



TOWN CLOSE SCHOOL

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

Reception Curriculum Information

Week beginning: 9th October 2017

Dear Parents

It was lovely to see many of you at Parents' Evening this week to hear how your children have settled into life in Reception!

After an exciting weekend we welcomed 'Mrs Lavender' back into the Reception classes this week. If you are yet to become acquainted with our prize winning scarecrow, she is currently enjoying some peace and quiet in the Pre Prep Hall.

Whilst Year 2 enjoyed 3A's class assembly in the Read Hall performing the poem *Heard it in the Playground*, Reception and Year 1 children had an assembly about Harvest. They talked about the process of harvest, the use of scarecrows (at which point they sang 'Mr Scarecrow'), discussed foods which grow in the ground and on trees and considered just how lucky we are to have the variety and volume of foods that we do, whilst recognising that there are people in the world who do not have sufficient food to eat. We talked about the importance of fruits and vegetables in our diet as well as sharing the artwork of Archimboldo, in which he used fruits and vegetables to create portraits. We then had a challenge with two small teams who were given a selection of pictures of fruits and vegetables with which to design a face! Bird Family meetings this week focused on recognising and using good manners, whether it be in using cutlery well and remembering not to speak with full mouths, or in remembering to say 'please' and 'thank you'.

Literacy

Our story this week was *Monkey Puzzle* by Julia Donaldson. The children practised communication skills by contributing to a mind map entitled 'What is a puzzle?'. We talked about question marks and their use. You may like to see if you can spot any question marks in story books as you read to your child over the weekend. Our letter formation focus was the letters n and i. We all practised writing our names and we developed pencil control by drawing a path through a maze.

Maths

We have continued to explore pattern, in particular symmetrical patterns. The children used paint to make a butterfly with a line of symmetry down its middle and we worked as classes to mirror patterns either side of a piece of masking tape on the floor.

Other lessons and activities

We have played with a range of puzzles and games. We practised scissor skills by carefully cutting along lines on the back of a picture. We then sorted the pieces and worked out how to stick them back together to recreate the picture.

Over the weekend, your child may like to:

Enjoy doing some jigsaw puzzles and playing games together.

Dates for your diary:

Monday 16th October – 9.00am: PTA AGM and Coffee Morning in the Pre Prep Hall – all parents welcome

Friday 20th October – 2.00pm - 3.00pm: Grandparents' afternoon in the Read Hall and children's classrooms (please see separate letter)

Monday 23rd October – Friday 3rd November (inclusive): Half Term

Thursday 9th November: Charity day 'Dress up as your favourite sports personality' (in aid of Special Olympics Norfolk)

Friday 10th November – 6.00pm: PTA Bonfire Party at Tacolneston hall

Monday 13th November: Flu immunisations for children in Reception to Year 4

Friday 1st December – 4.00pm: Christmas Fayre

Thursday 7th December – 9.00am - 9.45am: Reception Christmas Production in the Read Hall

Wednesday 13th December: 'Wear a Christmas jumper day' (in aid of Special Olympics Norfolk)

We hope you have a lovely weekend with your children.

With our best wishes from Mrs Alexandre, Miss Knightly, Mrs Laing and Mrs Harries

Melanie Harries