



TOWN CLOSE SCHOOL

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

Dear Parents

Friday 1st May 2020

The second week of the summer term has seen children settling impressively into virtual learning, producing numerous examples of excellent work and engaging enthusiastically in online lessons. Lots of the children have told us how much they are valuing their lessons and enjoying seeing their teachers and friends on Zoom, much as they miss being physically present with everyone at school. Teachers too have been missing the children and really enjoying the ongoing contact and learning.



This morning's Prep assembly was about the unforeseen changes we have had to get used to, the questions children often ask and how we might be feeling at this uncertain time. We also looked at some of the positives that have unexpectedly emerged and how these may help us build a better future. We also enjoyed House [Call My Bluff](#) on Thursday. Pre Prep enjoyed an assembly about talents, which involved seeing a large selection of brushes Mrs Harries had found in her house, all good at doing very different jobs.

It was lovely to hear some of the talents of those present and Mrs Harries invited children at home to email and share some of their skills too. We certainly saw lots of talent on display with the entries for the Pre Prep Easter Bunny competition and were extremely impressed with children's creativity. Results are in the bulletin! Meanwhile, the Earth Day House Quiz was won by Ranworth and the House egg competition by Upton. You can see the entries on [Firefly](#) using your child's login.



It was a pleasure to visit a number of lessons this week. I joined Mr Lawry's Year 8 maths group, studying data handling, while in English a Year 8 group really enjoyed finishing *The Tulip Touch*. Mr Woods has never been fitter after leading all the "healthy body, healthy minds" online PE lessons for seniors, while in geography Year 5 were comparing Norwich with Anchorage in Alaska. Miss Skinner's tutor group enjoyed playing an online story-building

game in their pastoral time earlier. I saw Mrs Smith and Mrs Wilson's Year 1 groups reading *The Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch* before writing their own version of the story, both doing exactly the same thing even though one class was physical and the other virtual. Mrs Laing invited me to her Reception show and share group where I saw a big spider, slime that smells like alien feet, a goat call Rattie, a space jigsaw and an impressive home gym! Meanwhile the focus of Reception writing was forming all the "caterpillar letters" correctly and children were using symmetry to create magnificent butterflies.



Other activities this week have included "defying gravity PE", ice-cream art, "Bug-ingham Palace", symmetrical shape-making, a homemade table football, circuits made for science, an impressive Year 8 Roman Empire timeline, lockdown dress-making, musical note drawings representing songs children love and a Lego bee! Mrs Chitty's tutor group wrote a beautiful collaborative poem about what home and school mean to them, Georgia completed two incredible 2.6 challenges for the [Ruth Strauss Foundation](#) and we saw a beautiful flute performance of *Somewhere Over the Rainbow* by Grace. Year 4 parents delivered a delicious hamper from @paddockfarmshop to a fellow parent leading the NNUH Pleural Unit and made a much appreciated donation to the hospital. As ever, you can see these and many more examples of children's industriousness and creativity by following Town Close on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.



Next Friday is a special Bank Holiday to celebrate VE day (a reminder that Monday is therefore a working day but that there is no school on Friday). Assembly will be on Thursday morning, including a special VE Day presentation by Mr Kendrick for Prep pupils.



I wish everyone an enjoyable and restful weekend.

With best wishes

Nick Benington