



TOWN CLOSE SCHOOL

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

Dear Parents

Friday 8th February 2019

We have greatly enjoyed storytelling week. Author, John Harris, captivated our Prep pupils today with his tall tales and Years 1-4 were treated to a wonderful adaptation of *Oliver Twist* by the Arty-Fact Theatre on Monday. There have been numerous joint reading sessions too with Year 3 pupils sharing



books with Reception and Year 6 with Year 2. Year 3&4 also enjoyed a storytelling assembly on Wednesday, while in Pre Prep assembly Mrs Harries recounted the story of the Fox and the Stork. This also tied in very well with today's visit by the Happy Puzzle Company who have been engaging Pre Prep children with games and activities to develop thinking and problem-solving skills.



This morning, we enjoyed our half-termly whole school assembly for pupils from Reception to Year 8. Four pupil volunteers and Mr Hewitt competed to guess the price of a range of everyday items.



We then discovered that you cannot put a price on many things of true value like acts of kindness and good deeds. We also heard Amalie Finch giving a transporting performance of *Georgie* on her clarinet, whilst Ava Gulliver-Jary sang *I Dreamed a Dream* from *Les Misérables* with great feeling. Both also performed at Tuesday's music coffee morning for Pre Prep parents, where a number of senior musicians showcased musical opportunities at Town Close.



It has been a busy week on the sports front, with a large number of cross-country runners competing at Norwich Lower School this afternoon and our U13 boys' hockey team competing at the IAPS regionals. I have just heard that they have qualified for the Nationals – congratulations to them! Earlier in the week, I enjoyed watching a very accomplished performance by our U13A netball team and a spirited effort from our U13B boys' hockey.



Elsewhere this week, Year 7 were separating ethanol from water in science and Reception creating pigs to mark the Lunar New Year, celebrated in China and other parts of Asia (新年快樂). Reception were also writing their numbers from 1-10 in Mandarin (一 yī, 二 èr, 三 sān, 四 sì, 五 wǔ, 六 liù, 七 qī, 八 bā, 九 jiǔ, 十 shí), while Little Acorns saw Chinese food being cooked in a wok.



Year 2 were adding adverbs and adjectives to their versions of *The Elves and the Shoemaker*, while Year 1 learnt about London landmarks. I visited Year 8 using Python (a coding language) to write pattern-generating programs and visited a Year 7 French group practising modal verbs in questions. 4R's science lesson on states of matter involved chocolate, I noted, while Year 3 were busy writing postcards in their English class.



Prep pupils received their A2L grades this week and these are also available on the new parent portal, login details for which were sent to you earlier. Rest assured that registering and logging in seems straightforward. This is also where Year 5-8 interim reports will be published at the end of next week. I hope that everyone finds this new platform useful and that it will help keep everything you need for school, as a parent, in one convenient place.



Next week we look forward to Senior House Cross Country, a senior swimming gala, author Alex Milway's visit to Years 3&4, Year 8's visit to author Holly Bourne, Year 4 parents' evening, the Year 4 soloists' concert (to which all parents are very welcome) and numerous netball and hockey fixtures. A full calendar is available online and on the new portal.

I wish everyone an enjoyable weekend.

With best wishes

Nick Bevington

