



TOWN CLOSE SCHOOL

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

Dear Parents

Friday 22nd November 2019



This morning we came together for our second whole school assembly of the term, led by Mr Coulthart. Our Year 8 guitar group started assembly with their beautiful performance of *Sixteen Saltines*, while Emilia entertained us with her performance of *Clowns* on the piano. Our Heads of School, Evie and Barnaby, then spoke about what Christmas means to them and imagined how they would feel if difficult family circumstances made presents and celebrations impossible. This was then linked into the *Salvation Army Toys and Tins Appeal*, which the School is supporting once again this year. We also handed out numerous awards and announced the winning Bird Family and House for this week's competition. Earlier in the week, 3H delighted us with their very confident assembly about Diwali and the story of *Rama Yana* where good overcomes evil.



On Monday, Mrs Rymarz delivered a special assembly to Prep pupils about our new School Dog Bella, who starts on the 2nd December, and then led the assembly for Pre Prep children on Thursday. She explained the benefits of a School Dog, the guidelines we will all be following as well as the option for children not to have any contact at all, should they wish. There is a separate letter about this on the Portal this week.



There have been exciting house matches this week for Prep pupils, which I enjoyed hearing about from various children. Year 4 enjoyed an informative visit to the Time and Tide Museum in Great Yarmouth,



learning lots about Boudicca, the Roman Invasion and the local Icenii tribe. I was fascinated to visit 4R the day before to see children creating a timeline of emotions for Celtic soldiers during the invasion period. Subject teachers and tutors enjoyed meeting Year 7 parents last night and I hope these consultations were useful.



On Wednesday I had a lovely afternoon in the Pre Prep, learning about spiders with Reception and seeing some of the fantastic arachnids they have created, inspired by some great stories. I saw Year 1 swimming very impressively, with those children not in the pool cooperating beautifully as they finished off work, programmed B-Bots and played with Lego. Year 2 were busy eating cereal, meanwhile, as they concluded their investigation into the nutritional value of various brands. It was also lovely to hear some of the World War One imagined letters from soldiers. In the Prep Department, 3H were writing some impressive pieces inspired by props brought in by Mrs Harman and I also saw some lovely mixed aged games in the sports hall.



Next week Year 5-8 pupils are undertaking autumn term exams, for which I hope they have been undertaking a sensible level of preparation this week, whilst keeping them firmly in perspective. We also look forward to a swimming gala versus Norwich School, more sports fixtures, Year 8's trip to Goldsmith Street and the Year 3 & 4 Grandparents' Afternoon.



Lastly, our congratulations to Amelie Finch who was elected as our new School Council Chair, following last Friday's election. Her speech (which you can [hear](#) on Firefly) focused on some important environmental aims and we are looking forward to working with her and the Council to achieve as many of these as we can.



I wish everyone a good weekend.

With best wishes

Nick Bevington

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