



TOWN CLOSE SCHOOL

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

Reception Curriculum information

Week Beginning: 29 January 2018

Dear Parents

In Bird Family meetings this week the subject was worries and mindfulness. The 'worry eaters' that children had been introduced to via last year's charity, 'Nelson's Journey' were re-introduced to children, as well as talking about mindfulness and how to manage feelings of worry or anxiety. In assembly, as part of Storytelling Week and in preparation for World Book Day in March, Mrs Harries shared one of her favourite childhood stories, Mr Tickle by Roger Hargreaves. We also talked about the fact that Mr Tickle needed to understand that if someone didn't like being tickled, they could ask him to stop, and that he should do so straight away!

Following the story Mrs Harries set the children a challenge! This is completely optional but something we hope will appeal to the children across the Pre Prep. Children have been asked to invent a new Mr Men or Little Miss character and to tell their story, or to write a new story for a current character. We will be presenting prizes for winning entries on World Book Day (more details to follow).

We have been learning about space this week, inspired by the story *Papa Please Get the Moon for Me* by Eric Carle. We shared our prior knowledge about space in whole class discussions and searched for new facts in information books from the school library. We read the story *The Zoo in the Sky* and found out about the constellations and the legends linked with them. The children drew pictures of the mythical creatures represented in the constellations and designed constellations of their own.

During Maths sessions our focus was on adding and subtracting using a number line. Each of the children made a game that involved counting on and back along a number line ladder to the moon, inspired by Papa's journey to the moon in this week's Eric Carle story.

We have continued to introduce new phonemes during literacy groups, with all children practising reading and spelling in playful contexts with the sounds taught so far.

Our games and PE sessions took us to the moon and back as we played space-themed games designed to develop coordination and balance.

Each of the Reception classes enjoyed some time in the library with a Year 3 class, with whom they shared stories, as part of Storytelling Week.

Over the coming weekend:

You might like to encourage your child to play their 'ladder to the moon' game to practise counting on and back along a number line. You might also like to support them in completing the simple phonics activity that you will find in their book bag.

Music coffee morning

Please be reminded that Mrs Koczur, our Head of Music, is leading a musical coffee morning for parents in the Pre Prep hall on Monday 5 February between 8.00am and 9.00am, to which you are most warmly invited. She will be bringing musical groups from across the School, with which to entertain you, and she will talk to you about learning instruments at Town Close.

Dates for your diary:

Friday 2 February – 4.00pm - 6.30pm: PTA Movie Night (Pre Prep)

Monday 5 February – 8.00am – 9.00am: Music coffee morning led by Mrs Koczur in the Pre Prep hall

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

Saturday 17 March – 10.00am - 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