



TOWN CLOSE SCHOOL

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

Year 3 and 4 Newsletter

Dear Parents

Welcome back after what I hope was a relaxing and enjoyable summer break. I hope your children have enjoyed the first week of what will be an action-packed term. For those of you who are new to the Prep Department or to the School, I hope that any questions you may have had were answered fully and clearly during the induction sessions earlier in the week. Should you have any further questions, your child's form teacher and I will be happy to help. There will be a further opportunity to talk to the other members of staff at the 'Tea and Cake' event next Wednesday afternoon.

Attached to this newsletter are brief details aimed at providing you with further information specific to Years 3 and 4 regarding the topics to be covered and planned events this term. Please bear in mind that any information and dates provided are correct at the time of writing and represent highlights rather than a comprehensive list. More detailed information about events is given in the Headmaster's weekly newsletter, which is sent every Friday, and I encourage you to monitor the online calendar as dates can occasionally change and new events are added regularly.

With regards to homework, your child will ordinarily be set 30 minutes' homework per evening, consisting of 20 minutes' work in English, maths, French or 'topic' alongside 10 minutes of reading. We encourage children to establish good homework routines and I would also reiterate the importance of them completing their reading. Wherever possible, this should be completed in the presence of an adult who is able to ask questions about the reading matter, in order to develop reading comprehension skills, and help your child to answer one of the questions in their reading record. There is also a weekly homework section in the reading records, where homework can be written to supplement the online Firefly system used by the older pupils at the school. The pupils new to Firefly will be taught how to use it during computing lessons.

This time of year is the perfect time to ensure that all of your child's equipment and clothing are labelled, particularly new items. We have much greater success reuniting labelled belongings with their owners!

I hope you enjoy the weekend and I look forward to seeing everyone again on Monday.

With very best wishes,

Daniel Avenal
Head of Years 3 and 4

Topics this Term

Year 3

English lessons this term will be focused on reports, postcards and letters, performance and shape poetry, adventure stories and instructions and explanations. Mathematics will focus on addition and subtraction, multiplication and division, number and place value, fractions, 2D & 3D shapes, measurement and problem-solving. In science, the children will be learning about light and shadows and forces and magnets. We will be studying the Stone Age and beginning to learn about the Victorians in history lessons, including looking at Victorian Christmas nearer the festive period. Our geography topics are the Earth from space and investigating the UK and in religious studies the children will be learning about Hinduism.

Year 4

English lessons this term will be focused on traditional tales, the narrative story of Boudicca and information texts. Mathematics will focus on place value, addition and subtraction, multiplication and division, fractions, decimals and percentages, ratio and proportion, measurement, statistics and problem solving. In science, the children will be learning about moving and growing including bones, muscles, vertebrates and invertebrates and, subsequently, the earth and beyond, which will include the solar system, night and day and the sun. We will be studying the Celts and the Roman invasion of Britain in history. Our geography topic is village settlements and investigating where our food comes from and in religious studies the children will be learning about the symbology of light and dark in different faiths.

Important Dates

Tuesday 11th September – OPRO Mouth-guard Fittings
Tuesday 11th September – Year 4 Production Auditions
Wednesday 12th September – Year 4 Production Auditions
Thursday 13th September – Individual Photographs
Monday 1st October – Year 3 Time and Tide Museum
Tuesday 16th October – Children’s Book Centre book sale
Monday 12th November – Flu Immunisations (Years 1-5)
Monday 19th November – Year 3 Victorian Day
Monday 19th November – Year 4 Time and Tide Museum

Events for Parents

Wednesday 12th September – Tea and Cake (Y3-5 Parents)
Friday 14th September – Meet the Instruments (Years 1-8)
Thursday 27th September – Year 3&4 Parents’ Evening
Tuesday 9th October – Maths Evening for Parents
Wednesday 17th October – 3A Class Assembly
Wednesday 14th November – 3S Class Assembly
Wednesday 21st November – 3H Class Assembly
Friday 30th November – Grandparents’ Afternoon
Friday 7th December – The Christmas Fayre

Year 4 Horstead Residential

The Year 4 residential visit to Horstead will take place from Wednesday 5th to Friday 7th June 2019. I will write to you later this term with further details.

Useful Websites

<http://www.childrensuniversity.manchester.ac.uk>
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/levels/zbr9wmn>
<http://primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/>
www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks3/geography/geographical_enquiry/geographical_skills/revision/7/

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/guides/z34djxs>
<https://www.bbc.com/bitesize/topics/zbssgk7>
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/wales/celts/>
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/primaryhistory/romans/>
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/topics/zkbbkqt>