



TOWN CLOSE SCHOOL

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

Headmaster's
Weekly
Newsletter

Week 4

Dear Parents

I hope that your children enjoyed the Bank Holiday weekend, which has made this week positively fly by! A highlight of the week was Tim Krul's visit to record his Prizegiving speech on Tuesday in front of a Year 7 audience, as the forthcoming UEFA European Championships and a new addition to his family mean he is unable to join us on the 9th July. The children loved hearing some of the lessons he has learnt in his career, many of which go far beyond football, while Luca, a keen goalie himself, was thrilled to receive Tim's actual gloves from Saturday's match. This year's Prizegiving is planned to take place on the front lawn in a marquee with Years 3-5 in the morning and Years 6-8 in the afternoon, as we are keen to maximise the chances of all parents being able to attend and feel as safe as possible. Invitations to Prep parents will follow in the coming weeks.



This week also saw an impressive Year 6 soloists' concert, the film of which will be released next week. The progress so many children have achieved, the quality of their playing and the joy in sharing music and supporting each other was great to see. Belek shared his assured drum performance of *Maiden Voyage* once again in Headmaster's Assembly, which was about the benefits of walking, from health and meditation to an Olympic sport! We also heard about the impressive fundraising efforts of a group of staff led by Mr Woods. 3SP impressed a Year 3 audience with their [assembly](#) about Ancient Egypt, which included an entertaining demonstration of mummification. Pre Prep Bird Families considered keeping ourselves safe and recognising trusted adults. We shared the Julia Donaldson classic *Monkey Puzzle* and talked about times when we may have been lost. Mrs Harries led an assembly on the National Holiday in Japan, 'Kodomo no hi', Children's Day, which was on 5th May, and talked about the relevance of the Koi Carp flags and colour order, as well as the story, *Kinarō*. Meanwhile we congratulated our Wonder Wall contributors in celebration assembly this morning.



Little Acorns have been learning about busy bees and painted some fine examples. We continue to enjoy our Japanese topic, with Year 2 writing haiku poems and Year 1 completing a cherry blossom writing exercise. I saw Reception playing a 3D shape matching game, Year 1 learning about fractions and Year 2 writing posters about habitats. There was some lovely cooperative learning in Year 3 English and I spent a joyful lesson with Mrs Chitty's Year 8 English group exploring story telling. Meanwhile, in computing, Year 8 were working hard on network technology types. I visited Year 1, Year 4 and Year 7 in the pool, saw Year 7 developing their fairground rides in DT and Year 6 making contour models in geography. Meanwhile, in art, Year 6 were using fish to inspire their work, while Year 4 represented what they could hear through drawing in music lessons.



Bella has been busy with library reading sessions, talk and share and giving everyone love and attention and has needed regular naps to keep up her energy! Mrs Guymer has also been busy in the library, working with pupils to write reviews of their favourite books, which have been passed to Waterstones in Norwich to select winners for display in their store. Cricket has carried on despite cold and showery May weather, with more children in action this afternoon. Our Royal Society project has been gathering pace (Mrs Laing told me about her class' enthusiastic planting!) and we have been shortlisted for our project to be featured by the BBC. The PTA held their AGM today, electing a new committee and adopting a new constitution, while the outgoing committee met earlier in the week to award grants to school projects from funds raised since 2018, for which we are extremely thankful and will share details in the coming weeks.



Tonight and tomorrow, our Year 5 ASA members look forward to their trip to Eaton Vale, while next week sees the meeting via Zoom for their Horstead trip, delayed from last year. Year 8 have their mental maths and language oral exams as part of CE, we look forward to Pre Prep parents' evenings, there is the Year 4 soloists' concert and many more fixtures!



I wish everyone an enjoyable weekend.

Nick Harrington

