



TOWN CLOSE SCHOOL

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

Year 2 Curriculum Information

Week Beginning: 7th November 2016

Dear Parents

Welcome back! We hope you all enjoyed a super half term break. We are hoping for good weather for the PTA bonfire party tonight and hope to see you there.

In assembly this week, we talked about Remembrance and observed a two-minute silence at 11am. We also talked about our new sandpit and discussed how safely to use the play areas now that the season is changing. Bird Family meetings focused on the election of new Top Birds, in which every child had the chance to vote.

Literacy lessons

This week the children have been:

- Learning to use apostrophes in words that end in "n't".
- Developing their reading comprehension skills by reading non-fiction books and articles about the history of Bonfire Night. Some of the new vocabulary that we have encountered has included: treason, plot, confessed, official, government, religious, rights.
- Practised their cursive handwriting skills by writing out the *Remember, Remember, the Fifth of November* poem.
- Writing recounts about their half term holiday (with a focus on using a variety of adjectives, as well as using full stops and capital letters appropriately).
- Starting to learn our class poems off by heart in preparation for our Christmas performance.

Maths lessons

This week the focus has been on adding and subtracting multiples of ten (and near multiples of ten such as 11, 12, 21, 22) to two digit numbers.

We have also been exploring how much money we can make using different combinations of coins.

Other lessons and activities

In science we have been identifying the properties of different fabrics. The children have been suggesting possible uses for various fabrics such as wool, cotton, leather

and paper. They have been explaining why certain materials are used for different purposes (such as thinking about why shoes are often made out of leather).

The children have been learning to use some new scientific vocabulary including: flexible, rigid, absorbent, opaque, translucent and transparent.

In our religious studies lessons, the question: 'Are we taking good care of our planet?' sparked some impressive debates and raised issues such as pollution control, recycling, global warming and de-forestation. The children worked in groups to sort a range of photos into those which showed our efforts to help the planet and those which showed how humans are harming the planet.

In music lessons we have been busy learning the songs for our Christmas performance. The children have really impressed us with their enthusiasm and how quickly they are learning so many new words. You may well have already heard some tuneful renditions at home!

Over the weekend

You might like to find out more about the life of Edith Cavell in preparation for our history topic work next week. You could also follow up this week's science work by talking about the different materials that have been used to make objects around your home. Ask your child why they think that particular material has been chosen.

Next week we will be learning more about World War I. Last year a number of children brought in photos, medals or documents which had been passed down from their ancestors who had experiences of World War I. There were so many that we actually managed to take photos of them to create a 'Year 2 War Museum'. The children found this fascinating so, if you have any such memorabilia or stories about family members, please jot them down or bring them in next week.

Dates for your diary:

Thursday 1st December – 8.30am-10.00am: Year 2 coffee morning in the Pre Prep Hall, followed by the Year 2 Christmas production in the Read Hall

We hope you have a lovely weekend with your children.

Mrs Bush, Mrs Hayes, Mrs Lawry and Mrs Harries

Melanie Harries