



# TOWN CLOSE SCHOOL

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

Dear Parents

Friday 29th September 2017

I am writing to you from Edinburgh, where I have spent the last couple of days at the IAPS Heads' Conference. It has been fascinating to hear various perspectives on teaching and learning, including suggested skills our children may need in a world of ever increasing artificial intelligence and what the latest research tells us about how children learn best.

Earlier in the week, Prep pupils heard six impressive presentations from this Year's candidates to chair the School Council. Mrs Webb spoke about how democracy is one of our [Fundamental British Values](#), explained the Alternative Vote system used for the election and urged the children to ensure a high turnout. Congratulations to George Bowyer for winning this election and to all our other brilliant candidates who spoke so well. This morning's Headmaster's assembly was taken by Mr Coulthart, who spoke to the children about the important of having a plan for life, which culminated in Toby Penrose being crowned the jigsaw making champion! Menuka Jayakody also delivered a fine performance of *Rustic Dance* on the violin. In Pre Prep assembly we talked about gifts and how special they can be, especially when they involve a person's thought and time. Bird family meetings focused on the subject of playtimes and ways in which to ensure we have happy and safe breaks.



Year 6 had a very interesting trip to Walsingham on Monday, where they explored the Russian Orthodox, Roman Catholic, Methodist and Anglian Shrines and were able to take part in a sprinkling ceremony that pilgrims first did nearly a thousand years ago. Year 4 children had a very useful trip to Hethersett on Tuesday which helped them with their studies on settlements.



On Monday, I visited Year 7&8 girls during their hockey training session and was impressed with their dedication. Wednesday's fixtures gave a good chance to put their skills into practice and it has been lovely to hear from children who have enjoyed various sports fixtures this week, including the hockey tournament at Framlingham. I visited Mr Hall's Year 6 maths set on Tuesday and took part in a very interesting investigation to find the total number of rectangles on a chess board. The children devised a formula derived from simpler boards to calculate the answer as 1296, far too many to count! We also enjoyed meeting parents of our Year 8 children who are embarking on their final year at Town Close, and I hope the conversations were useful as children prepare to get the most out of this exciting year. Meanwhile Year 7 pupils are busy preparing for Monday when they will lead



Year 2 peers in a range of activities as part of a leadership course.

Senior Orchestra has been busy preparing for next Tuesday's orchestral workshop with three other schools, which will feature music by Dvorak, Symphony Number 9, extracts from *Les Miserables* and much more. The concert at the end of the workshop will be at 5.00pm in the Read Hall.

Please feel welcome to come along and listen, with parking available on the main drive. There is also music to be enjoyed next Thursday evening when a selection of musicians will be performing at 7.00pm, interspersed with poetry recitals and ballads. Year 5 parents have been invited to a presentation on Tuesday morning at 8.30am about e-safety, which I hope helps you to support your children in making the right choices online. Bookings open today for the PTA Quiz Night which takes place on Friday 13th October. Please see the attached flyer from the PTA for details of how to book tickets. Please also note that tickets for this event normally sell out very quickly.



Finally, next Friday is our [Open Morning](#), with pupils acting as hosts, guides and presenters to our guests. Please encourage any prospective parents you may know to book a place with Mrs Ford ([admissions@townclose.com](mailto:admissions@townclose.com)). We also warmly invite any Pre Prep parents who would like to come and see the Prep part of our School at first hand.

I wish you all an enjoyable weekend.

With my best wishes

*Nick Bevington*

Nicholas Bevington





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## BULLETIN BOARD

### PREP and PRE PREP

#### Individual and Class Photographs

You should have received, via your child, a pack with details of how to order your child's individual photograph. Class photographs can be viewed in your child's classroom and can also be ordered online at [www.bentleypics.com](http://www.bentleypics.com) or by telephoning Bentley Photographic on 0844 2570057. Please note that the deadline for order to be delivered free of charge to the School is the **13th October 2017**. Orders placed after this date will be delivered directly to your home and postage and packing will be charged.



#### Online Child Safety Workshop for Year 5 Parents

This is a reminder that we will be running this workshop for Year 5 parents on Tuesday 3rd October in the Read Hall. If you would like to attend it would be helpful if you could please confirm by email to [thughes@townclose.com](mailto:thughes@townclose.com). Tea, coffee and biscuits will be provided!

#### GAMES DEPARTMENT NOTICES

#### HALF TERM CRICKET COACHING DAYS

Cricket coaching days are taking place in the sports hall on Monday 23rd, Tuesday 24th and Wednesday 25th October between 10.00am-3.00pm. These days are open to Years 2-8 for both boys and girls and costs are based upon £35 per day and £90 for all three days.



Further details can be found by clicking [here](#) and to reserve places please contact Paul Newman [judge@acle32.plus.com](mailto:judge@acle32.plus.com) or by mobile on 0796026652.



#### Cricket Success

Congratulations to ex-pupil Maddie Reynolds who, based on her 2017 cricket season whilst at Town Close, has received her county cap and been nominated to join the county centre of excellence training programme, this being the first step in identifying 1st class cricketers. Very well done to her!



On Tuesday and Saturday this week Sophie Millington (Year 5) is performing in Bill Kenwright's national touring production of *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat* at the Marina Theatre, Lowestoft alongside X Factor winner Joe McElderry, in the role of Joseph. What an amazing experience for her and good luck for Saturday night's performance!

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#### This week in Pre Prep...

Oak class making potions and a Year 2 art lesson.



Year 1 creating skeleton pictures.



Year 1s had a great time on their visit to Africa Alive.



Please find below the dates for Activate 2018:

Monday 23rd July – Friday 27th July  
Monday 30th July – Friday 3rd August  
Monday 6th August – Friday 10th August

The booking system will go live in January at a date to be confirmed.