

HEADMASTER'S WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

SUMMER TERM WEEK 3
1ST MAY, 2026



Dear Parents

I write to you today at the end of another busy week at Town Close and I cannot quite believe that we find ourselves already in the month of May. In my assemblies this week we focused on two thoughts: the importance of looking closer and the importance of appreciation. I managed to find a moment yesterday evening after an enjoyable Pre Prep Parents' Evening to sit on the front lawn of the school with no one else on site – a rare moment of peace for a school that is permanently alive with energy and vibrancy. In reflecting on the busy week, in that moment, I was able to draw out so many things that I was personally appreciative of at Town Close. I thought about the real joy of teaching my Year 5 mathematics set, who constantly impress me with their hard work, enthusiasm and passion for a subject that I love; to the sense of a shared purpose of supporting children to be the best versions of themselves that I felt in conversations with Pre Prep parents at Parents' Evening; to the privilege of being able to see pupils beaming with pride when their achievements were recognised in assembly; to seeing the commitment on a daily basis from fantastic staff who want to ensure that our pupils are always putting their best foot forward in every endeavour; to being able to work and learn in such a wonderful environment that continues to focus on investing in improving the educational experience – there is so much that I am appreciative of and I remain hugely proud and grateful to be Headmaster of Town Close School.

In the current climate it is important to not take anything for granted, which the sad news of Thetford Grammar School's impending closure at the end of academic year firmly underlined. We are deeply sorry to hear of a local independent school closing under the pressure that has recently been exerted on the sector. We have reached out to the school to offer support for any families from this area that no longer have a school place for September and our thoughts are with the Thetford Grammar School community at this difficult time.

Some of the highlights this week from life at Town Close included two teams of mathematicians from Years 5 and 6 taking part in the Norfolk Primary Maths Challenge this week, working in pairs to tackle three rounds of questions that covered Tangrams, Arithmetic, and lateral thinking. It was a fantastic experience for all, and Mr Lawry was incredibly proud of their effort and teamwork.

I enjoyed popping over to Pre Prep to inform Beech Class that I urgently needed their help to investigate a strange object that was found in the Woodland Walk. They discovered a very special egg and deduced that it must be linked to their topic work on Castles and Dragons! Equipped with binoculars and magnifying glasses, they moved stealthily through the woods to obtain clues on its origins before returning to their classroom to note down their findings and make predictions on what the baby dragon might look like...

Our Year 6 Goblin Racing Team thoroughly enjoyed their day of racing at Scottow Park this week, and were thrilled to be awarded 'The Spirit of Greenpower Award' for their exemplary teamwork. Drag and slalom races were completed during the morning session with every pupil enjoying the opportunity to participate, improving with each race. During the afternoon session, the children competed in the fiercely contested Sprint competition. One of our cars, Bessie, reached the semi-finals, finishing a close second in a very tight race, and just missing out on a place in the final. Congratulations to all of the Year 6 pupils who represented the School at Scottow.

The Summer Term has brought with it lots of new exciting clubs and activities including a new Science themed 'Snap Circuits Club' which is the perfect place for curious minds to explore the world of electronics in a fun, hands-on way. Building simple circuits together, our pupils are learning how technology works - one snap at a time! Our Pre Prep Gardening Club are extremely excited to be submitting a 'Literary' themed garden for the Royal Norfolk Show School Garden Competition. In readiness for their creation, they have been sowing wildflower seeds and watering the 79 pots to initiate germination. We are looking forward to the Norfolk Show with everyone invited to join us on the Wednesday to see the garden, listen to our children perform on the bandstand and entertainment in the marquee - more to come soon

We also enjoyed hosting Deborah from the Norwich Synagogue to talk to children in Year 4. In a week where we are saddened by the news of the terrible events that took place in London, it was wonderful that Deborah was able to join us to share her knowledge of Judaism, including a fascinating virtual tour of the Synagogue in Norwich.

I hope that everyone enjoys the bank holiday weekend and I look forward to seeing all of the pupils next Tuesday for another exciting week in which we have the PTA Discos at the end of the week to look forward to.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, likely of the Headmaster, is located at the bottom left of the page.

Every Moment Matters

FRIENDLY REMINDERS

ACTIVATE



There is still time to book your child's place at Activate, with the early bird booking closing on Saturday 30th May.

Pre Prep

Weeks commencing 27th July and 3rd August have limited places available.

Prep

Week commencing 27th July has limited places available.

[Booking Open Here](#)

MEDICINE POLICY

If you require the school to administer prescribed or non-prescribed medication to your child, you must complete Medicine Form A - Prescribed or Non-Prescribed Medicine in the Forms and Replies section of the Portal and deliver the medication to the Prep or Pre Prep secretaries in person.

BENTLEY PHOTOS

Photographs are now ready to order. The deadline for free delivery to school is Thursday 14th May.

FILMING REQUEST FORM

We kindly remind you to please complete the form on the Portal regarding permission for external filming. The filming will take place towards the end of the month.

MATCH REPORT

GIRLS CRICKET

The U11A girls opened their season with a bright, energetic display against Langley Prep on a fine afternoon. Fielding first, they showed excellent awareness backing up well, throwing accurately, and maintaining strong intensity throughout. The bowling unit worked consistently, taking five wickets and restricting Langley to 267. In reply, the girls ran well between the wickets and built their innings sensibly, but fell short of the target.

BULLETIN BOARD

PRE PREP & PREP

A very encouraging start, with clear potential to develop their run scoring which will be key going forward. Joanie S led superbly as captain and was a well-deserved Player of the Match.

The U11B girls enjoyed a superb start to their season. After winning the toss and choosing to field, the opening bowlers set the tone, conceding just 16 runs in the first four overs. The pressure continued through the middle overs, with Dottie C producing outstanding figures of 5–2. Disciplined bowling at the death restricted Langley to 53. In the field, communication and teamwork stood out. With the bat, Charlotte L and Ani M gave the innings early momentum, before the middle order built steadily. Betty B and Charlotte W finished confidently, adding 23 runs to reach a strong total of 144. Charlotte W top-scored with 17, while Nyla S was named Player of the Match in an excellent all-round team performance.

The U13A team faced a strong Langley Prep side in their first 11-a-side fixture. Batting first, early wickets put them under pressure, but the girls showed resilience to bat out the full 20 overs. Sienna A anchored the innings superbly as top scorer, supported by important partnerships with Alice B and Annabelle Y. Despite an early breakthrough in the field, Langley's batting proved decisive, reaching the target in the 11th over. While the result was disappointing, there were plenty of positives to build on. Sienna A was a deserved Player of the Match.

The U13B team delivered a confident and enjoyable performance at Great Melton. Batting first, they posted an impressive 350, highlighted by 21 boundaries and a six from Harriet W, alongside smart running between the wickets. In response, Langley found scoring difficult against sharp, disciplined fielding. Jess E made an immediate impact with two wickets in her opening over, setting the tone for the innings. The team combined for six wickets, two stumpings, and a catch, restricting Langley to 285 and sealing a 65-run victory.

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Bank Holiday

Monday 4th May

Informal Prep Soloists' Concert

Thursday 7th May, 4.15pm in the Read Hall

PTA School Disco

Friday 8th May, tickets via the PTA website

Year 8 Lake District Trip Parent Information Evening

Monday 11th May from 5.00pm in the Read Hall

Year 1 Assembly

Tuesday 12th May, 8.35am - 9.35am

Year 2 Concert

Thursday 14th May, 2.15pm in the Read Hall

Beech Class Assembly

Tuesday 19th May, 8.35am - 9.35am

Year 1 Concert

Wednesday 20th May, 2.15pm in the Read Hall

Oak Class Assembly

Thursday 21st May, 8.35am - 9.35am

Spring into Summer Show

Friday 22nd May 10.00am in the Sports Hall

Final Day of Half Term

Friday 22nd May

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

Nikita G was named Player of the Match and best batter, while Phillipa C earned recognition as the most consistent bowler. A fantastic team performance all round.



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Instagram: town.close.school

BOYS CRICKET

Under bright sunshine and full of anticipation, our boys took to the field for an exciting block fixture against Langley Prep School. It was a day of strong performances, teamwork, and impressive individual efforts across all age groups.

Langley set a challenging total of 192 runs against our 1st XI, but our bowlers worked hard to contain them, with Evan S delivering an outstanding spell of 4 overs, taking 1 wicket for just 12 runs. In response, the team batted with intent and positivity, reaching 132 runs. Ben S and Evan S led the scoring with 28 runs each. Player of the Match: Evan S.

A dominant performance saw the 2nd XI secure victory by 8 wickets. Langley were bowled out for just 54, thanks to a disciplined bowling effort from the entire team. Freddie T and Asad S both came close to achieving hat-tricks in a thrilling display. Wolf S and Rory W then calmly chased down the target in just 6 overs, scoring 55 runs between them. Player of the Match: Wolf S.

The 3rd XI delivered a comprehensive 92-run victory, highlighted by an excellent all-round performance in the field. Every bowler contributed effectively, with the team being motivated throughout the match. Player of the Match: Sam A.

The U11A displayed an outstanding team performance which resulted in a convincing win by 114 runs, showcasing both strong batting and disciplined bowling. Player of the Match: James B.

Another impressive victory came with a 148-run margin for the U11Bs. Langley posted 166, but a superb bowling spell from Yves v D—taking 5 wickets for just 6 runs off 3 overs—put the opposition under pressure. Town Close responded emphatically, scoring 314 runs with confident, aggressive running between the wickets. Player of the Match: Yves v D.

Overall, it was a fantastic day of cricket, with excellent sportsmanship and effort displayed across all teams. Well done to everyone involved!

PARENT CONSULTATION MEETINGS THIS TERM

Due to the attendance at the last Parent Consultation Meetings not being as high as we would have hoped, we will be reviewing these going forward. We have, therefore, cancelled both the meetings booked for next Wednesday 6th May and Wednesday 10th June. However, please do speak to your child's form teacher or tutor if there is anything you would like to discuss.

GOOD NEWS!

Your child's official school photographs are now online!

**CLICK HERE TO
VIEW AND ORDER**

(this link will direct you to www.bentleypics.com where you will be required to enter the access codes from the unique ticket your child was given on the day of the photo shoot.)

