



TOWN CLOSE SCHOOL

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

Dear Parents

Friday 3rd May 2019

Pre Prep children celebrated May Day this week with traditional dances around the maypole led by Mrs Averill. May Day was the theme of Mrs Harries' assembly for Pre Prep children, where we learnt about the tradition of nominating a May Queen and Morris dancing. Bird families, meanwhile, talked about the difference between our needs and our wants.



Prep pupils had the traditional introduction to this summer's Activate programme from Mr Walker on Monday, which was delivered with great humour and passion, culminating in us all practising the Activate dance! We enjoyed two fine flute performances in Headmaster's assembly with Harriet performing John Sand's *Recuerdos de la Bahía* and Sophie playing John Rutter's beautiful Prelude to *Suite Antique*.



Children learnt about the author of the oldest surviving book written in English, Julian of Norwich (played brilliantly by Sophie), and how her book, *Revelations of Divine Love*, described a dream surprisingly similar to the Big Bang theory. Mr Kendrick presented

amazing models inspired by the children's studies of World War 2 and we congratulated award winners from the recent Vocab Express Global Challenge where we came third in the world in our category!

As well as studying World War 2 in history, Year 5 have been reading the diary of Anne Frank. One pupil told me at lunch that they had not been expecting so many of Anne Frank's own thoughts and had been surprised how opinionated she was, albeit open-minded and optimistic too.



I saw a group of Year 8 mathematicians practising their mastery of word problems and visited a Year 4 group working on grid multiplication. I spent time with Year 1 literacy groups seeing the amazing progress many are making with their reading, comprehension and writing and enjoyed some very interesting conversations about fossils with Early Years pupils at playtime. I also noticed how much fun children were having in our sand pits (apologies for the sand that inadvertently comes home with your children!).



Author Dominique Valente gave her first ever school talk to Years 3&4, who were a very responsive audience, and Year 4 also welcomed Eye Heroes who taught them how to look after our very precious eyes and eyesight. Children from Lakenham Primary competed against Town Close pupils in chess on Monday and we had our first block cricket fixtures of the season, with some lovely matches. It was a pleasure to welcome Prep parents for afternoon teas on Monday and Tuesday and to hear the Year 4 Horstead talk with lots of interesting and important questions from the Year 4 children!



Year 5 went to the Centre for Computing History in Cambridge yesterday and seemed thoroughly to enjoy experiencing some of the old technology we grew up with in the 1980's and 1990's. Children even played Space Invaders and Pacman using original equipment! Year 3 had a very useful and informative visit to Christchurch Eaton and learnt lots more about Christianity and the



Church as part of their RS studies.

Tomorrow sees driver training for selected Year 8 pupils, ahead of the first F24 race of the season at Lotus' track at Hethal. Next week, Year 5 look forward to their forensics workshop on Tuesday, Year 2 are visiting Pensthorpe Nature Park on Wednesday and Year 5 ASA members will be going on their camping trip on Friday.

I wish you all an enjoyable Bank Holiday weekend.

With best wishes

Nicholas Bevington

