



TOWN CLOSE SCHOOL

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

Reception Curriculum Information

Week beginning: Monday 14th January 2019

Dear Parents

In assembly this week, Mrs Harries talked to the children about the Town Close Way, and the central element, that everyone cares for each other and our school. The children had some excellent ideas about ways in which we can follow our school code and understood that they can earn Bird family tokens for doing so! Alongside celebrating the first Wonder Wall work of the term in our celebratory assembly on Friday, Mrs Harries reminded children about moving around the School quietly and sensibly and reminded children that they should not be playing on the playground equipment after school, unless they are at After School Care with Mrs Buck. In Bird Family meetings this week, the topic of discussion was healthy eating.

Topic

This week we continued our focus on the Polar Regions, exploring the difference between ice and water as part of this term's liquids topic. The children continued to look out for signs of Albert the polar bear who wrote to us last week explaining that he was lost. The children received an intriguing email from Mr Bevington describing a sighting of the missing bear somewhere in the school woods. The children studied the email carefully for clues about the whereabouts of the animal and each child drew and labelled a map to find him. We read the story *We're Going on a Bear Hunt* by Michael Rosen in preparation for our visit to Norwich Castle where we saw a real life polar bear that had been preserved.

Games

In our games session, we set out on an expedition to find the missing polar animals in the school woods. We followed the maps that we had made in our topic sessions, which saw us crawling through tunnels, jogging, walking on tiptoe and stretching our arms from side to side, as we travelled towards the Bananarium in the outdoor classroom, where we were shocked to discover Albert the polar bear, along with two penguins and a polar bear cub!

Literacy

This week, we mixed the children across Reception into three groups for literacy. Your child might like to tell you about learning alongside new friends from across the classes and, perhaps having been taught by a different Reception teacher. The aim of group literacy sessions is for the children to receive targeted support towards their next steps in reading and writing. Literacy sessions consist of learning to read and spell words containing new sounds (phonemes) and to read and spell irregular ('tricky') words. The

children will study a key story each week and they will carry out written tasks linked to the story.

Maths

Our focus in maths was on sharing and halving; children explored these concepts in a range of practical ways, such as sharing quantities of plastic fish between two toy penguins. We introduced the words 'odd' and 'even', and practised forming numbers accurately as we recorded our work.

Over the weekend

Your child might like to continue thinking about sharing and halving. Can they set up a teddy bears' picnic and give each bear an equal number of raisins?

Arrival and Assembly

All children should arrive by 8.25am for registration (we understand occasional lateness due to unforeseen circumstances). Children then leave the classroom for assemblies at 8.30am. If children arrive after 8.25am, they need to register at the front desk with Ms McCloy who then ensures they are delivered to the appropriate place.

Dates for your diary

Friday 8th February – 9.00am - 3.30pm: Happy Puzzle Company visit – there will be a sale of puzzles for parents to attend from 3.15pm in the Pre Prep

Wednesday 6th March: World Maths Day

Thursday 7th March: World Book Day – dress up as your favourite book character (please note change of date)

Friday 15th March: Author/illustrator Chloe Inkpen to visit

Tuesday 26th March – 2.15pm: Reception Easter Production in the Read Hall, with coffee for parents after the performance

Thursday 28th March: Parents' evening in the Pre Prep hall from 5.00pm – booking details to follow

We hope you have a lovely weekend with your children.

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

Melanie Harries