



# TOWN CLOSE SCHOOL

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

## Reception Curriculum information

Week Beginning: 22 January 2018

Dear Parents

In Bird Family meetings this week the children discussed their talents! Mrs Harries' assembly was all about getting tied up in knots when we have a problem, and finding ways in which to untie them. The difference between 'knot' and 'not' was discussed, explaining that we sometimes say we 'cannot' do something, and need to change it by adding 'yet' and then progressing to 'I can' and 'I will'! One of the children also helped Mrs Pritchard to untie the laces on Mrs Harries' trainers, which were in quite a muddle! Perseverance and teamwork saved the day!

We have continued exploring the books and artwork of Eric Carle this week. We have focused on his story *The Mixed up Chameleon*. This story is about a chameleon who thought he would rather be anyone other than himself and has led to some interesting discussions about what makes each animal unique and what is special about us.

### **Literacy**

In class, we have enjoyed showing and sharing special books and items of interest from home. Some of the children have drawn a picture and completed the sentence 'I am special because...'

In literacy groups, the children have been learning new sounds and practising their reading and writing skills. Thank you to those parents who completed the home activities with their child, we are sure your support will help them to develop confidence. We will be adding a task to their books this weekend and we ask that the book is returned to school on Monday.

### **Maths**

We have been exploring 2D shapes and using what we know about their properties to sort them into groups. The children have been learning in practical ways how they can transfer information from the groups onto a bar chart. Activities included sorting a range of animals into lines on the carpet. Just by looking at the lengths of the lines we could see which groups had more animals and which had fewer. We even tried to create a whole year group bar chart on the playground after we played an animal hide and seek game in our games lesson.

### **Other lessons and activities**

The children have really engaged in exploring the many colours Eric Carle uses in his books. We watched a short video clip in which Eric Carle explained how he uses torn tissue paper to make bright collages. Each class has chosen a different way to recreate some of his depictions of animals.

As we look forward to warmer days and the arrival of spring, we are planning to create a colourful flower garden in and around the Bananarium. If you have any old wellies in which you are happy for us to make holes and use as planters, please can you send them in with your child next week.

### **Over the weekend**

You may like to go for a walk and look for early signs of spring. If you find anything interesting that you can collect or photograph, the children will be given an opportunity to show and share them next week.

### **Music coffee morning**

Mrs Koczur, our Head of Music, is leading a musical coffee morning in the Pre Prep hall on Monday 5 February between 8am and 9am to which you are most warmly invited. She will be bringing musical groups from across the School to entertain you and she will talk to you about learning instruments at Town Close. We hope to see you there. Please note this is just for parents; the children will have had a musical assembly previously.

### **Late arrivals**

Please may we remind you that if you are arriving late to school you must register your child at the reception desk with Mrs McCloy. A member of staff will then take your child and their belongings to join their class.

### **Dates for your diary:**

**Friday 2 February: 4pm - 6.30pm:** PTA Movie Night (Pre Prep)

**Thursday 8 February – 4.30pm - 7.30pm:** Parents' Evening for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 (in the Pre Prep)

**Online booking system:** Go to the Parents' Booking System in the Parents' Information Centre on the school website and login using your email address and password. If you have not logged in before, your password will be **townclose**. Make sure you have the appropriate child selected. Click on the Parents' Evening button and click on a purple Available button. To cancel a previous booking click the red cancel button where you previously booked.

**Thursday 1 March:** World Book Day – dress as your favourite book character and author visit

**Monday 5 February 8am - 9am:** Music coffee morning led by Mrs Koczur in the Pre Prep hall

**Saturday 17 March 10am - 11.30am:** PTA Easter activity morning (Pre Prep hall)

**Friday 23 March: 2pm:** Reception Easter Production (Read Hall)

We hope you have a lovely, restful weekend with your children.

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

*Melanie Harries*