



# TOWN CLOSE SCHOOL

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

Headmaster's  
Weekly  
Newsletter  
Week 8

Dear Parents

Friday 6th November 2020

The School has been festooned with colour today as we celebrate rainbow day in place of the PTA Fireworks party that would normally take place tonight. We have seen some wonderfully bright outfits adorning children and staff, enjoyed a bonfire party themed lunch and had rainbow inspired fruit tasting in Pre Prep, with our younger children being encouraged to be adventurous and try new things.

This week has seen the start of a second national lockdown, albeit different from the first in that schools remain open for all children. The government released an addendum to the existing guidance for the lockdown period, which has restricted visits further, prohibited sports fixtures with other schools and also required that in the Prep Department staff and Year 7&8 children wear face coverings in indoor communal areas where social distancing is not possible. Poppy made an excellent covering using an old Town Close blazer. We appreciate that activities undertaken by many children outside school have to stop for the next four weeks, though most school activities can continue.



This week's Pre Prep assembly introduced children to an exciting new project we are supporting to sponsor a dog training to be a guide dog. Children learnt about "Canine University" and will receive "pupdates" about the dog we sponsor over the coming weeks. We can only

support one and so children have been given three choices and will vote to decide. Voting also saw the appointment of our new Top Birds for the second half of term and was the theme of Headmaster's Assembly for Prep pupils. Children learnt how the US presidential election system works and were updated about the latest situation. We also enjoyed two lovely music performances, with Florence singing *Castle on a Cloud* from *Les Misérables* beautifully and Alexander giving a sensitive performance of *Shadows* by Walter Carroll on piano. Mr Avenal led Monday's Prep assembly on how our brains work (ask the children what their "chimp brain" is) and also led Year 3&4 assembly about Rosa Parks and how she inspired change.



Around School, we have enjoyed beautiful autumn weather, with Little Acorns busy collecting leaves, and the extended Prep play areas created over half term. We had the first of the new style birthday celebrations for Prep children, which were delightful, and our Heads of School started poppy selling as we approach Armistice Day next Wednesday. Colour was everywhere, from Little Acorns cutting out and colouring rainbows and Reception producing an amazing socially distanced rainbow photograph to Year 2 creating some fabulous firework pictures. We were extremely proud of Priya this week for having the adventure she wrote over half term [Lily's adventure](#), [Escape of the Slimy](#)



[Sea Monster](#) published and we will certainly purchase a copy for the library.

Elsewhere the School Council met and had their new photo taken, with each year group bubble distanced from others, Year 4 were developing their balloon-powered cars in DT, Year 5 were developing their short tennis skills in PE and Year 3 showing impressive skills in the pool. Year 8 pupils have been working hard decorating House notice boards, with space left for the certificates they hope to gain each week by winning the House competition (Upton were victorious today). Tutors were pleased to meet Year 5 parents via Zoom for the parents' evening, which I hope was useful, and we are writing to Year 7 parents today about their evening. We realise that current restrictions mean we are seeing parents much less than usual and please do be assured that you are welcome to arrange Zoom meetings with me or teachers while physical meetings are not allowed.



We heard that Bryan Read passed away peacefully over half term, aged 95. Mr Read was a pupil in the School's first year and, later, served as our distinguished Chair of Governors for over a quarter of a century. An obituary paying tribute to him is attached, with thanks to Mrs Ogg for compiling everyone's memories.

I wish you all a restful and enjoyable weekend.

With best wishes

*Nick Kingston*



# BULLETIN BOARD

## RAINBOW DAY

