



# TOWN CLOSE SCHOOL

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

## Year 2 Curriculum Information

Week Beginning: 21<sup>st</sup> November 2016

Dear Parents

Bird family meetings focused on the subject of bullying; what it is and what to do if you are ever worried about anything at school. Children thought about the importance of being helpful and kind.

In assembly this week, Mrs Harries talked about what children might do if they were to hear a long bell ring. Children knew that this was the fire bell and we discussed the importance of getting out of the building quickly, quietly and safely. We also talked about the importance of having practices and that when the bell goes off, we do not know whether it is a practice or not, so must always listen to instructions carefully and exit the building correctly. We went on to have a fire practice that morning and the children were very sensible.

Mrs Harries also shared a letter with the children, sent by James Mayhew, the author and illustrator who visited us before half term, thanking the children for the pictures and letters we had sent to him, thanking him for his workshops. He wrote to say what a wonderful day he had had at Town Close and how impressed he had been with the engagement and delightfulness of the children. We were very proud to receive this!

### **Literacy Lessons**

This week we have been looking more closely at adverbs. The way in which an action is performed can be highly informative. It is hoped that these words will find their way into the children's creative writing. Our spelling rule has been to change verb endings from 'y' to 'ied' in the past tense. Again, this grammar point will help the children when they are writing about the past in our history lessons. The word building challenge was to find 'ea' words as in beak. Creatively, we have thought a lot about what it must have been like in the trenches. We have composed, copied out and decorated a letter home from the viewpoint of a WW1 soldier.

### **Maths lessons**

In our groups we have continued to investigate measurement. Ruling neat, straight lines, constructing 2-D shapes with rulers and measuring accurately are all key skills. From metres, to decimetres, to centimetres, a measurement should use the appropriate unit. Also we have revisited doubles up to double 15. From here we have begun to investigate near doubles. These are all strategies that can support us in our mental calculations.

### **Other lessons and activities**

- Our topic work has been dedicated to the study of the First World War and, in particular, the life and work of Edith Cavell. As our local heroine, born in

Swardeston, Edith creates a firm link between us in the present day and people of the past.

- In science/DT we have constructed periscopes. This apparatus was of vital importance and use in the trenches of WW1. Once we had made one, we had to investigate how it was used and how it works!

#### **Over the weekend:**

- You might like to visit the grave of Edith Cavell. It has been newly consecrated and provides key information about her life. There is also a memorial just outside Cathedral Close, near to the Maid's Head Hotel.
- Learning lines, songs and words of our class poems is of utmost importance this weekend. Please ensure that your child is confident at speaking loudly and clearly!

**Please can we ask that costumes for our Christmas production are brought in by Monday - thank you.**

Over the last few weeks, you may have seen some unfamiliar faces around the Pre Prep. We have welcomed Miss Bruce as the Teaching Assistant in Beech Tree class; Miss Garrett in the Nursery (to replace Mrs Wallace who left at half-term) and Miss While who began undertaking supply work with us but now joins us on a permanent basis to support our children in swimming lessons and in the Pre Prep. Finally, we welcomed Mr Walland who has joined our After School Care team. We welcome all our new staff to the Town Close family.

#### **Dates for your diary:**

**Thursday 1st December – 8.30am-10.00am:** Year 2 coffee morning from 8.30-9.00am in the Pre Prep Hall followed by the Year 2 Christmas production in the Read Hall at 9.00am

#### **Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December:**

- **Christmas jumper day** – Exchange your school jumper for a Christmas one in aid of Nelson's Journey. Please bring in a £1 donation – thank you.
- **Christmas fayre** – On the Prep playground starting at 4.00pm. Items that the children have made will be on sale. There will also be Santa's grotto with elves, a café and pizza to enjoy!

**Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December – 2.15pm:** Christchurch Eaton service for Year 2 and Year 1 children.

We hope you have a lovely weekend with your children.  
Mrs Bush, Mrs Hayes, Mrs Lawry and Mrs Harries

*Melanie Harries*