



# TOWN CLOSE SCHOOL

NORWICH'S FINEST PREP SCHOOL • FOR GIRLS & BOYS • 3-13 YEARS

## Reception Curriculum Information

Week beginning: 10<sup>th</sup> October 2016

Dear Parents

In assembly this week, Pre Prep children celebrated harvest by singing lots of new songs they have learnt, including Mr Scarecrow and Big, Red Combine Harvester. Some of the Year 2 children (including our top birds) told a story of harvest, spelling out many relevant words, using the letters in 'harvest'. We considered how lucky we are to have such varied and plentiful food supplies and that it is important to help those who are not as lucky as we are. We marvelled at the fabulous donations that our Town Close families generously provided. Thank you all so very much for these donations which have been delivered to Norwich Foodbank.

Bird Family meetings focused on 'germs' and how to stop them from spreading, by remembering to wash our hands thoroughly. Children were reminded about how to wash their hands effectively.

This week we have ventured into the woods following the journeys of 'The Leaf Man' by Lois Elhert and 'The Gruffalo' by Julia Donaldson/Axel Scheffler. Exploring our wonderful grounds in the autumn weather has been very exciting and we have been impressed with the independence demonstrated by the children as they change into their outdoor clothing. We have talked about the seasons as the leaves fall from the trees and we created some remarkable creatures from our gathered leaves.

In phonics we have revised the sounds taught so far and introduced the phonemes c, k and ck. Our tricky words this week are 'the' and 'go'. In literacy lessons the children have drawn story maps to represent their own version of the story of 'The Gruffalo'. We hope you enjoy listening to their recounts as they use the stick puppets in their special books.

Following on from last week's maths focus of adding one more, we have introduced the concept of taking away. The children have been singing a countdown song about autumn leaves blowing off a tree and they have played a variety of games which involve adding and taking away. Over the weekend you may like to play simple board games at home encouraging your child to count and move on or back on the roll of a die etc.

In games we enjoyed playing with balls and hoops. We have been learning how to throw a ball to a partner, how to control a ball with a hockey stick and we have been trying to keep a hula hoop spinning around our bodies... it is very tricky!

Please continue to encourage your child to draw lines and circles and as you share stories at home keep a lookout for our tricky words in texts.

**Dates for your diary:**

**Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> October:** 'Wear something purple day' in aid of our charity, Nelson's Journey (Pre Prep children only - please bring in a £1 donation).

**Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October – 8.30am-10.00am:** Grandparents' coffee morning in the Pre Prep hall and visit to the classrooms

**Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October:** Break up for half term

**Monday 7<sup>th</sup> November:** Start of second half of term

**Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> December – 8.30am-10.00am:** Reception coffee morning in the Pre Prep hall followed by the Reception Christmas production in the Read Hall

We hope you have a lovely weekend with your children.

With our best wishes from Mrs Alexandre, Miss Knightly, Mrs Laing, Mrs Brown and Mrs Harries

*Melanie Harries*