

HEADMASTER'S WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

SPRING TERM WEEK 10
20TH MARCH, 2026



Dear Parents

I write to you today as we get ready to welcome visitors for our second Open Morning of the academic year and I can hear the burble of excited tour guides getting ready to show our visitors what life is like at Town Close School. In many ways, the busy and vibrant nature of this week is the perfect example of the broad, balanced and brilliant education that is the hallmark of Town Close School. As I type, our U11 boys ready themselves to represent the school in the IAPS National Hockey Finals at Repton; a significant achievement to get to the finals but with a desire to not rest on their laurels and ensure that they put their best foot forward on what I am sure will be a day that they remember – we wish them good luck. We also wished our Upper Prep pupils luck this week as they stepped on stage for the long awaited first night of Shrek: The Musical, but truthfully luck played no part in their tremendous first night performance yesterday, it reflected sustained effort and teamwork from all of the cast and crew to ensure that they all shone and put on a truly remarkable performance for us to enjoy. I said last year that Matilda Jr was possibly the best Prep aged performance I had ever seen and it was with real pride that I sat in the audience watching another production of the highest calibre; underlining that at Town Close pupils excelling is not the exception, but rather the norm. On a smaller (but no less impressive) scale, 3B delivered a great class assembly with a powerful and important message about deforestation in their own unique and creative way. A cleverly recreated Netflix-style documentary, alongside rewritten lyrics to a James Blunt song, brought their message vividly to life and kept the audience fully engaged. Their success came as no surprise, as the class confidently explained how they have been learning about the power of persuasion, understanding how words can shape perspectives, highlight important issues, and inspire meaningful change.

Other highlights of the week have included the Year 1 trip to the Ancient House Museum in Thetford as part of their topic work on India. They took part in a range of hands-on activities, including a scavenger hunt, grinding spices, exploring Punjabi ingredients, rolling chapatis, handling Sikh artefacts, and trying on traditional dress. On Monday, Reverend Dr. Patrick Richmond from Christ Church, Eaton, led our Prep Assembly reminding us of 'The Greatest Mystery in History', the story of Easter. As we approach the Easter Holidays, he reminded us of the meaning behind the Easter egg and encouraged us all to spread joy and love this Easter time. Our U12A netballers performed brilliantly in the U12 Norfolk Cup to finish second overall. They topped their group, winning all of their matches before dominant performances in the quarter and semi-finals ensured a top two finish. A tight final ensued with Town Close leading at the halfway point, however, the opposition came out strongly, securing the victory 6-4. Our Lower Prep runners enjoyed a beautiful afternoon of sunshine (the weather was almost too good for cross-country!) for their House Cross Country this week, navigating their two laps of our woodland course with great enthusiasm and determination! Congratulations to all of our musicians who performed at the Norfolk County Music Festival over the last couple of weeks. Mrs Kozcur was extremely proud of all our instrumentalists and singers who all received fantastic feedback from the adjudicator, including an incredible 'outstanding' classification for our Prep Orchestra.

Next week, there is lots to look forward to as we bring the term to a close including Pre Prep Grandparents day, a Prep Soloist Concert and for 48 very excited pupils (and 6 equally excited members of staff) in Years 5-8 the Town Close Ski Trip, which I am leading, to Passo Tonale which leaves early tomorrow morning. As I will be away next week with the ski trip, I would like to take this opportunity to wish the pupils a huge well done on the many achievements over the course of this term and I hope that they have both a fantastic final week of term and a well-deserved Easter break afterwards. I look forward to seeing all of our pupils when term resumes after the Easter break.

Every Moment Matters



FRIENDLY REMINDERS

LIBRARY BOOKS

Could all library books please be returned next week before we break up for the Easter holiday.

NORFOLK COUNTY MUSIC FESTIVAL RESULTS

Ensemble Results:

- Prep School Orchestra: Outstanding
- Junior Wind Band: Highly Commended Plus
- Flute Group: Highly Commended Plus
- Year 2 Choir: Highly Commended Plus
- Shrek Cast Choir: Highly Commended

Well done to everyone who represented the School.

BULLETIN BOARD PRE PREP & PREP

ALUMNI LUNCH

On Wednesday 20th June we will host a lunch for alumni who attended Town Close between 1960-1990. Could you please share this invitation with family and friends who would be eligible to join us.

FUTURE FAIR

There is still time to sign up to exhibit at the Year 7&8 Futures Fair. The event takes place on Thursday 18th June, from 12.45pm – 4.00pm. This event gives our Year 7 and Year 8 students a wonderful opportunity to explore the world of work, discover different career paths, and see where their learning today could lead them in the future. Please email admissions@townclose.com.

DATES FOR THE DIARY

School Ski Trip

w/c 23rd March, departing Saturday 21st March

Pre Prep Grandparent's Day

Tuesday 24th March, 10.00am

Holly Class Assembly

Wednesday 25th March, 8.30am in the Read Hall

Silver Birch Class Assembly

Thursday 26th March, 8.30am in the Read Hall

Prep Informal Soloist Concert

Thursday 26th March, 4.15pm in the Read Hall

Please always refer to the live calendar on the Parent Portal or website for a full list of events and sports fixtures.

HPV VACCINATIONS

Year 8 pupils who missed their HPV vaccination can attend one of the advertised clinics.

MATCH REPORT

HOCKEY

Our Colts A U11 boys represented the School at the IAPS National Finals today, competing in a field with the top twenty independent prep school teams in the country. They began their campaign strongly, recording a 4-0 victory against Somerhill that showcased their exemplary teamwork and exciting passing hockey. Two tight matches between Hurstpierpoint College and Cargilfield School followed with Town Close showing great defensive discipline to win 1-0 in both. In a final thrilling group match against Millfield Prep, they secured a 2-0 victory that ensured they topped their group with 4 wins out of 4 and were guaranteed a quarter final place. The quarter final against a strong Bedford Prep, who went on to be crowned National Champions, proved, unfortunately, the end of their great run as Bedford scored two with Town Close unable to respond and capitalise on their chances. A top 8 finish in the Nationals is an incredible achievement and we are extremely proud of how they have grown as a squad over the course of the season. The future is very bright for this talented group of hockey players!

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA:

Facebook: @towncloseschool

Instagram: town.close.school



SCHOOL DISCO

TOWN CLOSE SCHOOL, READ HALL

»» 8TH MAY ««

DJ | ENTERTAINMENT
TUCK SHOP

TICKETS - £5

ON SALE NEXT WEEK!

NURSERY & RECEPTION* - 2.00 - 3.00 PM *NO TICKET REQ.
YEARS 1 & 2 - 3.45 - 4.45 PM** **SNACK INCL
YEARS 3 & 4 - 5:00 - 6.15 PM
YEARS 5, 6 & 7 - 6.30 - 8.00 PM

Dress Code: Be Yourself

MATCH REPORT

NETBALL

The U10s travelled to Beeston Hall this week to play in an U11 development tournament. It was a busy schedule, with the girls playing seven matches in total. There were some great results along the way, with a couple of wins, three draws, and just two narrow losses in what were all closely contested games. The tournament provided a valuable opportunity to experiment with different positions and combinations, some proving more effective than others. At their best, the team showed real promise, particularly when driving forward for the ball rather than waiting behind defenders. At times, play became a little rushed, leading to turnovers, but these are all part of the learning process. Overall, it was a very successful afternoon that highlighted the squad's potential and determination. A special mention goes to Jemima T-N for her consistent effort in every position she played. Player of the tournament was awarded to Percy W for some outstanding turnovers and interceptions.

Eight teams travelled to Culford this week for a tournament, each team playing 2 or 3 matches against the opposition. The U11As played some super netball with each game, a game of two halves, with everchanging combinations. They had wins against Glebe House, Norwich High and Langley but lost to Gresham's, Beeston and Norwich School to finish 4th overall. Charlotte L was awarded Player of the Team - she gave 110%, listened to coaching tips and improved throughout the tournament. The U11Bs played the opposition U11B team first, they displayed strong defensive work, however they were unfortunately defeated 0-3. The second match against the opposition's U10As saw a big improvement. The team moved the ball confidently down the court, with Hannah B and Riya N shooting consistently in a 4-1 win. Clara W was named Player of the Match for an excellent defensive display and key interceptions. The final game against a strong opposition A side proved challenging. The team found it difficult to compete with their height and intensity, though they improved in the second half. The match ended in a 1-9 loss. A positive afternoon overall, with clear progress across the games. The U11C, D and E teams all enjoyed a fantastic tournament, with effort and team spirit on display throughout. The C team showed excellent progress and cohesion on court. They moved confidently into space, demonstrating strong awareness and support play. Florence L and Zahra S linked particularly well, delivering accurate passes that allowed the ball to transition smoothly down the court. Eliza C, Amelia C and Florence L all contributed impressively to both attack and defence, and their efforts resulted in a number of well-taken goals. Florence L was deservedly awarded Player of the Match twice, while Amelia C earned the same recognition in the final game. The D team also deserves great credit for their efforts and attitude. They tried incredibly hard in every match and clearly enjoyed their netball, which was wonderful to see. Their enthusiasm stood out, and they showed determination by marking their opponents closely in defence. Victoria W and Annabelle H combined well, linking a number of accurate passes to their teammates and finishing a positive day by scoring several goals. Annabelle H and Ella H were named Players of the Match. The E team faced some very strong opposition, which provided a challenging experience, but one that will no doubt help their development moving forward. Despite finding it difficult to connect passes under tight marking and create shooting opportunities, the team remained positive and continued to work hard throughout their games. Most importantly, they kept their spirits high and enjoyed the experience. Olivia M and Sabrina S were recognised for their efforts and attitude, both being named Players of the Match.

The U13A team had a double-header, facing both U13As and U12As. The match against the U13As was closely contested, with standout performances particularly from Ellie C, who made crucial interceptions and provided solid defensive pressure. In the end, the team lost 17-12 in a hard-fought game. In the match against the U12As, the girls came out with more determination and dominated throughout the court, ultimately securing a 13-10 win. Players of the Match were Annabelle H and Matilda C, who both gave strong performances. The U13B team also played two games against U13B and U13C side. Both matches began at a fast pace, with Culford starting strongly and putting early pressure on the Town Close defence. However, Town Close quickly settled into the game, with the defensive pairing working tirelessly to disrupt their attacking flow. Several well-timed interceptions and rebounds from Sephe V, Nikita G and Pearl T helped regain possession and allow us to bring the ball down court. In the centre court, Alice B, Isla S and Phillipa C showed excellent communication and movement, linking play effectively from defence into attack. They also showed incredibly accurate and well timed feeds into the shooting circle. The wings worked hard to create space, making some sharp passes into the shooting circle. Despite tight marking from the opposition, Annabelle Y, Phillipa C and Nikita G, now at GS, demonstrated composure, with very accurate shooting. As the games progressed, Culford maintained their intensity and capitalised on a few turnovers, but the girls responded with determination. Their defensive pressure remained consistent, forcing errors and creating opportunities to counterattack. The team's ability to stay focused and support one another was evident throughout. The score of the first match was a loss of 22-19 and oppositions player of the match went to Annabelle Y and Coach's played to Phillipa C. The second match resulted in a win of 18-16 with oppositions player given to Nikita G and coach's player to Alice B. The U13C team took the first quarter to warm up in their first match against their U12B team, and went 5 goals down, however they recovered well and the score was even until the last quarter unfortunately they pulled away in the last few minutes and the final result was 14-11 to the opposition. The second match was against their U13D team and we dominated from the start winning 22-11. Thank you to Poppy K who came down from the B's to help us out and she received Player of the match for both games. Congratulations to Geena S who had a very successful game by rarely missing the ring.

MATCH REPORT

NETBALL

The U13D team played in two fixtures. In the first game, although the result didn't go our way, there were plenty of positives to take. Reina K and Sienna C were impressive in attack, working hard to create opportunities. Their efforts were well supported through mid court by Margot C and Simran T, who linked play effectively and kept the ball moving. Defensively, Jess E, Polly H and Margaux VP worked hard throughout, doing their best to limit Culford's scoring chances. Siena C received opposition Player of the Match, and Margaux VP received Player of the Match. The second game saw a fantastic turnaround, with the team securing a well-deserved 10–7 victory. Margot C moved into GS, where she made an immediate impact, converting multiple chances. Reina K also adapted well in her new role at WA, helping to support the attacking unit. Jess E moved into centre, which allowed her to bring her skills through the whole court. The team showed great confidence and composure, which was clearly reflected in the final score. Margot C received oppositions Player of the Match and Jess E received Player of the Match.



ECOAPRIL CHALLENGE 2026

Plenty of ways to get involved throughout April...

- 1 Do **something Eco Focused of your choice**, share it with us and win an Eco Pin Badge
- 2 **Saturday 18th April**, join us anytime between 10:00 -15:00 at Whitlingham Country Park for a **nature inspired treasure hunt** (Treasure hunt likely to last approx 1 hour)
- 3 **Sunday 26th April**, join our **group litter pick**, receive an Eco Pin Badge

FIND OUT MORE & BOOK YOUR PLACE AT TOWNCLOSEPTA.CO.UK



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Alumni Reunion

Did you attend Town Close between 1960 & 1990?
Join old friends for a tour of the School followed by lunch with the Headmaster.

May | 20 | 2026

11.30am - 2.00pm
at Town Close School



RSVP to Mrs Amy Jones
admissions@townclose.com 01603 599030

HPV VACCINATION CLINICS

APRIL 2026

**HPV clinics for anyone aged 13-25
due their HPV vaccination**

Saturday 25th April 2026

Great Yarmouth Library, NR30 1LX

Kings Lynn Library, PE30 1DL

Bookable ONLY.

Sunday 26th April 2026 – WALK IN CLINIC

Number 10 Whiting Road, Norwich, NR4 6DJ

Bookable AND walk-in.

How to book:

Call 0300 555 5055, option 2

Email hct.csaisnorfolk@nhs.net.

This service is provided by Hertfordshire Community NHS Trust and covers Bedfordshire, Luton and Milton Keynes, Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, Hertfordshire and West Essex, Mid and South Essex, Norfolk and Waveney, and Suffolk and North East Essex