energy, as well as showing fantastic team spirit throughout the event. The final result was a very pleasing 84 points to Town Close to 60 points for Norwich.

There has also been plenty to get excited about in the classrooms this week with highlights including Year 7 making some fantastic clocks in DT, Nursery throwing themselves into making some yummy looking Christmas Cakes, Year 2 producing some beautifully painted bird boxes and feeders and plenty of rehearsals taking place for a myriad of upcoming performances. We have also enjoyed some wonderful visits and visitors including the Year 7 and 8 trip to see 'A Christmas Carol' by the Northern Ballet and Mr. Wood visiting Reception to talk to them about his career as a judge. This week has also seen the most Headmaster's Commendations being signed into my 'Big Blue Book' – this is becoming a real highlight of my working week as it gives me opportunities to not only celebrate substantial success with a handwritten Commendation but also to reflect with each pupil on the hard work that led to the Commendation.

Whilst there has very much been a chill in the air in the mornings, the new Year 8 Common Room and newly arranged option for Prep pupils to spend time in the Library from 8.00am in the morning have been very much welcomed – Mrs Guymer is really enjoying seeing plenty of readers before the start of the day. On a note of new, I would like to add a huge thank you to all parents for your support with our new arrangements for Prep pupils coming into school in their Games kit on days where they are taught Games, something which has been a real success in terms of providing more pitch time for pupils. This has led to us rethinking the space required for bag stores and as such we have commenced work this week on revamping one of these large bag rooms into a new additional Science Lab (opposite the current lab), which we hope to open early next term once the work is completed; we hope that this will be an exciting addition to the facilities that our pupils enjoy.

Thank you to those who signed up for the ski trip; with sign up for this closing today. Interest in this trip has been very high and we currently have more pupils requesting places than there are spaces but we are looking at options for whether we can increase the number of spaces and will be in touch as soon as we can confirm this. It is worth noting that it is our intention to run a ski trip every year, therefore we aim to give any children who are placed on a waiting list priority places (should they wish to take them) for the following year. Thank you also to those who responded to our minibus survey, which we will analyse before considering the next steps.

From Tuesday next week, I will be away from school carrying out a school inspection on behalf of the Independent Schools Inspectorate – something which I am required to do at least twice a year, but I look forward to seeing all of the pupils when I return to school on Friday.

I hope that you have a great weekend

Mr N A J Tiley-Nunn

