



TOWN CLOSE SCHOOL

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

Year 2 Curriculum Information
Week Beginning: 3rd September 2018

Dear Parents

Welcome to Year 2! The focus over the past three days has been getting to know each other and settling into Year 2 routines. We have been delighted by how well the children seem to have adapted to life in 'The Nest'. We have been playing games such as 'Icebreaker Bingo' and 'Missing Person' which have helped the children to speak to all their new classmates and learn more about each other.

We have been discussing 'How can we help to have a happy and successful class this year?'. There were many thoughtful contributions including: 'I will be patient and take turns.', 'I will tuck my chair under and carry my scissors safely.', 'I will smile at people in the mornings.', 'I will try my best at maths and everything else.' and 'I will listen to other people and I will put my hand up to speak.'

Our children have been to two assemblies this week in the Pre Prep hall. On Wednesday, Mrs Harries welcomed everybody and talked all about preparations we make in getting ready to school, such as buying new shoes! This led on to talking about how proud we can feel in our new shoes, but that they can also feel slightly uncomfortable at first, much like first day butterflies, which soon settle. Today, we enjoyed a celebration assembly, congratulating children on their first successful days in school, talking about safety in the playground and singing our special birthday song to our pupils who have birthdays this week.

Literacy lessons:

As the children wrote about their summer holidays, we encouraged them to remember to use finger spaces, full stops, capital letters at the start of sentences and to sit their letters neatly on the lines. They also tried to use adjectives to describe what they did or saw in more detail.

We have been reading individually with all the children and have helped the children to select a book to take home which is appropriate for their developing skills. Please write a brief comment in their Reading Record Book when you read with them at home.

Maths lessons

We have been observing the children's developing mathematical skills as they have engaged in a variety of maths games and practical activities. We have focused on counting in 2s, 5s and 10s as well as understanding the value of each digit in two-digit numbers.

Other lessons and activities

In art lessons, the children drew and painted some wonderful self-portraits which will shortly be appearing in the Nest! The children appreciated and commented on self-portraits by a variety of well-known artists including Freda Khalo and Claude Monet.

https://www.powershow.com/view/69a4-NigyM/Famous_Artists_and_their_Self_Portraits_powerpoint_ppt_presentation

We enjoyed our first swimming lessons, music lessons and library visits of the year. Silver Birch and Rowan Class had their first computing lessons with Mr Hughes which focused on logging on and giving a simple set of instructions. Cherry will have their first lesson next Tuesday.

Over the weekend you might like to:

- Have a restful time as children usually find that these first few days settling into new routines are particularly tiring.
- Your child should have a letter about Show and Tell in their bookbag. Please make a note of your child's allocated week and chat about which particular interest they might like to share with their class. Please contact us if you are unable to find the letter.

Information evening for Parents

We look forward to welcoming parents to the Pre Prep hall on Tuesday evening next week at 6pm. We will serve drinks and nibbles and you will have a chance to meet other parents and Year 2 staff, before the teachers tell you all about the Year 2 curriculum. There will also be lots of opportunities to ask questions too. We hope you can join us.

'Stop and Collect'

Please would parents using our Stop and Collect system, be kind enough clearly to display the laminated card showing their child's name, sent home in book bags. This will help us to ensure our system runs smoothly. Please could you also ensure that your children have been booked on to Stop and Collect in order that we have your children ready for you. Instructions for the booking system were sent out earlier this week by email. Thank you for your support.

Library books

Mrs Wootton, our librarian, would like parents to be reminded that library books are borrowed for one week and then returned to the Library.

Music Department Notices

Meet the Instruments (year 1 to 8 pupils and parents): Thinking of learning a musical instrument? You are warmly invited to come and try out the musical instruments on offer to learn at Town Close school. When? Friday 14th September 3.30 pm – 4.30 pm. Where? Music Room. Many musical instruments are on offer to learn. For more information please contact the Head of Music, Mrs Koczur, at skoczur@townclose.com

Dates for your diary:

Tuesday 11th September – 6pm: Introduction to Year 2 meeting for parents - Pre Prep Hall

Thursday 13th September: Bentley Photographic individual and class photographs

Thursday 11th October – 4.30pm - 7.30pm: Pre Prep settling in parents' evening in the Pre Prep Hall – details on how to book appointments to follow

Monday 15th – Friday 19th October: Pre Prep Science Week

Tuesday 16th October – 4.00pm - 5.00pm: Norfolk Children's Book Centre book sale in the library

Friday 19th October – 2.00pm-3.00pm: Grandparents' afternoon in the Pre Prep Hall – further details to follow

Tuesday 6th November – 8.45am - 3.00pm: Half of Year 2 to the Forum and Pizza Express

Monday 12th November – Fluenz vaccinations for Reception, Year 1 and 2 children

Tuesday 13th November – 8.45am - 3.00 pm: Half of Year 2 to the Forum and Pizza Express

Thursday 15th November – 10.00 - 11.55 am: Year 2 to Vue Cinema to see *Mary and the Witch's Flower* (based on *The Little Broomstick* by Mary Stewart).

Thursday 6th December – 2.15pm - 3.15pm: Year 2 Christmas Production

Thursday 13th December – 2.00pm - 3.00pm: Carol Service at Christchurch Eaton for Year 1 and Year 2 children

We hope you have a lovely weekend with your children.

Mrs Hayes, Mrs Lawry, Mrs Melvin and Mrs Harries

Melanie Harries