



TOWN CLOSE SCHOOL

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

Dear Parents

Friday 17th January 2020

Following the election of the School Council Chair, Amelie Finch, who stood on a platform of seeking to reduce the School's environmental impact, this morning's Headmaster's Assembly for Prep pupils focused on the steps we can all take to achieve



this. Pupils were also shown yesterday's Sir David Attenborough interview for the BBC. Beforehand we enjoyed hearing Grace performing the *Harry Potter* theme on her flute and Charlotte performing *Dusty Blue* on the piano with great aplomb. Filby was announced as this week's winning House, having beaten Upton by 0.02 stickers per person on average!



During Pre Prep assemblies this week, we learnt and practised hymns with Miss Skinner, learnt about germs and keeping healthy in Bird Family Meetings, considered the importance of

courage, bravery and not giving up in Mrs Harries' assembly and celebrated our new Wonder Wall work, along with a range of other achievements in today's celebration assembly. Meanwhile, on Monday, Mr Wood led Prep pupils in a session where we discovered the super powers we all have.



It has been lovely to see the first sports fixtures of the term taking place this week, with determined performances in both victory and defeat by our netball and hockey players. We look forward to the our first cross-country fixture next week. We will soon be adding a link from the Portal to our sports results page, prior to transferring the communication of sports teams to the Portal in due course.



Elsewhere, I have enjoyed visiting the Little Acorns who have been doing all sorts of exciting Arctic and Antarctic activities like making frozen looking yoghurt with blueberries. I also saw Yellow group sitting beautifully for their snack and they all answered my questions very confidently. Mrs James' maths group taught me how to undertake calculations with fractions, 3SP were busy using instructional language and Year 2 were creating Tudor houses and writing fantastic diary entries as part of their Great Fire of London topic. When I visited, Hugo was reading his brilliantly in front of the class. Year 1 have been using interesting adjectives, while Year 7 were studying sound in science. I saw Year 8 practising life-saving skills in the pool and trampolining and devising gymnastics routines in PE. It has also been lovely to meet members of Year 8 individually to practise the vital life-skill of presenting yourself well at interview.



I spoke to all pupils in Years 6-8 this morning to reiterate that the School does not allow children to have mobile phones with them at school or on any school trip. A number of pupils have recently been caught breaking this rule. All phones should stay at home except when a child genuinely needs one for independent travel to and from school, in which case the device must be handed into the front office for the whole day. Please note that Apple watches or any other smart watch with messaging and browsing capability are not allowed. Basic Fitbits without these features are permitted. It is vital that we work together to give children time at school for relationships in the real world as well as traditional games and play. All older children have an individual school iPad for use in lessons to support their work needs.



Next week we are looking forward to Year 4's production of *Porridge* on Thursday after school and Friday evening. Year 2 are visiting Norwich cathedral on Tuesday and Year 1 look forward to Norwich Castle's visit to the School on Friday.

I wish you all an enjoyable weekend.

With my best wishes

Nicholas Bevington



Year 4 DT