



# TOWN CLOSE SCHOOL

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

Dear Parents

Friday 16th April 2019

I hope everyone enjoyed the gloriously warm Easter weekend and that your children had a good holiday. It was lovely to see them returning on Tuesday and to welcome some new faces.

The environment has been a strong theme in this week's assemblies and Pre Prep learning. Our Early Years pupils celebrated World Earth Day and Mrs Laing led a special assembly for all Pre Prep pupils about ways humans have harmed our planet and what steps we can take to protect it. Two Year 8 pupils who have taken a strong interest in environmental protection, Bruno and Harry, delivered an assembly this morning about global warming, inspired by the Swedish teenage activist, Greta Thunberg. Pupils were shown the scientific facts about carbon and methane emissions and global temperature rises and how individual actions can make a big difference, including through persuading others to follow good examples. We were also entertained by Maddie playing *Show-stopping Sax* on her saxophone.



Many of our children have been sharing holiday news with their classes. I joined 4B for a moment during their circle time and saw some of the holiday news Year 2 have been writing, using the techniques they have been learning this year. Year 5 pupils were busy working on their pop-up books for Year 1 in DT, I chatted to Year 6 children learning 8 stages of the water cycle in geography and heard some eloquent book recommendations completed by Year 8 children in English. This morning, I visited Reception children who were writing sentences about the tiny caterpillars that have arrived to grow in the classroom before metamorphosing into the butterflies we will see later in the term in our 'Butterflyarium'. Tonight our Year 6 ASA members will be experiencing a night under the stars on the first camping trip of the season at Hautbois Activity Centre.



Year 4 have had an amazing day today at West Stow, looking around the six houses and main hall of the village, meeting the pigs, enjoying a picnic lunch in the sunshine and looking at many different artefacts. They learnt how villagers farmed, made jewellery and weapons and also took part in a lively question and answer session. The sporting side of school life has got underway this week too, with thrilling house swimming galas for Year 3-6 pupils, while children have also been practising hard for next week's first cricket and athletics fixtures.



Next week sees ten of our children taking on players from Lakenham Primary School in a chess tournament organised by Andy Jarvis, who takes the chess clubs at both schools. Years 3&4 have a visit from author, Dominique Valente, on Monday, selected Year 7&8 children are taking part in the UKMT Maths Challenge on Tuesday, Year 5 children have a visit to the Centre for Computing History in Cambridge on Thursday and Year 3 are visiting Christchurch Eaton, also on Thursday, as part of their Religious Studies course. There are numerous sports fixtures including athletics at Langley School on Thursday.



On Monday and Tuesday, we look forward to welcoming Prep parents with children in Years 6-8 and 3-5 respectively for afternoon tea (hopefully on the front lawn). Your children are welcome to join you once school has finished. This is a chance to chat to staff and other parents informally and enjoy some excellent home-made baking created by our fine catering team. Please note that parking on site is only available after 4.10pm. On Tuesday, Year 4 pupils and parents may then go straight from the tea to the presentation about the exciting Horstead residential trip, taking place later this term.

I wish you all an enjoyable weekend.

With best wishes

Nicholas Bevington

