



TOWN CLOSE SCHOOL

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

Dear Parents

Friday 10th February 2017

We finished the half term with a whole school assembly this morning. Children heard the senior wind band rousingly perform the *Sousa Marches* and learnt about elephants and what we might learn from them. Pre Prep 'stars of the week' and Prep Headmaster's commendations were announced and we discovered the result of the half termly bird family token competition (Barn Owls won by 3 points) and the weekly Prep house point competition (won narrowly by



Upton). Earlier in the week, Revd Patrick Richmond visited Pre Prep pupils to talk about new beginnings and Mr Hughes led a special Prep internet safety day assembly on precautions needed when communicating or sharing online.



Today we have had an exciting Valentine's Bake Off, organised by three of our Year 7 pupils in aid of Nelson's Journey. The 9 competitors' cakes were sampled by our judges Mrs Harman and Mr Walker with Eloise Buck's valentine's brownies winning and Hugh Curson's valentine's sponge in second. Pupils who came along were asked to contribute 50p in return for seeing the show and sampling the cake, with attendees who had not brought 50p today asked to bring it in on the Monday after half term please. The film club captured the occasion and are now editing!



This week has had a story-telling theme: Year 3 pupils read to Nursery children and Year 2 children read to Year 8's; Year 3 pupils saw the High School perform the same version of *Jack and the Beanstalk* which they performed last summer; assembly for pupils in Years 2-4 taught children the history of story-telling and the origin of many well-known films; author John Harris visited pupils in Years 3-7, reciting exciting tales including *Beowulf*; Norwich Puppet Theatre performed Hans Christian Andersen's *Tinder Box* for pupils in Years 1-4, with a chance afterwards for a closer look at how puppets work.



Reception pupils had an exciting day at Banham zoo, where they saw penguins and arctic terns, which they have studied as part of their Polar Regions topic, and held a giant African snail. I also saw them creating some fantastic maps of Banham zoo in class, taking great care to label the animals. Earlier in the week I also did some shared reading with Year 2, saw Year 7 as they worked on their writing skills and visited history where Year 5 were studying World War II and answering some very interesting questions. An impressive 24 pupils won cross county medals in various age groups at the event held at Norwich School.



It was a pleasure to see Pre Prep parents on Wednesday morning to share plans for the forthcoming improvements. We also enjoyed meeting Pre Prep parents and parents in Year 5 last night and those Nursery parents who visited for consultations earlier in the week. We hope these meetings were useful and, as ever, are always available if any follow-up conversations are needed or you have further enquiries.

Next week is half term, with School resuming on Monday 20th February, when it will be STEM week, with lots of exciting activities planned, starting with a STEM assembly. Rehearsals for the Year 7 & 8 musical *Cats* will be culminating, there is a Year 8 parents' evening for CE subjects and a Year 4 trip to Sutton Hoo. Among the many sports fixtures is a Fencing match versus the Norfolk Academy of Fencing on Thursday evening.

Lastly, pupils in Years 3 & 6 take home their full half-yearly report today and I hope parents in these years find all the teachers' feedback useful. There are a lot of children who can feel proud of their achievements so far this year.

I wish all our children and families a very happy and enjoyable half term break.

With all good wishes

Nick Bevington





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BULLETIN BOARD

PREP and PRE PREP

DANCE

Please note that after half term the time and day of the Advanced Dance Club has changed from Tuesday 4.00pm - 5.00pm to **Thursday lunchtimes 12.45pm - 1.15pm.**

MANDARIN CLUB

Please note that there will be no **Mandarin Club** on Thursday 23rd February.

Head Lice

There have been a few cases of head lice reported by parents recently. Could parents please check their children's hair over half term and then ideally on a weekly basis. The School doctor suggests the following websites, where guidance about prevention and treatment can be found:

www.nits.net

www.patient.co.uk

We are very grateful to parents who do check and notify us when head lice are found.



A Year 4 pottery class earlier this week.



Year 3's work making pop-up model teeth!

GAMES DEPARTMENT NOTICES

Half Term Cricket Camp

Mr France will be running a 3-day cricket camp over the half term holidays from the 15th to 17th February. Boys and girls from Years 2-8 are invited to attend. For more information please contact Ben France at Ben@benfrancecricket.co.uk or Tel: 07540 580384.



Bowling Success

Louie Dawson (Year 5) recently competed at the South of England Bowling competition in Dunstable where he came second in the singles, first in the doubles and third in the overall team events in the 8-10 age group. He now goes on to compete in the Nationals at the end of May. Louie also recently retained his place in the Norfolk Under 15 bowling team. Very well done him!



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Data Collection Forms

A reminder to please return the Data Collection Forms sent home last week by Monday 19th February at the latest. Thank you.



Sainsbury's Active Kids

We are again collecting the Active Kids tokens this year. Please bring all your tokens to School and post them in the box which can be found in the Dearnaley foyer.

Apple Store Visit

Year 2 visited the Apple Store this week to take part in a workshop inspired by different buildings and how they make us feel. Children used apps on iPads and were given USB wrist bands with their creations on.



Year 3 pupils reading to the Nursery children as part of Storytelling Week.



Mr Tucker, father of Freddie and Pearl, talking to the Nursery children about keys and locks.



Certificate of Appreciation

Town Close Prep School

As part of your Harvest Festival donations 2016, you have very generously donated over **169kg** of food to support the work of the Norwich Foodbank! Based on the average weight of the food boxes we supply, this would be enough food to feed more than **22** local people, who is in crisis, for **3** days each.

Thank you very much for your support!

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