



# TOWN CLOSE SCHOOL

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

Dear Parents

Friday 28th April 2017

We started the week with a special assembly for Years 1-8 about our Pre Prep building project. Stuart Hawkes, project manager, told us how a childhood loving Lego and painting a cottage had led to a career as a quantity surveyor, which he loves. He explained the other roles involved as well as important building site safety messages. Reception, meanwhile, heard about the exciting banana project Mrs Laing is leading. Children have helped build our 'bananarium' and have learnt how the bananas will be planted and grown. Pre Prep bird families elected their new 'Top Birds', with the first token count to take place on Tuesday. Prep Headmaster's assembly was about a balance between time online and valuing all that there is in the real world, with some important e-safety messages included. We enjoyed a fabulous performance of *Long Long Ago* by Naomi Callow on her Cello, while Hannah Possener played *Land of Hope and Glory* magnificently on the saxophone.



On Wednesday our summer fixtures started with girls representing the School very well in tennis at Gresham's and three cricket fixtures versus Beeston Hall. Tea for the home matches coincided with a hail storm! Despite the cool conditions, some encouraging cricket was played. The weather was kinder for the Year 5 ASA camping trip last Friday, which children seemed thoroughly to enjoy. A group of Year 5 & 6 children enjoyed seeing *Running Wild* at the Theatre Royal on Wednesday evening and it has been wonderful to see these children competing in the Intermediate House Swimming Gala this afternoon.



Following enquiries from parents and pupils, we have met to decide which of an increasingly wide range of wrist devices on the market to allow in School. Prep children may wear any digital watch or wrist device, such as certain Fitbits, providing they

have no messaging capability, smartphone interface or internet connectivity. We discourage bringing anything too valuable into School and remind you that all items should be clearly named. Beware that fitness devices are of limited use as they may not be worn in games when a lot of steps are completed. Some also come off quite easily. Rest assured any school day is very active!



I have visited a number of interesting lessons this week, learning about capacity with Willow Class, undertaking athletics training with Larch Class, researching Thomas Becket and Henry II with Year 6, studying different cultures with 4MR, using the forwards jumping frog method to solve difference questions with a Year 2 maths group, investigating floating and sinking with Oak class and playing CVC word bingo with a group of Nursery children. It was also a pleasure to visit Mr Kendrick's Year 8 history lesson and to hear about one of his former Year 8 class members now studying medieval history at Cambridge. 4W delivered a brilliant assembly on Vikings, with the audience preferring their vicious side to their creative, it turned out! We look forward to 4MR's assembly next week and 4ER the week after. This week, it was also a pleasure to welcome Prep parents to afternoon tea, even if it was not quite warm enough to spill into the garden, and thank you to everyone who came.



Next week, we look forward to the Year 5 & 6 soloists' concert on Tuesday, Year 7's trip to the Salvation Army on Thursday, The Year 8 Holt Hall meeting on Thursday and the Year 6 ASA camp on Friday night. There are also a number of exciting sports fixtures.



Please remember it is a Bank Holiday weekend and School is closed on Monday. I hope you all enjoy the extra day with your children.

With best wishes

*Nick Bevington*

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## BULLETIN BOARD

### PREP and PRE PREP

#### Year 5 ASA Camping



#### Swimming Success

For the second year in a row Olivier Vedrenne is the County Champion for Norfolk in his age group. After competing in 16 events over one month and winning 11 golds, 3 silvers, 1 bronze and a 5<sup>th</sup> place across a number of events at this year's swimming county championships, Olivier was crowned the 12 year old County Champion 2017. An achievement attained by hard work and dedication to his sport. Congratulations Oliver!



#### Hockey Success

Last weekend Lottie Smith and Maddie Reynolds represented Norfolk U14 girls in the East of England County Hockey Championships at Ipswich School. They won runner-up medals after losing by a single goal to Suffolk after nearly 4 hours of hockey against teams from Bedfordshire, Essex, Hertfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Suffolk. Very well done to them.



Congratulations to Rocco Iaccarino, Freddie Paterson, Bobby Stuart Sheppard, Joseph Roy and James Cross who all played in the East Regional County Hockey Tournament on Sunday at the UEA, which they won! They played 5 games against teams from Suffolk, Cambridgeshire, Essex, Lincolnshire and Hertfordshire and were undefeated. They all played brilliantly - a great team effort against such strong sides.

#### Fencing Success

Well done to Eve Kelleway and Rose Blyth who competed in the Under 12 Norfolk County Union Fencing Tournament at the weekend. Eve achieved 2nd place whilst Rose came joint 3rd. Congratulations to them both.



#### Bananarium!

The igloo project is the result of a successful bid to The Royal Society for a grant to fund a Pre Prep research project named 'Bananas!' Our research question is: 'Do banana skins help banana plants grow?'

A requirement of the grant was to have a STEM partner so Mrs Laing's daughter, Sydney, ex Town Close pupil and Chemical Engineer, will be visiting us to do some soil testing experiments with the children.



Mrs Alexandre has started a blog to record the project which you can follow by clicking [here](#).



Norfolk Constabulary visiting Nursery



Bookings for the Summer Activate weeks can now be made online by visiting our new website at [activatenorwich.co.uk](http://activatenorwich.co.uk).

Monday 17<sup>th</sup> July - Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July  
Monday 24<sup>th</sup> July - Friday 28<sup>th</sup> July  
Monday 31<sup>st</sup> July - Friday 4<sup>th</sup> August

**25% DISCOUNT CODE: EARLY2017**  
**Deadline: Monday 15<sup>th</sup> May**