



TOWN CLOSE SCHOOL

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

Year 1 Curriculum Information

Week Beginning 1st May 2017

Dear Parents

In our Pre Prep assembly this week we introduced our new 'Top Birds' who had carefully counted all the tokens for their bird family, celebrated lots of April and some early May birthdays, talked about each class' special people and awarded medals and certificates. We were also treated to a lovely performance by Ella Snowling on her flute. Bird Family meetings focused on the difference between 'want' and 'need'; water and television being included in the discussion!

Literacy

Literacy groups have taken place on Tuesday and Wednesday this week. Mr Fereday's group consolidated their understanding of the split u-e (huge brute) grapheme while looking at how they can make improvements to their written work by including more descriptive language and extra detail. Mrs Wilson's group have looked at the ear (hear with your ear) trigraph as well as rewriting 'The Foolish Witch', which is based on the traditional tale 'Hansel and Gretel'. Mr Fisher's group have learnt the ur (nurse with a purse) sound. This group has also used their focus text 'Look Out!' to write descriptive sentences while trying to remember all of the components which comprise a full sentence.

Numeracy

Our main number focus this week has been adding three numbers together (three addends). We have looked at finding the easiest way of adding the numbers together such as finding the number bonds to ten first. We have also encouraged the children to find other number patterns within the three numbers, such as doubles which many of the children now know by heart up to twenty. The children have written number sentences in their maths books with emphasis being placed on good presentation.

Other lessons and activities

- In topic, we took a close look at the make-up of lilies. We dissected the lilies and looked carefully at the various parts. We also discussed the male (stamen) and female (carpel) parts.
- Willow class practised and improved their sprinting, relay and lane retention skills in games this week while Maple and Larch classes enhanced their throwing and catching abilities. All classes also continued working with bats and balls.
- The second half of each class started their computing work of creating a 'growing' poster on Microsoft Word. This included how to insert a border and title as well as adding text and images to a Word document.
- On our summer timetable we have a thirty minute (weekly) Religious Studies lesson. Last week we thought about our own ideas and words to describe God. This week we read the Parable of 'The Prodigal Son' from The Bible and talked about the moral of the story. We also made a craft person figure with arms outstretched to represent forgiveness.
- In art, we looked at primary coloured paints to mix into secondary colours. This is in preparation for looking at creating a piece of work in the style of Kandinsky next week, taking inspiration from his circles painting, as a possible piece for the art exhibition. The emphasis will be on the children using the knowledge they have learnt about

primary and secondary colours and colour mixing and working 'in the style' of the artist, rather than trying to copy his work.

Year 1 concert

You will notice in the list of dates that Year 1 are preparing a concert for you. All children will be performing in the concert, singing songs together as a year group. If your child learns an instrument and you think they would like to play a piece on it at the concert, please discuss this with your child's visiting music teacher, as they will be able to advise you as to whether they think your son or daughter is ready to perform. Once this has been agreed, please contact your child's teacher to let them know the name of the piece and the instrument they will be playing and please ensure that a copy of any accompaniment needed comes into school. Thank you.

We look forward to seeing many of you at parents' evening next Wednesday 10th May. Please note that this will take place in the Read Hall and NOT the Pre-Prep Hall.

Over the weekend your child might like to:

- Play a game which requires writing down numbers/scores and then adding them together at the end by finding doubles and number bonds. Crazy golf is a particularly good game for this! It can also be done by simply rolling three dice. Your child may wish to record some three addend addition number sentences in their home school book.
- Complete the handwriting and spellings homework allocated by their literacy group teacher.
- Enjoy their library book and remember to bring it back on Monday ready to change.

Mrs Dewsbury will be taking part in the *Norwich 100* bike event on Sunday 4th June. She will be raising funds for this year's school charity, *Nelson's Journey*. If you would like to sponsor Mrs Dewsbury, please visit her donation page: <http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/MrsDewsbury> or you can donate using the sponsor forms available in each of the Year 1 classrooms. Alternatively, you could make a small donation in to the purple Nelson's Journey collection pots, also located in each Year 1 classroom.

Dates for your diary:

Wednesday 10th May – 5.00pm-7.30pm: Parents' evening in the Read Hall. Parents are able to book an appointment slot using the new 'parents' booking system'. This can be accessed by clicking on the link 'view our parent information centre' on the main school website at www.townclose.com If you have any problems, please contact Mr Shone in our IT department directly on 01603-599031 or email cshone@townclose.com

Tuesday 16th May: Year 1 trip to Fairhaven – *please see separate letter*

Friday 16th June: Year 1 trip to Gressenhall

Tuesday 20th June at 2.15pm: Year 1 sports afternoon on the Prep Department front lawn

Thursday 22nd June: Year 1 trip (half day) to Norwich Castle

Tuesday 27th June at 9.00am: Year 1 concert in the Read Hall

Wednesday 28th June: Royal Norfolk Show – School closed

Tuesday 4th July: Moving up morning

We hope you have a lovely weekend with your children.

With very best wishes from Mrs Wilson, Mr Fisher, Mr Fereday and Mrs Harries

Melanie Harries