



# TOWN CLOSE SCHOOL

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

Year 2 Curriculum information  
Week Beginning: 16<sup>th</sup> April 2018

Dear Parents

Dear Parents

We have enjoyed a lovely, sunny week in Pre Prep! New Top Birds were elected in Bird Family meetings and we enjoyed a whole school hymn practice on Thursday morning. In Wednesday's assembly, Mrs Harries and various volunteers demonstrated that whilst we might not all like all foods available, nature provides enough for all; we just need to share in order that some people do not go hungry. In our whole school assembly on Friday, Mr Bevington talked to the children about the UN Mother Earth Day and how small things we can all do make a huge difference.

We would like to remind parents and children that we are keen to celebrate children's achievements outside school and that all children are warmly invited to bring in any awards, medals and certificates to be shared in our Friday assemblies.

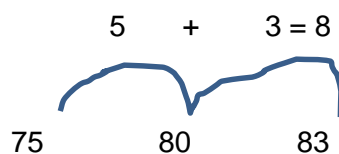
## Literacy Lessons

In our literacy lessons this week we have been:

- Learning to use apostrophes when we contract words (such as they'll, they've or they're). We enjoyed playing a game with the 'Squeeze-o-matic 17' which involved writing down contractions and their 'pre-squeezed' words on our whiteboards.
- In spelling, we have been learning the pattern consonant +y changes to 'ies' in words such as ladies, families and replies.
- We have enjoyed exploring a traditional Zambian tale entitled 'The Tortoise's Gift'. We have written book reviews in which we described the setting and the main characters. We explained why we enjoyed (or perhaps, did not enjoy) the story and we discussed how the story resembles Aesop's 'The Hare and the Tortoise'.

## Maths lessons

Subtraction has been the focus of this week. We have practised the method of counting on from the lower number to the higher number (stopping off at the multiples of ten). For example:  $83 - 75 = 8$



This method is useful when the two numbers are close to each other on a number line. When the numbers are further apart, it is quicker to count back in tens and units. For example:  $83 - 32$

$$\begin{aligned}83 - 30 &= 53 \\53 - 2 &= 51\end{aligned}$$

### **In other lessons**

- In science, we worked in teams to sort a selection of animals into five 'big' habitats (mountain, river, desert, savannah and polar). We discussed the characteristics of these habitats and considered how the animals were well-suited to live in them.
- In our topic lessons, we have been writing lists of questions that we are keen to answer when we learn about Zambia over the coming weeks. We looked at the website of Crownhill School, Chipata, who have agreed to correspond with us and hopefully build up links with us in the coming weeks. We also labelled Zambia and its surrounding countries on a map of Africa.
- In our art lessons we have been painting our clay tortoises in warm African-inspired colours.
- In RE we have been learning how symbols (such as the cross, a dove or a candle) have special meanings.
- In games lessons, we have begun an exciting summer programme of athletics and mini-tennis. We will be doing both games and PE in classes this term. Each week has a different focus which will include throwing, hurdles, high jump, long jump, sprinting and relay.

### **Sun cream and hats**

Assuming that the sunny weather continues, please ensure that your child has had 8-hour sun cream applied before coming to school and also brings their sunhat. This is particularly important at this time of year when the sun is getting so much higher.

### **To support your child's learning, you might like to:**

- look at the Crownhill School, Zambia website: <https://www.crownhillschool.com>
- see if you can find Zambia in an atlas or perhaps using Google Earth.
- look at some paintings by the artist Henri Rousseau in preparation for next week's art lessons.

Many thanks to those of you who have kindly brought in barn owl and kestrel pellets. These will come in very handy as we learn about food chains in the coming weeks. We would be very grateful if anyone is able to find and bring in any more.

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

**Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> May:** Whole School photograph

**Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> May – 9.30 am - 3.00pm:** Year 2 trip to Pensthorpe Natural Park

**Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> May:** End of the first half of term

**Friday 25<sup>th</sup> May:** School closed – INSET staff training day

**Monday 18<sup>th</sup> June – 2.15pm:** Year 2 Sports Day on the front lawn

**Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> June:** School closed – Norfolk Show day

**Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> June – 2.00pm - 3.00pm:** Year 2 Concert in the Read Hall with refreshments available in the Read Hall from 1.30pm

**Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> July – 9.30am - 2.00pm:** Year 2 trip to Winterton Beach

With best wishes for a relaxing weekend in the sunshine with your children.

Mrs Hayes, Mrs Lawry, Miss Shepherd and Mrs Harries

*Melanie Harries*