



# TOWN CLOSE SCHOOL

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

Dear Parents

Friday 10th January 2020

A Happy New Year to you all! We were very pleased to see our returning pupils this week and to welcome those new to the School this term. We started with news-sharing form assemblies in Pre Prep and a special assembly for Prep pupils to mark the start of this new decade. I took children through the history of the development of the iPhone, arguably the most significant invention of the 21<sup>st</sup> century so far, and all the lessons we can learn from how this ground-breaking device was taken from concept to reality.



Pre Prep assembly yesterday introduced children to some resolutions they might make caring for things and each other, using the short animated film *Un Eléphant dans un Magasin de Porcelain*. This morning Mr Coulthart, inspired by teenage activist Greta Thunberg, talked about reducing packaging and the changes we all need to make. Teddy, meanwhile, gave a lovely performance of *Joueur de Harpe* by Sibelius.

Little Acorns have had an active week exploring the woods, painting polar bears, counting to 12 and practising their throwing and catching in the sports hall. Year 2 pupils wrote some lovely accounts of their holiday and it was great to see a Year 3 English book with excellent planning and writing. I took visitors to two science experiments today, with Year 7 investigating solutes and solvents and Year 3 investigating friction with cubes of jelly and oil. A Year 7 English group was studying Beowulf, while Year 4 were completing a mathematical block challenge on iPads and then exporting screenshots of their results. Reception children were writing impressive sentences about their holidays, while Year 1 were playing games with number squares. Year 8 children were revising algebra in the maths lesson I visited, in preparation for the entrance exams many are sitting tomorrow for their senior schools. We wish all our candidates the best of luck.



Bella, our school support dog, has returned after the Christmas holidays and is now five months old. She has settled back in really well and has been busy listening to readers, supporting learning and making friends! She sat just as beautifully as everyone else in assembly and is really enjoying her walks around the school grounds.



Prep children have been busy preparing for the new netball and hockey seasons this week and we look forward to our first fixtures of the term against Framlingham Prep and Norwich High next week. Year 4 have also been hard at work preparing for their performance of *Porridge* which takes to the stage on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> and Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> January. Thank you to all of the parents who have worked so hard to prepare their children's costumes.

Further ahead, we are really looking forward to the PTA Movie Night on Friday 31<sup>st</sup> January. Once again there are films for Pre Prep, Years 3-6 and Years 7-8 with pizza beforehand. Please see the PTA save-the-date notice and the films will be announced at the beginning of next week, with booking on the PTA website.



Lastly congratulations to our newly appointed Year 8 prefects (photo to follow as one of them was not at assembly this morning!) and Pre Prep top birds, and we hope all of our children enjoy a very successful new term and productive 2020!



With best wishes

*Nick Bevington*