



## New Sports Hall - Official Opening

As you know, our new sports hall has been in full use since the start of term. We are enormously fortunate to have such a wonderful building and everyone is thoroughly enjoying the privilege of using it.

The official opening will take place on Tuesday 13 October at 11.45 am. We are delighted that BBC broadcaster and former England cricketer, Jonathan Agnew, has kindly agreed to perform the ceremony for us. 'Aggers', as he is affectionately known to all listeners to Test Match Special, played cricket for Leicestershire and England in the mid 1980s but it is for his BBC work that he is best known nowadays. He will be visiting us before jetting off to South Africa to cover England's forthcoming tour.

You will be most welcome to come to school for the ceremony although, unfortunately, we will not be able to offer parking as the school day will be in full swing. To enable us to gauge numbers accurately, please email: [opening@townclose.com](mailto:opening@townclose.com) if you intend to come and **remember to wear your badges.**

I look forward to seeing all those of you who are able to come.

GRL

## Y8 RS CE Trips

8C will be visiting the Salvation Army Citadel on Sunday 15 November and 8LW will be visiting St Peter Mancroft on Sunday 1 November as part of their RS CE project. Further information will follow soon.

SC

## Request from Learning Support

Do you have any unwanted Lego lying around at home?

We are looking to add to the resources available during our new lunchtime "Don't Worry, Be Happy Club" - to give children the chance to chill out, chat, colour and play in a supportive environment. Please bring any donations to the Learning Support Room situated through the archway beyond the Music Room or leave in the Front Office.

Many thanks for your support.

FR / AJ

## Astro Turf

As some of you will know, the School is trying very hard to raise funds in a collaborative project with the Hewett School and the Dragons Hockey Club to build an astro turf on land at the Hewett which our children would use. This would be hugely beneficial in terms of reduced journey times and increased time for practice and teaching. We are well on the way towards achieving our target but recognise that there is still work to be done before we are in a position to build.

The members of the Dragons Hockey Club are starting a wonderful and ambitious fund-raising campaign. The first thing they are doing is running a lottery - £5 per ticket and the chance to win £1,000. INFINITELY better odds than the national lottery and all in a very good cause! The School has tickets to sell - these are available from the Prep and Pre-Prep offices. Please support us and the campaign. This is a one off chance to get a facility for our children close to home... There is nowhere else around that we can do it.

Please buy a ticket. You might even win!

GRL

## Parking

A number of parents have begun to use the main drive to collect their children from After School Care and activities. I write to ask you not to do this. The Newmarket Road car park is available for you to use at this time.

GRL

## Website

We have recently added a new "PARENTS" button to the school website. The button is located at the top and bottom of the school website which can be found at [www.townclose.com](http://www.townclose.com). This area of the website will contain useful correspondence and information for parents and children in the School. You will need a username and password to access this area:

Username:

Password:

If you have any problems accessing this area please email [webmaster@townclose.com](mailto:webmaster@townclose.com) for further assistance.

GRL



## PTA

**Friday 6 November** - Bonfire Evening at Tacolneston Hall starting at 6.30pm.

**Friday 20 November** - PTA Wine Evening.

From January 2010, the PTA commission on uniform sales will rise from 20% to 25%.

We look forward to seeing you all at our PTA events this term and thank you for your continued support.

BC

## Drama

On Friday 13 November, Year 3 will be going to the Puppet Theatre to see Orpheus. The performance begins at 10.30am.

Please note that the Year 8 trip to The Globe Theatre in London, to see a matinee performance of The Woman in Black, is on Tuesday 8 December and not Wednesday 9 December as on the Blue Card.

GC

## Notification of Absence

If your child is unwell please let us know as early in the morning as possible.

You can either telephone and leave a message on the absence line (dial 01603 620180, then select option 1, option 2 for Prep or option 2, option 2 for Pre-Prep) or you can email: [prepsec@townclose.com](mailto:prepsec@townclose.com) or [preprepsec@townclose.com](mailto:preprepsec@townclose.com)

As each period of absence needs to be documented, please send in a note when your child returns. (If your contact with the School was by email no further paperwork is necessary). Many thanks.

EC / JS

## School Photographs

All photograph orders for children in the Prep Department should have been returned. The orders will be collected on Monday 12 October. If you have not returned yours, please ensure it is handed in to the Front Office first thing on Monday morning.

EC

## Pre-Prep News

The Foundation Stage would like to thank Mrs Binks (mother of Henry in Year 2) for the ride on police car, mini kitchen and books she kindly donated for their outdoor area, Mrs Lukoszevieve for books, toys and games and Mrs Mackintosh for books.

Birthday books have been received from Nat Buxton, Frank Buxton, James Harris, Nadia Sharpe, Sophie Duez, Rachael Phillips, Chelsea Ngungu, Daisy Ford, Harriet Hodges, Rocco Iaccarino, Harry Ryan, Oliver Leary, Annabel Worth, Raphael Sergeant, Poppy Wharton, Freddie Paterson, Thomas Rampton, Ben Lettice, Lucas Stacey, Ellie McKay, Ethan Rushton, Giles Peart, George Morris, Alexandra Davies, Abigail Flatt, Alexander Lelewel, Ezra Khan, Tom Bailey, Corey Rushton, George Mallinson, James Bussey, Pieter de Lange, Joseph Byrne.

Happy Birthday to you all and thank you.

RJW

## French Dictionaries and Websites

May I remind parents that all children in Years 6, 7 and 8 need a French dictionary? The very small pocket dictionaries are not really appropriate for Year 8 pupils, as they contain too few homonyms and examples. We recommend the Oxford Learner's French Dictionary, though other 'mid-sized' dictionaries are equally appropriate.

The following websites are widely used in school, and we encourage children to revisit them in their own time:

### [www.linguascope.com](http://www.linguascope.com)

This site contains three separate sections, Elementary (used mainly in Years 3-5), Beginner (vocabulary based, and of use to all year groups), and Intermediate (used mainly in Years 7 and 8). The School subscribes to these sites, and children may use them freely at home. All children in the Prep department have been given the password.

### [www.languagesonline.org.uk](http://www.languagesonline.org.uk)

This is more grammatically based, and contains some excellent verb and grammar exercises for older pupils. No password is needed.

SH