



TOWN CLOSE SCHOOL

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

Dear Parents

Friday 29th November 2019

Preparations for the festive season have been gathering pace this week. Our musicians have been practising hard for the Christmas Ensembles Concert, which takes place at 6.00pm on Tuesday, while Pre Prep children have been rehearsing for Christmas productions on Wednesday (Reception, 9.00am, Year 1, 2.15pm), Thursday (Little Acorns, 9.00am) and Monday 9th December (Year 2, 2.15pm). We are also most looking forward to our Christmas Fayre next Friday from 4.00 – 6.00pm, with a separate letter giving details on the Portal.

Reception had a lovely Christmas Carol practice on Monday morning and I heard one class singing beautifully with Miss Skinner on Wednesday. Bird families learnt about keeping themselves safe with the help of an NSPCC film and Mrs Harries led an assembly about values and respect. Prep assembly started with a lovely performance of Lully's *Air* by Annelie on her cello. The main theme of the assembly was a guide to the General Election. This will be followed by pupil speeches on behalf of all parties standing in Norwich South next Friday and a mock vote on the day itself. An extract of the presentation giving a summary of each party's main policies has been placed on Firefly (resources, subjects, PSHE evidence, assembly resources).



Our Year 5-8 pupils have been undertaking autumn term exams this week, which I hope went as well as possible for everyone. There was a close and exciting swimming gala for Years 3-6 v Norwich Lower School on Wednesday, some gloriously muddy rugby fixtures and keenly contested hockey matches. Year 8 have been visiting the award-winning development in Goldsmith Street today as part of their geography studies.



This afternoon, we have welcomed Year 2 parents to our re-scheduled Big School Swim and we have enjoyed welcoming Year 3&4 grandparents for an afternoon of school. They were treated to delicious refreshments and a presentation before being put to work with their grand-children to create some of the crafts that they can then buy at next week's Christmas Fayre!

Little Acorns were creating sparkly Christmas crafts when I visited on Wednesday and had a lovely Thanksgiving celebration yesterday. Reception were finishing their spider topic, using spiders and flies to help their understanding of maths, while Year 1 were busy counting in twos. All three Year 2 maths groups were working on two digit number calculations, with all the children showing impressive focus and achievement. There was also some lovely focused reading taking place in the library with a Year 6 group and some interesting Year 3&4 lessons to see. Meanwhile, three of our children welcomed the Good Schools Guide for a tour of the School. This is an independently produced guide and we will await their write-up eagerly.



In addition to the Christmas events mentioned above, next week we look forward to House matches and further football fixtures, flu immunisations take place for Reception to Year 6 (for those who signed up) and the Norfolk Children's Book Centre Sale takes place in the library on Friday. A

reminder, finally, that all children are invited to wear a Christmas jumper over their regular uniform next Friday and, in return, we request a £1 donation to Break, our School charity for the year.



I wish everyone an enjoyable weekend

With all good wishes

Nick Bevington

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