

HEADMASTER'S WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

SUMMER TERM WEEK 10
26TH JUNE, 2026



Dear Parents

The penultimate Friday of the academic year has brought with it a hot end to the week. Unfortunately, this meant that we had to reschedule Prep Sports Day for our alternative date on Monday and we have everything crossed that the conditions are more comfortable, for what I am sure will be a fantastic day of athletics and House spirit. At school today I have been impressed with how we have adapted to carry on in the heat by making the most of our classrooms and spaces with air conditioning, utilizing the beautiful shade that the woodland walk provides, altering plans for certain lessons accordingly and even indulging in some much-needed water play over in Pre Prep. I am sure that PTA Freezer Friday will no doubt be very popular at the end of the day.

There has been plenty of wonderful events for us to enjoy over the course of the week including two incredible days at the Royal Norfolk Show. We were delighted to welcome parents, prospective families, alumni and members of the public to our School Stand, where they enjoyed a wonderful programme of events celebrating our vibrant school community as well as some welcome shade, delicious Town Close catering and a refreshing drinks selection. In recognition of the National Literacy Trust's Year of Reading, our stand embraced a literary theme, featuring a cosy reading corner, bookmark making and storytelling with myself. Visitors, also, enjoyed stunning choir and solo instrumental performances from our talented Year 6, 7 and 8 pupils, a spectacular Science Magic Show with our Head of Science, Mr Chapman, and a drinks and canapés reception. A particular highlight was seeing our Norfolk Show Vocal Ensembles perform on the School Band Stand just as HRH The Princess Royal arrived, delighting their audience with a wonderful selection of songs inspired by books. We were also thrilled to celebrate two fantastic achievements. Our Pre Prep Garden was awarded a Silver Gilt Award for its beautiful display inspired by The Secret Sky Garden, while our School Stand received a rosette as Reserve Winner of the Sir Richard Haddon Challenge Cup for the educational exhibit that best demonstrates its facilities. Thank you to everyone who visited us over the two days, and congratulations to all of our pupils and staff (with a particular thanks to Mrs. Jones and Mrs. Toulson, who were instrumental to this) whose enthusiasm, creativity and hard work made the Show such a memorable success.

Back at School, we enjoyed the annual Bryan Read Summer Concert, where pupils from Year 2 and above took to the stage in an impressive range of ensemble groups. Showcasing the depth of musical opportunity and talent at School, the audience was treated to performances from the Prep School Orchestra, Junior Wind Band, Junior String Ensemble, Flute Group, Guitar Ensemble, Rock Band, Rising Voices Choir, and the three Royal Norfolk Show Vocal Ensembles. Congratulations to all of the pupils for their hard work, dedication and wonderful performances. It was a thoroughly entertaining evening of music. A huge thank you to everyone who joined us and supported our talented young musicians on such a warm summer evening. Your encouragement means so much to our performers. Thank you, also, to Mrs Kozcur and the team of music teachers for their hard work and support of our pupils in the lead up to the concert and throughout the course of the year.

One of my absolute highlights of the week was the wonderful Nursery Celebration Assembly. Our nursery children delighted their audience with a fantastic selection of songs, singing with such enthusiasm and joy. Their confidence and love of music shone through, highlighting just how much they enjoy music with Miss Skinner as part of their school experience. Each child proudly took their turn to share their favourite thing about nursery, before holding up a piece of artwork that showcased their creativity and interests. It was lovely to hear their individual voices & celebrate all they have accomplished this year. A special photo montage captured the many exciting activities, learning experiences and memorable moments that have made this such a busy and incredible year in nursery. It was a wonderful reminder of how much the children have grown and flourished. A huge thank you to Mrs Creasey, Miss Skinner and the entire Nursery team for their dedication, care & hard work throughout the year. Their support has helped create such a happy, nurturing & inspiring environment for our youngest learners. Well done to all of our nursery children – we are so proud of you and cannot wait to see how you thrive as you move up the School.

This time of year is also about preparing for the next and so in preparation for their future roles as potential Wellbeing Ambassadors in Year 8, our Year 7 pupils took part in an inspiring Mental Health Ambassador training session led by experienced educationalist and MHFA Youth Instructor Mike Crossley. Throughout the session, pupils explored how to recognise the signs and symptoms of poor mental health, discussed positive coping strategies, and considered the key qualities that make an effective wellbeing ambassador. They also learned the importance of being a good listener and how they can offer support to younger pupils while understanding the boundaries of the role. Alongside the mental health training, pupils enjoyed a range of engaging leadership exercises, developing valuable communication, teamwork and problem-solving skills. A key message of the day was that Wellbeing Ambassadors are there to support and signpost others, not to take responsibility for anyone else's mental health. This helped pupils gain confidence in understanding both the opportunities and responsibilities that come with the role. We are incredibly proud of the maturity, enthusiasm & compassion shown by our Year 7 pupils and look forward to seeing many of them step up into roles of responsibility in their final year at the School.

Next week we have the Art Exhibition to look forward to and having seen some of the work on display at the Show this week, I am sure that it will be a real treat – I hope that you get the chance to come and visit this next week. We also have Prep Sports Day, the Year 4 Horstead Residential, the Year 2 Celebration, our second Moving Up morning, and the Year 8 Leavers Event at The Assembly House to look forward to in what I am sure will be another busy week with memorable moments. I hope that the whole school community has an enjoyable and restful weekend and I look forward to seeing many of you at Sports Day on Monday.

Every Moment Matters

FRIENDLY REMINDERS

This term, a group of our Year 7 pupils have taken part in the weekly Enterprise Elective, developing their creativity, teamwork, and entrepreneurial skills. To celebrate the end of this fantastic PSB elective, the pupils will be running their own market stalls and selling products they have created. We would love you to join us on the Prep Playground next Thursday.

YEAR 7

ENTERPRISE ELECTIVE SELLING DAY

THURSDAY 2ND JULY

STALLS INCLUDE

4.00PM
-4.30PM

- PLUSHIE DUCK - CROCHET ANIMALS, BOOKMARKS & KEY RINGS (£2-8) MOCHIS (50P EACH), PLANTS (50P)
- SIMPLY CAKES - CUPCAKES (£1 - £2)
- ZESTY ZING - CAKE & LEMONADE STAND (50P TO £2)
- A GRADE LEMONADE - LEMONADE & STRAWBERRY LEMONADE (£1-£1.50)
- PRINTS CHARMING - 3D PRINTED TOYS (£2 - £5)
- PLANTS R US - PLANTS (£1.25)

✦ PLEASE BRING CASH

BULLETIN BOARD PRE PREP & PREP



DATES FOR THE DIARY

Prep Sports Day

Monday 29th June

Art Exhibition

From Tuesday 30th June in Read Hall

Year 4 Residential to Horstead

From 1st July

Year 2 Summer Celebration

Wednesday 1st July, 2.15pm on the Front Lawn

Year 8 Leavers' Dinner

Friday 3rd July, 6.30pm at The Assembly House

Prep Summer Fete

Monday 6th July, 2.00pm on the Front Lawn

Final day of Term for Pre Prep

Tuesday 7th July

Prize Day and Final Day of Term for Prep

Wednesday 8th July

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



Art

Exhibition

30th June - 3rd July 2026

Read Hall

Come and visit our bi-annual art exhibition, which is a celebration of work from Reception to Year 8.

The exhibition will open on Tuesday 30th June at 5.00pm. After which, it will open between 8.00am - 8.30am and 3.30pm - 5.00pm daily until Friday 3rd July.



TOWN CLOSE PREP SUMMER FETE

July 6th 2-4pm

TOMBOLA DONATIONS

WE ARE KINDLY ASKING FOR DONATIONS FOR THE CHILDREN'S
TOMBOLA AT OUR UPCOMING SCHOOL FETE

- Colouring books and crayons, stickers and sticker books
- Puzzles, jigsaws, board or card games
- LEGO sets or building blocks
- Craft kits, pens, pencils, erasers, and stationery sets
- Bubble wands or tubs of bubbles
- Yo-yos, bouncy balls, fidget toys,
- Sweets—small packets, hair accessories or jewellery sets
- Bath bombs or children's toiletries, pocket money toys
- Sports items such as footballs, skipping ropes, frisbees

BRING DONATIONS TO THE LIBRARY PLEASE

Outdoor Holiday Cricket Clubs Summer 2026

'Hilltops' Lakenham Hewett RFC

Main Road Swardeston NR14 8DU

For Years 1 upwards

£45 for one day, £85 for two days or £40 a day for three or more days



Use this QR code for the booking form

Our Lead coach will be Mr. Taylor, Head of Cricket at Town Close School and Swardeston Cricket Club Junior Section.

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

Suitable for Years 1 to 10.

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 sunblock, hat, plenty of drinks and a packed lunch.

10am to 3pm on the following days:

Thurs 9th July, Fri 10th July, Tues 21st July, Thurs 23rd July, Thurs 30th July, Friday 31st July, Thurs 6th Aug, Tues 11th Aug, Weds 19th Aug, Thurs 20th Aug, Tues 25th Aug, Thurs 27th Aug, Fri 28th Aug and Tues 1st Sept.

Venue: 'Hilltops' Swardeston CC 2nd XI ground (not The Common)

At Lakenham Hewett RFC Main Road, Swardeston Norwich NR14 8DU

To book:

Go to 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.