

HEADMASTER'S WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

SUMMER TERM WEEK 11
3RD JULY, 2026



Dear Parents

As I type this final newsletter of the academic year, it is fitting to pause and reflect on what has been another remarkable year at Town Close. Our pupils have been at the heart of countless memorable moments, achievements and successes, demonstrating enthusiasm, resilience, kindness and ambition in all that they do. We congratulate every child for the contribution they have made to school life and for all that they have accomplished. We also extend our sincere thanks to our staff, whose care, support and inspiration help our pupils to flourish each day. Finally, thank you to our parents for your unwavering support of the school and for the vital role you play in encouraging your children to be their very best. Together, you make the Town Close community such a special place.

Unsurprisingly, this week has been another busy one and it started with one of my highlights of the year, the rescheduled Prep Sports Day. Pupils from Years 3–8 took to the track and field, giving their all to earn valuable points for their House. Thankfully, the slightly milder weather provided ideal conditions for a day of outstanding competition, determination and teamwork. A huge thank you to our wonderful Catering Team and Town Close School PTA volunteers, who kept everyone well fed and refreshed throughout the day with a delicious selection of refreshments, including the much-loved tradition of strawberries and cream. Congratulations to Barton House on being crowned this year's champions! And well done to every competitor for demonstrating such impressive athleticism, resilience and exemplary sportsmanship. A special mention goes to Year 8 pupil Wolf, who delivered a remarkable performance to break the School Shot Put Record - an incredible achievement.

This week we have also had the joy of welcoming local artist Steven McCardle to officially open this year's Art Exhibition. Recognised for his striking fusion of digital pixelation, tangible reality and classic masterpieces, it was wonderful to see a selection of Steven's work alongside our pupils' creations, and to hear about what inspires him in his creative process. Our Exhibition featured an incredible 510 framed artworks from children in Reception through to Year 8 and celebrates every child's artistic journey at Town Close. Each piece reflects their individuality, creativity and growing confidence as they explore colour, texture, depth and a wide range of artistic techniques. The result was a truly inspiring, gallery-quality exhibition that showcased the imagination and skill of our young artists. A huge thank you to Mrs. Harman on her final Art Exhibition as she retires at the end of this academic year, and to Mr. Billman, who will be taking up the reins from September, for the hard work that went into putting this incredible exhibition together.

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 ran their own market stalls selling products they have created in the Middle Playground yesterday evening. I was very impressed with their stalls and the planning that they had put into running stalls that turned a healthy profit of £400, which will go towards the school charity. After a very successful first year of introducing the Electives programme on Friday afternoons for Year 7, we are currently pulling together the options that Year 7 and 8 will have to choose from in the next academic year, following on from gathering their ideas and feedback, and they will have a chance to find out more about these before making their choices on the first Friday afternoon when we return in September.

A number of Year 7 pupils also joined myself and Mr. Coulthart on Tuesday for the Head of School interviews. I was genuinely impressed by how well considered and passionate they were and it left us with a very difficult decision to make. Whilst a number of pupils will understandably be disappointed by not having been selected, they will have gained a great deal from the process and in speaking with each of them individually today I have encouraged them to apply for further roles when we select Prefects at the start of the new academic year. Well done to all of the pupils who took part for having the bravery to throw your hat in the ring and for giving such confident interviews. Congratulations to our Heads of School team for the next academic year, Isla M (Head Girl), Archie G (Head Boy), Jessica E (Deputy Head Girl) and Philip S (Deputy Head Boy). Also, a huge thank you and well done to our outgoing Heads of School; Matilda C, Ben S and Ananti S, who we will hear more from at Prizegiving.

Whilst I write, Year 4 are on their first residential to Horstead where they have been for the last few days, enjoying a range of activities and the first opportunity to be independent. They return later today, no doubt with lots of brilliant memories and likely a bag of smelly clothes! We have also had lots of pupils undertaking their ABRSM music examinations today, good luck to all those involved.

Yesterday our Year 8's ventured to Hunter's Yard in Ludham for a fantastic day exploring the Broads National Park on the River Thurne. They enjoyed sailing on the Norfolk Heritage Fleet, stepped aboard the historic Wherry Albion for a fascinating tour, and put their creativity & engineering skills to the test by designing & building their own model boats!

Another of my highlights from the week came on Wednesday, when Year 2 children and their families came together to celebrate the end of their time in Pre Prep with a special presentation on the Front Lawn. Each Class Teacher shared some of their favourite memories from the year, thanking the children for their hard work, good humour and the joy they have brought to school life. Every child was presented with a gift and a commemorative poem to wish them well as they prepare to move up to Prep in September. One of the most touching moments of the afternoon came from the parents, who unveiled a heartfelt video celebrating their children's time in Pre Prep and expressing their gratitude to all the Pre Prep staff for their care and dedication. This wonderful group is truly ready to 'fly the nest', and we wish every one of them the very best as they embark on the next stage of their journey in Prep and Year 3.

Tonight I am looking forward to celebrating with the Year 8 pupils and their families at The Assembly House for what I hope is a truly memorable evening for them to celebrate their time at Town Close.

Next week we look forward to the rounding off of the academic year with the Prep Summer Fete on Monday, our Leaver's Service and Final Assembly on Tuesday, and our Prize Day on Wednesday. I look forward to seeing many of you at these events and I hope that you have a great weekend in the meantime.

Every Moment Matters

FRIENDLY REMINDERS



MONEY FOR PREP FETE & NON-SCHOOL UNIFORM

Please send your child to school with some loose change for the Prep Summer Fete. They will have the opportunity to take part in games and activities during the afternoon from 2.00pm. Parents are also welcome to join and all money raised will be donated to our School Charity. It is a non-school uniform day for children in Prep.

THANK YOU GAPS

A big thank you to our brilliant Gap Students, Miss Brand, Miss Wilcox, Miss Smith, Mr Legg and Mr Kassulke, for all of your hard work this year. We wish you all the best for your next adventure.



HEADS OF SCHOOL

Thank you to Ananti S, Matilda C and Ben S for representing Town Close as our Heads of School this year. After a vigorous application process, we are delighted to announce the following roles, Isla M (Head Girl) & Archie G (Head Boy), Jessica E (Deputy Head Girl) & Philip S (Deputy Head Boy).



INDEPENDENT PREP SCHOOL OF THE YEAR

We are delighted to inform you that Town Close School has been commended as one of the Independent Schools of the Year for Independent Prep School of the Year. The finalists for the award will be published in September.



BULLETIN BOARD PRE PREP & PREP

FAREWELL AND GOOD LUCK YEAR 8- ENJOY YOUR PARTY TONIGHT



TOWN CLOSE ASSOCIATION

We warmly invite parents and pupils leaving Town Close to join the TCA to stay connected with the School. Email tca@townclose.com to register.

NAME A SEAT IN READ HALL

If your family is leaving the school and you would like to leave a lasting legacy, you may choose to donate your deposit towards a commemorative plaque in Read Hall instead of having it refunded. If you are interested in naming a seat, please contact admissions@townclose.com for further information. Your donated deposit will be used to support the school while creating a lasting reminder of your family's time at Town Close.



INDIVIDUAL MUSIC LESSONS

Individual music lessons are available from Year 1 onwards. If you would like to arrange lessons for your child please contact our Head of Music, Mrs Koczur, for more information: skoczur@townclose.com.

DATES FOR THE DIARY

INSET

Tuesday 1st & Wednesday 2nd September

First Day of Term

Thursday 3rd September

PTA Coffee Morning

Friday 11th September in the Greem Room, followed by a PTA committee meeting at 8.45am. All welcome to join.

Headmaster's Tea & Cake on the Lawn

Thursday 17th September from 3.45pm

PTA September Social

Friday 25th September, from 7.00pm, Venue TBC

AUTUMN TERM CLUBS LIST 2026

The Autumn Term 2026 Clubs List will be sent to parents in September prior to the bookings going live to ensure you have enough time to consider which clubs your child/ren would like to sign up to.

RETIRING STAFF

We say a fond farewell to some of our longest-serving members of staff, Mrs Shane Hale, Mrs Michele Harman and Mr Andy Smith, as they begin their well-earned retirement.

Their dedication, care and commitment have shaped the lives of countless pupils and families over the years, and they will always be a valued part of the Town Close community.

We thank them for everything they have given to the school and wish them every happiness and success in this exciting new chapter. We hope retirement brings many wonderful adventures—and we look forward to welcoming them back to visit us soon.

From everyone at Town Close, thank you, and enjoy your retirement!

MATCH REPORT

BOYS CRICKET

This week the boys played Culford both home and away. The U13A side fell just short despite an excellent start with the bat. Ben S (31) and Evan S (28) shared an opening stand of 81 before regular wickets saw TCH finish on 125-6. Culford chased the target with four wickets down. Evan S claimed two early wickets, Archie G bowled with great control, and a sharp stumping by Edward G off Ben S highlighted an excellent fielding display. Although the result went against them, the team can be proud of the high standard of cricket they have played throughout the season. The U13B team also suffered a narrow defeat. Myles G (15) and Daniel M (22) laid the foundations with a 50-run opening partnership, while Asad S's quickfire 20 and Seb M's unbeaten 15 helped TCH reach 106-6. Asad S then starred with the ball, taking 4 wickets, supported by Boris D (2) and Freddie T (1), but Culford edged home with just over two overs remaining. Player of the Match: Asad S.

The U11A side were beaten by just five runs after posting 129. Ralph J, Theo S, Jonah T and Jack B all batted positively, but a number of extras proved costly as Culford chased down the target despite another determined performance. Player of the Match: James B. The U11B recorded a resounding 110-run victory over Culford in an outstanding all-round performance. Player of the Match: Harry B. There was a fine finish to the season for the U11C team, who defeated Culford U10As by 45 runs. An outstanding fielding display saw TCH claim 15 wickets, with Player of the Match Theo F taking five. Freddie G and Jack B added an excellent 36-run partnership with the bat as TCH completed an impressive all-round team victory to round off a successful season on a high. The U11D team produced an organised team performance. Hjalmar B P was the standout bowler, conceding just 1 run from his 2 overs, while George E W came close to a hat-trick. A fantastic team performance and a great way to finish the season. Player of the Match: Hjalmar B P.

GIRLS CRICKET

What an afternoon of cricket on Wednesday for the U11s! It was an emotional and exciting match, with both the girls and Mrs Hale knowing that it would be their final match together. The girls have been a joy from start to finish, always giving 100% effort and consistently striving to put into practice everything they have worked on and perfected during games afternoons. Against Culford, the girls once again demonstrated just how much they have developed as a team. Their bowling was exceptionally accurate, putting the opposition under pressure throughout the innings. They claimed an impressive seven wickets, restricting Culford to 298 runs. The fielding was equally outstanding—alert, sharp and full of determination—with several wickets coming from brilliant direct-hit run outs. There were some fantastic individual performances. Willa C achieved the remarkable feat of taking a hat-trick, Flo L held onto a superb catch, Nyla S had a solid and dependable game behind the stumps as wicket-keeper, and Joanie S led the team brilliantly as captain with positive decision-making and constant encouragement for her teammates. The excitement continued during the batting innings as the team steadily closed in on Culford's total before eventually passing it. However, there was still work to do. Joanie S and Elizabeth C, our final batting pair, showed tremendous composure and determination, knowing that they simply could not afford to lose a wicket if the team was to secure the victory. They rose magnificently to the challenge, helping the team finish on 325 runs and seal a well-deserved win. Every single member of this team played an important part in this success. Whether with bat, ball or in the field, everyone made a valuable contribution, and that is what has made this group so special. They are a wonderfully talented team of girls who have worked incredibly hard, supported one another every step of the way and represented the school with pride, enthusiasm and outstanding sportsmanship. It has been a genuine pleasure to coach this very special team, and I could not be prouder of everything they have achieved together. Congratulations, girls—you have been fantastic! Thank you to all the Year 6 girls for the beautiful flowers, cards and cake as a thank you to Mrs Hale!

The U11B team also had a fantastic match at Culford. After winning the toss, we chose to field first and produced an excellent bowling and fielding display, restricting the opposition to just 58 runs. On a fast outfield, we knew this was a very achievable target. The team took seven wickets in total, with Amelia C leading the way with an impressive 2 wickets for 11 runs, while Persy W also bowled well, taking 1 wicket for 8 runs. In reply, our batters approached the chase with confidence, making the most of every scoring opportunity. Charlotte L was the standout performer, retiring on a superb 37 runs. Harriet M and Hannah B both made valuable contributions with the bat to help guide the team to victory. It was a brilliant all-round team performance and a fitting way to end the season. Congratulations to everyone involved. Player of the Match was thoroughly deserved by Charlotte L for her outstanding batting performance. The U11C girls played with such positivity, enjoyment and hard work. Whilst up against a team of 9, the 6 Town Close girls - with the help of ringer Mr Wemyss-Holden - covered a lot of ground preventing a number of boundaries. They took wickets, hit 4's and encouraged each other - a fitting end to the season. Emily R was particularly busy in the field, bowled accurately and hit confidently to earn POM. Well done, girls.

The U11D team spent a lovely afternoon yesterday against Culford to round off their cricket season. Full of determination, the girls fielded first, with each pair showing off some excellent bowling. With help from C team players Ola B and Victoria W, the girls worked hard together to prevent the Culford girls from scoring too many runs. Despite not taking many wickets, they fielded very well and worked cohesively until the very end of the innings. Culford managed to score 75 runs. When it was our turn to bat, we were confident we could beat this number and the combination of the opposition providing a few no balls and our batters using every opportunity to gain some runs, we ended up achieving a total of 279 runs and won the match. Batting highlights go to Eve S and Victoria W who scored quite a few 4s between them. The team were extremely happy with their win to end the season and also highlighted that they won it for Mrs Hale! Opposition's POM went to Ola B and Coach's POM went to Eve S.

MATCH REPORT

GIRLS CRICKET CONT.

The U13A team rounded off their season with an outstanding performance against Culford U12A at Great Melton. For several of the girls, this was also their final match representing Town Close, making it a particularly special occasion. Batting first, Town Close made a superb start. Saskia T, Isla S and captain Matilda C all retired after passing 30 runs, with Matilda C producing the highlight of the innings by striking a magnificent six. The batting remained strong throughout the order, helping the team to an exceptional total of 178 for 2 from their 16 overs. The girls carried their momentum into the field, bowling with accuracy and taking regular wickets. Their fielding was sharp, their teamwork was excellent, and they maintained their intensity from start to finish to complete a dominant all-round display. It was a thoroughly deserved way to end a successful season. Special congratulations go to Matilda C, who has been a fantastic captain, leading by example and supporting every member of the team throughout the year.

The U13Bs put in a terrific display of batting notching up 368 with significantly 23 '4's' and an excellent 6 from Isla Mc. The girls confidently approached the fielding with confidence. Culford were steadily notching up 4's and a couple of 6's too. However the tour de force happened when Geena S and Nikita G went into bowl and managed to hit 7 wickets in 4 overs! This was the turning point of the game and Culford could not match our score. Town Close winning by 51 runs. Excellent match to finish the season. Well done girls! The U13C's had a great last match of the year against Culford. The girls bowled well with tight line and length. Coco S was the pick of the bowlers, going for just 13 off her 4 overs. Culford put on 334-3 and the girls replied well with the bat, securing the victory by 35 runs, putting on a total of 369-1. Reina K was awarded player of the match. Well done to all involved.

The image is a promotional poster for a 'Tea & Cake on the Lawn' event. It features a background photograph of a large group of people gathered on a green lawn in front of a brick building. A blue canopy tent with the Town Close School logo is set up on the lawn. The text 'Tea & Cake on the Lawn' is written in a large, white, serif font across the top half of the image. A dark blue banner at the bottom contains the event details in white text. A large, semi-transparent circular logo is visible in the upper right corner of the image.

Tea & Cake on the Lawn

**JOIN MR TILEY-NUNN
FOR TEA & CAKE ON THE FRONT LAWN.
THURSDAY 17TH SEPTEMBER 3.45PM - 4.45PM**



WHAT'S HAPPENING AUTUMN/WINTER '26

COFFEE MORNING FRI 11th SEPT

Please join us in the Green Room next to the Prep Front Office from 8.15am for a coffee before the committee meeting at 8.45am.



SIMPLE SEPTEMBER SOCIAL FRI 25th SEPT

Casual drinks, venue to be confirmed. No tickets required. Adult event.



ADDITIONAL SHOP OPENING TIMES

Weds 2nd Sept 10 - 11.30am and 1.30 - 3pm

Thurs 3 Sept 8 - 9am and 3 - 4pm

Fri 4 Sept 8 - 9am





WHATS APP YEAR REPS '26

New parents welcome to join the groups from 20th July. Please email pta@townclose.com for any questions.

Year	PTA year group rep
8	Gemma Minors
7	Claire Robinson
6	Rachel Tiley-Nunn
5	Kylee Moore
4	Sarah Thomas
3	Yas Serpen
2	Lydia Hutchinson
1	Meena Parameshwaran
Reception	Alice O'Sullivan
Little Acorns	Sian Sanders

PTA WHATS APP COMMUNITY

Follow the link to join:

[https://chat.whatsapp.com/Ko1elfd1Pof62I
tQKdaMNS](https://chat.whatsapp.com/Ko1elfd1Pof62I
tQKdaMNS)