



TOWN CLOSE SCHOOL

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

Year 2 Curriculum Information

Week Beginning: 19th June 2017

Dear Parents

Year 2 concert - Friday 30 June: A reminder that we will start at 8.35am. This is so that anyone with a child in Prep Junior Sports Day can get to the events as soon as possible. We will ensure that any Year 2 siblings playing an instrument do so early on in the proceedings.

In assembly this week Mrs Laing, Mrs Alexandre and some of the Reception scientists told us the story of how the Bananarium came to be and showed us how well the banana plants have grown. We discovered that the plants which have grown best are those which were planted in soil, rather than those planted with a mixture of compost and banana skins. All the children in Pre Prep were set a challenge to design a poster all about the project with a chance of winning one of the banana plants to take home (further information below). This is an optional activity; family members are very welcome to get involved! Bird Family meetings focused on setting personal goals and targets.

Literacy Lessons

We have enjoyed reading and creating our own adaptations of the fable, 'The Boy Who Cried Wolf!' The children have written some wonderful variations including: 'The Girl Who Cried Peregrine Falcon' and 'The Boy Who Cried Trespassing Poachers!' We applied our developing knowledge of grammar and punctuation to bring our stories to life. The children had great fun with drama activities such as 'hot seating a villager' and 'freeze framing the villagers arriving at the top of the hill'. These activities helped the children to plan and rehearse some phrases for their stories. The children sketched story maps, which helped them to gather ideas and structure their writing clearly.

Maths lessons

This week's focus has been applying our addition, subtraction, multiplication and division skills to solve a variety of worded problems. The children practised writing out the calculations, which they used to solve the problems. We have particularly focused on division (using language such as 'sharing equally', 'put into equal groups' and 'dividing'). The children then enjoyed the challenge of creating their own 'number stories' for their classmates to solve.

We have also revisited time and money. Adding up larger combinations of notes and coins caused great excitement. You could develop this skill at home by encouraging your child to count out loose change (making sure that they start with the coins that have the highest value).

Other lessons

- In our topic lessons, we have completed our posters and leaflets about Kenya, which summarise the key facts that we can remember about this country. The children have enjoyed developing their bubble writing skills and considering how to make their poster 'eye-catching' whilst presenting the information clearly.
- In art, we have continued to create Kenyan inspired 'reduction prints'. The children have created some stunning designs, which they will be bringing home in the next couple of weeks.
- In science, we have been sorting animals according to their diet (herbivores, carnivores and omnivores). We have been learning the scientific language, which is associated with food chains. You might ask your child to explain the following terms: predator, prey, food chain, consumer, producer. We then sorted photos to create various animal food chains.
- We also enjoyed visiting the Year 3 teachers where we explored different genres of poetry and worked together to create our own poems.
- In PSHE, we have been discussing the themes of our bird family meetings: considering our goals for next year and the meaning of 'perseverance'.

Over the weekend you might like to:

- Talk about famous Norfolk attractions in preparation for next week's topic activity, which will be to design a leaflet for visitors to Norfolk. If you happen to come across any tourist information leaflets, please bring them in.
- Discuss whether different animals are carnivores, herbivores or omnivores and ask about how they are suited to catching prey or hiding from predators.
- Continue to read and discuss your child's home reading book with them.

If you would like to create a poster about bananas, you may like to look at the banana blog: <https://thebananaprojectblog.wordpress.com/> The competition is to create an informative poster about either the banana project in school or bananas in general. Please use the poster sheet provided and hand it in (with full name and class) to Mrs Laing by Friday 30th June.

Dates for your diary:

Wednesday 28th June: Royal Norfolk Show – School closed

Friday 30th June at 8.35am: Year 2 concert in the Read Hall

Tuesday 4th July: Moving up morning

Tuesday 4th July: 2.15pm Year 2 parents and children invited to the Prep Department §

Wednesday 5th July: Year 2 trip to Winterton Beach

We hope you have a lovely weekend with your children.

Mrs Bush, Mrs Hayes, Mrs Lawry and Mrs Harries

Melanie Harries