

# HEADMASTER'S WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

SPRING TERM WEEK  
23RD JANUARY, 2026



Dear Parents

Another busy week draws to a close and I write to you today from the back of the Read Hall as I enjoy a sneak peek of the upcoming Year 4 production 'What's The Crime, Mr. Wolf?' – with lines seemingly already very secure and some very humorous moments, I think that we will have a real treat in store in February! And February will soon be upon us as January seems to have hurtled by leaving plenty of memorable moments in its wake. Speaking of hurtling, it was great to be able to award 15 Level 1 Bikeability Awards to Year 4 pupils in assembly this morning and a big well done to our 24 Year 5 pupils who tackled Level 2 this week in some pretty inclement weather at times proving that Town Close pupils are made of stern stuff! We also celebrated some speedy pupils in Year 7 and 8 who took part in the County Cross Country Championships. All of our runners did themselves and the school proud, running in huge fields from schools across Norfolk with the lowest number of runners in any of the races we participated in being 75 competitors. Whilst they all deserve credit for their efforts, we were pleased to see that Alex, Isla, Archie and Evan ran so well that they qualified to represent Norfolk at the East Anglian Championships in the coming weeks.

It hasn't all just been rushing about though, in fact one of my messages to our pupils in Friday assembly focused on the importance of not rushing, but on taking time and care to be at their best. A highlight from the week that had a more leisurely pace to it was a group of Year 6 and 7 budding actors and actresses joining Mrs Beasley in our Drama Studio for an online LAMDA (London Academy of Music & Dramatic Art) Workshop. Participating alongside other PSB schools, they were looking at developing performance through audience feedback, and focused character analysis, whilst incorporating the PSB core skills of communication, collaboration, and reviewing and learning to enhance their script readings and delivery. Well done to all of the pupils who took part, giving strong focus throughout, as well as being thoughtful and supportive of each other's feedback and performances.

There were also several tasty highlights from the week, firstly with our Year 8 pupils enjoying a fantastic sushi making workshop in our Cookery Room. In groups, they learnt about the ingredients, the equipment required and the rolling technique before making their own vegetarian hosomaki, uramaki and futomaki. The results were both beautiful and delicious! Thank you very much to Chef Danny, a member of the Thomas Franks Ltd Catering Team, for a fantastic day of culinary fun! Not to be outdone, Year 1 also enjoyed some baking in the Cookery Room on Wednesday linked to a key text in their current topic 'Pattán's Pumpkin'. Their pumpkin muffins looked truly delicious and they did a great job learning how to carefully measure, pour, crack eggs and keep track of timings.

It was great to be able to host our first block fixtures on the new onsite netball courts this week and lovely to welcome spectators to a true 'home' match on the Town Close site at the start of what I am sure will be a very successful season. We also welcomed Year 7 parents in for a Parents' Evening on Thursday and, as ever, it was a great opportunity to catch up on a pleasing academic year to date. There were also meetings with the PTA discussing the brilliant upcoming events that kindly help to fund brilliant projects for us, such as the cookery room. Events to look forward to include the PTA Quiz, with tickets now on sale, Easter Eco activities and a School Disco for pupils at the start of the Summer Term. Thank you to the PTA, as ever, for all that you do to make a real impact in our school community.

I hope that a pleasant weekend lies ahead and I wish all of our Year 8 pupils who are attending interviews for Year 9 places at Norwich School this weekend all the best – I am sure that they will put their best foot forward and do themselves proud.



Every Moment Matters

## FRIENDLY REMINDERS

### PRE PREP COMMUNITY BOOK SHELF



Find our Pre Prep Book Swap bookshelf near the Reception classes. Families are welcome to take a book and swap with one of their own. This is a community shared resource, not a donation point. Enjoy!

### WHAT'S THE CRIME, MR. WOLF?

Well done to Edith B who designed the brilliant poster for 'What's the Crime, Mr. Wolf?'. Tickets will be available to book via the Portal from Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> January.

### ACTIVATE BOOKING

Bookings for Activate 2026 will open later this term. This year Activate will take place during the following weeks;

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



### EXTENDED SENIOR HOCKEY PRACTICE

Due to the Under 13 Norfolk county hockey tournament being held on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> January, there will be no extended senior hockey practice that afternoon. 4.00pm finish for all of the Year 7 and 8 boys.



### FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA:

Facebook: @towncloseschool

Instagram: town.close.school

# BULLETIN BOARD

## PRE PREP & PREP

COMMUNITY SPORTS FOUNDATION

FOOTBALL CAMP

SPORT: Football

VENUE: Town Close School

DATE: Monday 16th February

TIME: 10am - 3pm

### HALF TERM FOOTBALL CLUB

For a place on the half term football club please [book here](#).

### HALF TERM CRICKET CLUB

For a place on the half term cricket club please [book here](#).

## DATES FOR THE DIARY

### Year 6 Parents' Evening

Thursday 29th January, 5.00pm in the Read Hall

### Year 4 Production 'What's the Crime, Mr. Wolf?'

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> February at 5.00pm & Friday 6<sup>th</sup> February at 6.00pm in the Read Hall

### Nursery & Reception Parent Teacher Meetings

w/c 9<sup>th</sup> February, bookings opening soon

### Wellbeing Event with Mike Crossley- Resource not Rescue

All parents invited. Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> February, 6.00pm in the Read Hall

### 3H Class Assembly

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> February, 8.30am in the Read Hall

### Prep Informal Soloist's Concert

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> February, 4.15pm in Read Hall

### 'From the Heart Day'- Charity non-school uniform day

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February

### Half Term Begins

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February

PTA TOWN CLOSE

QUIZ NIGHT

FRIDAY 6TH MARCH

£132 per team of 6

Includes two course meal (£22pp)

FROM 6.30PM | GOAT SHED | NR9 5DJ

GET YOUR TICKETS NOW!

townclosepta.co.uk

PROUDLY SPONSORED BY S&P SMITH & PINCHING

# MATCH REPORT

## HOCKEY

The boys played their first hockey block fixture of the term against Langley Prep on Wednesday. The 1<sup>st</sup> VII were in action at the Town Close Dragons' Den and made an encouraging start with a 6-2 win. The boys created a lot of goal-scoring chances, only to be thwarted on a number of occasions by an outstanding performance by the Langley goalkeeper. Archie G (2), Evan S, Elias Y, Boris D and Ben S all found the target, and Evan S was nominated as POM. The 2<sup>nd</sup> VII drew 2-2 (Asadallah S and Seb M were our POMs) and the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> VII lost by 0-2 and 0-1 respectively. Mr Woods was impressed with the effort and commitment of both of his teams, with Henry M nominated as POM for his all-round performance in the 3<sup>rd</sup> VII. William G was excellent in goal for the 4<sup>th</sup> team and was awarded the POM for a number of outstanding saves.

The Colts travelled to Langley Prep for their matches. The Colts A continued the promising form shown at the Framlingham Festival last week with a 4-1 win. Beltran OC was awarded POM for his skilful play. The Colts B won 3-0 with goals scored by Willoughby W, Arthur Y and Lewis M. Arthur Y received the POM award for his hard work throughout the game. The C and D teams both had comfortable wins and passed the ball accurately using the width of the pitch. Seb W and Arthur G received the POM awards, but the all-round team play in both matches was very encouraging at this stage of the term.

Our Under 9 boys are involved in a mini-festival this afternoon at Redmayne to begin their season and we are looking forward to a block fixture with Beeston Hall next Wednesday afternoon. In between those fixtures, our 1<sup>st</sup> VII will be playing in the county tournament at Redmayne on Monday and we wish them the best of luck for that tournament.

## NETBALL

This week the U13s had the honour of playing the first home netball matches on our lovely new courts against Langley Prep. The A team had a tough match against a strong team, but there was some excellent play down the court as the team became used to each other. Sophia G filled her role superbly as captain; encouraging the players and in her position as centre, being a vital link from attack to defence. Well done to Annabelle H who was a strong influence in the shooting circle and was awarded Player of the Match. The U13B team showed a solid game with excellent team cohesion passing the ball smoothly down the court. Each player contributed to a good game of netball. Phillipa C and Nikita G were a super scoring team. With solid defending from Pearl T and Matilda C culminating in a 14-6 win. Well done Nikita G who was awarded Player of the Match. The U13 Cs had a superb match, playing fluid, accurate netball. Harriet W displayed steady movement around the court and her accuracy in scoring goals improved throughout the quarters. Sienna A was a solid link at Centre joining seamlessly the attack and defence. In the oppositions 'D', Claudia A made some excellent interceptions, jumping in at the perfect time to cleanly win the ball. The whole team played well and thoroughly deserved the 13-2 win and Players of the Match were Sienna A, Harriet W and Claudia A.

The U11s travelled to Langley Prep for their first match. The U11A team made a strong start, racing into a 9-2 lead within the first 10 minutes and rotating positions confidently throughout the match. Georgia S was a constant at GS, scoring freely, as the team secured a 19-7 win. Special mentions go to Nyla S for her quick passing, Elizabeth C for her versatility in both shooting and defence, and Joanie S who earned POM at Centre for her stamina, superb vision and linking defence to attack. The U11Bs made a good start, playing Bee netball, a five-a-side format, which provides all players with the opportunity to experience a range of positions. They began the first rotation strongly with a couple of early goals, before experiencing a lull in the middle where it was difficult to find sustained, continuous play. Nevertheless, it was a positive start to the season. A special mention goes to Hannah B, who displayed great skill at both ends of the court, scoring goals and making some excellent interceptions in the goalkeeper position. The opposition's Player of the Match was awarded to Willa C. Well done to all, final score Town Close 9 Langley 3.

## CROSS COUNTRY

A very well done to the team of Year 7 and 8 runners who competed in the County Cross Country Championships this week. They all ran with great heart & determination, competing in fields of 75+ runners who were representing schools from across all of Norfolk.

Special congratulations go to those who qualified to represent Norfolk at the East Anglian Championships:

Alex (Year 8): 7th overall in the Year 8 / Year 9 boys

Isla (Year 7): 8th overall in the Year 7 girls

Archie (Year 7): 12th overall in the Year 7 boys

Evan (Year 7): 13th overall in the Year 7 boys

A fantastic achievement, well done!



TOWN CLOSE SCHOOL  
LOWER PREP PRESENTS

What's the



Crime

Mr

Wolfe?

THURSDAY 5TH FEBRUARY AT 5PM

FRIDAY 6TH FEBRUARY AT 6PM

TICKETS CAN BE BOOKED ON PARENT PORTAL FROM FRIDAY 23RD JANUARY

# Feb 2026 Half Term Holiday Cricket Clubs At Town Close School Sports Hall

Tues 17<sup>th</sup> & Weds 18<sup>th</sup> February

For Years 1 upwards

£45 for one  
day or £85  
for two days



Our Lead coach will be Mr. Neil Taylor.

Players of all levels and experience will have the opportunity to improve their technical skills in a fun environment.

Suitable for Years 1 and above.

Those wishing to play hardball cricket will require their own kit, but it's not essential.

Pupils in Year 1&2 will play with softball cricket equipment, which will be provided.

Players should bring indoor shoes, plenty of drinks and a packed lunch.

10am to 3pm on the following days:

Tues 17<sup>th</sup> & Weds 18<sup>th</sup> February 2026

Venue: Venue: Town Close School Sports Hall, Ipswich Rd Norwich NR2 2LJ

Go to [www.taylormadecricket.com](http://www.taylormadecricket.com) for full details of booking & payment.

Please submit the online form and pay online

Confirmation of place will be sent by email.