



TOWN CLOSE SCHOOL

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

Dear Parents

Friday 1st February 2019

Today Year 4 are enjoying a visit to the Norwich Cathedral Jewish Living Experience, using exhibits to explore aspects of Jewish life and comparing Jewish and Christian faiths. Year 2 were lucky enough to have a visit from Norwich Puppet Theatre yesterday and, in preparation, had done some beautiful work describing and drawing their own elves. It was great to welcome Year 2 parents to the reading information evening, which I gather was very useful. We also enjoyed meeting Year 3 parents for teacher consultations last night, which we hope provided valuable feedback and discourse. Sport has suffered this week, due to the icy weather, though this has allowed some wonderful play and learning opportunities for our Little Acorns, who were enjoying scraping ice yesterday morning. Tonight we look forward to the first PTA event of the term, the Movie Night, with three films showing and pizza to look forward to for those who signed up.

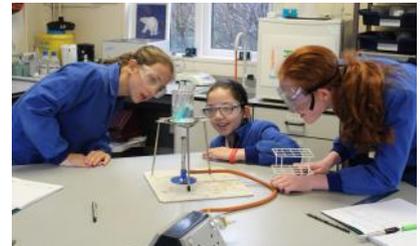


This morning's Prep assembly, presented by a group of Year 8 pupils, was about the potential danger posed by unknown adults and the practical steps all children can take to avoid danger from the small minority of adults whose intentions are to harm. Another potential danger for children, especially as they get older, is strangers who masquerade as other children

befriending them online. We subscribe to an online safety service, Gooseberry Planet, who have produced a very useful video for parents to help protect children from a range of online dangers, a link to which is in the bulletin. Please note this video is not suitable for any children.



Prep assembly also saw a beautiful guitar performance by Erin Wilcox, playing *Malaguena* arranged by Lee Sollory, while Daniel Callow gave an uplifting drum performance of Neel Dhorajiwala's *For You*. On Monday, Mrs Harries presented her assembly to Prep pupils on the artist Albrecht Dürer's famous painting *Betende Hände* (praying hands), with the help of two Year 2 Top Birds. Pre Prep assembly itself this week was about Mr Lazy and Mr Rush. Children realised that both extremes involved missing out and were guided to find their own middle ground. Bird families talked about worries and fears, while Mr Fisher led an assembly about the traditions surrounding Chinese New Year.



This week I have spent time with lots of classes, experimenting with magnets in Nursery, measuring towers with Reception, re-telling stories in our own writing with Year 1 and discussing elves with Year 2. I saw two of Mrs Chitty's English classes using literature to inspire creative thought and had some very interesting answers from Year 6 pupils about which Macbeth character was most similar to them. Year 7 Latin pupils were learning more about the imperative, Year 8 pupils were undertaking a scientific thinking task on Firefly and, in geography, studying different transport systems. Finally, I saw some fantastic work on the blackout being undertaken by Year 5 pupils in history.



Next week there are a number of learning activities planned across various year groups relating to story week, including author, John Harris' visit on Friday. Senior pupils look forward to performing to Pre Prep parents in Tuesday's music coffee morning, the Happy Puzzle company are visiting Pre Prep, there are hockey, netball, swimming and cross-country fixtures, including the U13 IAPS boys' hockey postponed from today, and attitude to learning grades for Prep pupils



will be sent home. Very well done to the U13 hockey team who won last week's Norfolk Championships.

I wish everyone an enjoyable weekend.

With best wishes

Nick Bevington





BULLETIN BOARD

PREP and PRE PREP

Online Portal

Next Friday, we will send out details of our new online portal that will pull together information from the Parent Information Centre of the website with child-specific information, such as timetables, absence records and reports. Parents will also be able to use the new portal to report absences, request leave and contact the department secretaries. We also plan to upload Friday correspondence to this platform in the future so that instead of multiple emails, you will be able to filter the portal to show all the information applicable to you and your children in one place. There will be a letter about all of this next week.

GAMES DEPARTMENT NOTICES

Senior Cross Country Races

Please note that the Senior House Cross Country races have been moved from Monday 4th February to Monday 11th February. All timings are the same as previously advised.

IT DEPARTMENT NOTICES

The recording in the link below provides valuable information to support parents in guiding children's online behaviour.

Please do not share this with children as it involves a harrowing real case. You need to provide your name and email and then use 'Gooseberry' as a password. The audio starts at 3.20 <https://bit.ly/2CYLiD0> and covers the following areas:

- Griefers/trolling
- Apps and data gathering
- Persuasive design and addiction
- Settings: passwords and security
- Personal information
- Digital footprints
- Friends on FB and WhatsApp and how you can give consent for your friends' data to be available
- Online bullying
- Sexting
- Online gaming
- Fake news
- Porn and VPN's
- Router and home password security

The Leys Open Days

Former pupil, Maddie Anthony, and now Head Girl of The Leys in Cambridge, has written inviting Town Close parents to their forthcoming Open Days. To read her letter please click [here](#).

Follow us on Twitter! @townclose @townclosehead @townclosepupils @SportTownClose

This week in Pre Prep...



The booking system for Activate 2019 is now open! Bookings can be made at activatenorwich.co.uk for the follows dates:

w/c: Monday 22nd July
w/c: Monday 29th July
w/c: Monday 5th August

Please book before the 13th May 2019 to take ad-

25% DISCOUNT CODE: EARLY2019