

HEADMASTER'S WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

SPRING TERM WEEK
9TH JANUARY, 2026



Dear Parents

A Happy New Year and warm welcome back to all at Town Close, as we come to the end of a busy first week back. The magic and wonder of the snow unfortunately didn't hang around at School for long, but it was lovely to see the pupils enjoying it on their first day back in 2026. We have been left with some rather damp and cold weather to round off this week, but in keeping with my assemblies, at Town Close we are approaching the new calendar year with ambitious resolutions and determination, to not only see things as 'glass half full', but to recognise that a 'half full glass' can always be topped up; my challenge to all of the pupils is to fill their educational glasses to the very brim by making the most out of all of the opportunities that come their way in 2026.

Before the children returned, the staff returned for INSET, where a real highlight was our session focused on mental health awareness with Mike Crossley, who will also be joining us later in the term on Tuesday 10th February for a parent session entitled 'Resource not Rescue'. This will be an engaging session aimed at helping parents to support their young people with their well-being ensuring that they are the happiest and most resilient versions of themselves – I hope that many of you will be able to join us for the event and other upcoming parent seminars, consultations and events over the course of this term. As well as INSET, we also had our first pre-season training sessions before the start of term for Netball (we had hoped for hockey as well, but the snow covered Astro put an end to this on this occasion – fingers crossed for next time) and I hope that this will stand our teams in good stead for an exciting season ahead. We look forward to seeing pre-season training becoming a regular fixture with cricket up next after the hockey and netball seasons.

I am sure that the term ahead will hold many exciting opportunities for all of our pupils, whether that be through the new Pre Prep Creative Curriculum topic of India; the Year 4 production of 'What's the Crime Mr Wolf?'; the inaugural Prep Ski Trip; Bikeability Courses; PSB LAMDA workshops; STEM Week; sports fixtures; the massed Orchestral Workshop; the Norfolk County Music Festival; the Senior Production of 'Shrek'; our Open Morning; and numerous trips, concerts, new activities and Class Assemblies, to name just a few!

I hope that you have a restful weekend and I look forward to seeing all of the children for the first full week back on Monday.

Every Moment Matters



TOP BIRDS



Avocets - Alex and Charlotte



Barn Owls - Izzy and Charles



Peregrines- Oli and Anna



Kingfishers- Aaryan and Grace

CHARITY ELF TRAIL

Well done to Joanie S, who raised just over £400 this Christmas for our school charity, Finnbar's Force. Joanie took inspiration from last year's woodland walk and created her own illuminated, elf-themed woodland walk at home. The event was a fantastic example of creativity and careful planning, and it raised an impressive amount of money. Well done and thank you, Joanie!



DATE FOR THE DIARY MIKE CROSSLEY- RESOURCE NOT RESCUE

On Tuesday 10th February, we invite parents and family friends to join us in Read Hall for a talk by Mike Crossley; freelance instructor for a leading mental health charity. Raising a child can feel challenging at times, but understanding what's happening beneath the surface can make all the difference. This informative and practical session focuses on prevention rather than crisis management, helping parents feel confident, prepared, and informed.

A key element of the session will address social media and smartphone use, drawing on current research, including findings from Jonathan Haidt and statistics from Smartphone Free Childhood (SFC). These insights should offer guidance to help navigate digital boundaries with confidence.

BULLETIN BOARD PRE PREP & PREP FRIENDLY REMINDERS

ACTIVATE DATES FOR THE DIARY

Please note the following dates for Activate this summer. Bookings will open later this term:

- w/c 20th July
- w/c 27th July
- w/c 3rd August



NURSERY PLACES FOR SEPTEMBER 2026

As we look ahead to the 2026/27 academic year, we are pleased to share that demand for Nursery places at Town Close remains very strong. Our Nursery is now approaching full capacity for September 2026 entry. We therefore encourage families who are considering a place for a sibling to contact us as soon as possible. Please email Mrs Amy Jones at admissions@townclose.com or complete the online registration form to register your interest for your child's place.

NORWICH SWANS

Please see the poster below from Norwich Swans Swimming Club, who also offer swimming lessons outside of school.

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Year 8 Parents' Evening

Thursday 15th January, 5.00pm in the Read Hall

Year 7 Parents' Evening

Thursday 22nd January, 5.00pm in the Read Hall

Year 6 Parents' Evening

Thursday 29th January, 5.00pm in the Read Hall

Year 4 Production

Thursday 5th & Friday 6th February, Read Hall

Nursery & Reception Parent Teacher Meetings

w/c 9th February, bookings opening soon

Wellbeing Event with Mike Crossley- Resource not Rescue

All parents invited. Tuesday 10th February, 6.00pm in the Read Hall

Charity non-school uniform day

Friday 13th February

Half Term Begins

Friday 13th February

CARS QUEUING OUTSIDE SCHOOL

We kindly remind you that the gates on Ipswich Road open at 3.20pm, and the gates on Newmarket Road open at 3.50pm. To help avoid queuing, which can block driveways, particularly on Newmarket Road, please do not arrive before the gates open.



TOWN CLOSE SCHOOL

YEAR 7&8

2026

FUTURES FAIR

supporting our children to be future ready

To make this event a success for our children we are seeking volunteers from a range of professions to exhibit at our futures fair. Jarrolds have kindly agreed to lead the pupil workshop and provide a key note speaker.

Join Jarrolds in making this our biggest fair yet!

WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT

THURSDAY 18TH JUNE, 1.00PM-4.00PM



Contact Amy Jones to register your interest: admissions@townclose.com

NORWICH
SWAN
Swimming Club

Swimming Lessons
for children aged 4+

Learn to
Swim
with Norwich Swan

- Learn an important life skill
- Fun and enjoyable weekly lessons
- Following an established teaching path
- Professional Qualified Teachers
- All Teachers DBS checked
- Oldest and largest Swimming Club in the region
- Great choice of pools around the Norwich area



BOOK YOUR
LESSONS HERE



www.norwichswansc.co.uk