

HEADMASTER'S WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

SUMMER TERM WEEK 6
22ND MAY, 2026



Dear Parents

I write to you today having just enjoyed our annual Spring Variety Show, which was this year rescheduled to be at the end of this half term making it a Spring Into Summer Variety Show. Not only did the weather itself do a very fine impression of Summer having arrived (fingers crossed for more days like today), it was undoubtedly our pupils performances that shone the most brightly. The Town Close Trebles got the event off to a wonderful start with every pupil in Year 3 and 4 involved, and what followed was a tremendous range of gymnastics, dance and music for us to all enjoy. I very much enjoyed the musical performances of the Flute Ensemble and Rising Voices choirs, who gave very confident and polished performances. One of the things that I love about this event is the variety of performances, not just in terms of the range of creative arts represented, but that for some of our youngest Year 3 performers this will have been their first time performing in this type of event and yet we rounded off the show with a great floor routine from Sophia G and Alice B who can be almost considered veterans having been involved in these performances for many years. It was particularly impressive to see some of our younger performers who are clearly already on a pathway to becoming great gymnasts perform on the same programme as Isla S who will compete in National Finals at Sheffield this weekend – a sincere good luck to Isla for following your dreams and ambitions.

This idea of growing and developing in the things that you are passionate about dovetails nicely with some of my highlights of the week including our Reception Oak Class Assembly which was a wonderful celebration of ambition, imagination, and aspiration that took inspiration from the incredible Little People, BIG DREAMS book series. Each child confidently introduced a book about a person who inspired them — from artists and scientists to athletes and changemakers — before sharing their own dreams for the future. We heard aspirations of becoming scientists, ecologists, zoologists, professional tennis players, vets, and a whole team of footballers! A video recap of the year, & a very sweet introduction to their Class friend, Ted, who they have each taken on many a weekend adventure was the perfect icing on the cake of a fantastic Assembly. It was incredibly special to see our youngest pupils speaking so proudly about their goals & the steps they are already taking towards them. We also enjoyed another fantastic Reception Class Assembly from Beech Class who conveyed their love of this term's 'Castles' topic with a fabulous retelling of the story of 'George and the Dragon', some beautiful singing, and their confident recital of the book 'If I had a Dragon' by Gabby Dawnay. They also shared the exciting discovery of their very own dragon egg in the Woodland Walk, and proudly held up the artwork they had created, depicting what the baby dragon might look like. Well done Beech Class!

We also had the joy of hearing some of our budding little musicians in the Year 1 concert, where they performed a fantastic programme of solos and ensemble pieces with such enthusiasm and joie de vivre. Even though they are only at the very beginning of their musical exploration, it was a really confident performance that bodes well for concerts in the years to come.

What also bodes well for the future is just how well our School Council have involved themselves in school life and being the elected voices of the pupils over the course of this year. I had the pleasure of meeting with School Council on Tuesday where they were able to present the feedback and ideas from the wider school community on current and future initiatives linked to food, pupil wellbeing, sustainability, and the Co-Curricular opportunities at school, as well as a host of other ideas. I was extremely impressed with their confident presentation, their ideas, and



Every Moment Matters

their mature approach to the consultation with pupils and staff alike. I would like to say a huge thank you to Mrs. Moore and to our Co-Chairs of School Council Ellie C and Asad S, who have led the Council superbly.

In our assembly this morning we had a real variety of achievements to celebrate from maths successes in the UKMT challenge to charitable initiatives, as well as possibly the largest trophy that I have ever given out in assembly for netball success. We also congratulated Daniel McG in Year 8 for reaching the IAPS Swimming Finals at the London Aquatic Centre in June. This is an outstanding achievement and one that reflects the tremendous dedication, resilience and discipline he has shown throughout the season. To qualify for the national finals is no small accomplishment; the standard of competition across IAPS schools is exceptionally high, something only earned through hard work and commitment to training. We wish him the best of luck for the Finals at the end of term.

Another highlight of this week was welcoming back a number of our Town Close Alumni into School on Wednesday. Guests enjoyed a tour of the School with our Year 7 guides, revisiting familiar places as well as marvelling at the new and updated facilities that our pupils enjoy and benefit from. Many commented how lovely it was to see how the school community continues to grow and thrive, and how welcoming our pupil tour guides were. The visit was rounded off with a delicious lunch with a very generous side helping of conversation, laughter, and reminiscing. Thank you to everyone who joined us; it was truly lovely to welcome you all back. It wasn't the only special lunch of that day though as the school was filled with kings, queens, brave knights and even a few fiery dragons as the children arrived in an amazing array of costumes ready for a day of castle-themed fun. Our Reception children learnt all about coats of arms before designing their very own shields, showcasing their creativity and imagination. Meanwhile, Nursery enjoyed making magnificent crowns fit for royalty ahead of a very special banquet. The celebrations came together beautifully outside beside the playground Fort, where all the children enjoyed a delicious picnic together whilst colouring castle-themed placemats in the fresh air. It was a fantastic way to bring their learning to life and celebrate all they have discovered throughout the topic. A huge thank you to families for the wonderful costumes and support in making the day so memorable!

As we break for the half term, I personally look forward to accompanying our Year 7 and 8 Music Award pupils to a performance by the Scottish Ensemble on Sunday. I would also like to say thank you to the PTA for organising the first 'Freezer Friday' this afternoon with the perfect weather arriving just in time for it. I hope that all of our pupils have a great half term and that our pupils in Year 6 and 7 are looking forward to their respective residential trips abroad in the first week back. I also wish our Year 8 pupil the best of luck for their upcoming Common Entrance Exams that I know will be the culmination of lots of hard work and effort over the course of their final two years with us.



Every Moment Matters

FRIENDLY REMINDERS

PETANQUE CLUB - CANCELLATION

There will be no Petanque club on Thursday 4th June as Mr Walker is away in France with Year 7.

WHOLE SCHOOL PHOTO NOW AVAILABLE

The Whole School photograph is now available to order from Bentley via the [following link](#). If you have any issues please contact zoe@bentleyphoto.com.

ACTIVATE EARLY BOOKING- NOOK NOW



A reminder that the Early Booking price (£260.00 per week) for Activate ends on Monday 1st June. After which the booking price increases to £345.00 per week.

[Book Now](#) to secure the Early Bird price. Please note some weeks are fully booked, or have limited capacity. We have the most spaces available w/c 20th July.

IAPS SWIMMING FINAL

Congratulations to Daniel McG for reaching the IAPS Swimming Finals. the competition will take place in June at the London Aquatics Centre - Good luck Daniel!

BULLETIN BOARD PRE PREP & PREP



TOWN CLOSE SCHOOL



WHOLE SCHOOL PANORAMIC PHOTOGRAPH

Claim your 10% discount on all products using the code: TOWNCLOSE2026 at the checkout. (Code cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer and expires on the date below) Order before 03/06/2026 for free delivery to your school.

FREE DELIVERY TO SCHOOL AND DISCOUNT EXPIRE: 03/06/2026
bentley photographic [CLICK HERE TO ORDER](#)

PLEASE ALWAYS REFER TO THE LIVE CALENDAR ON THE PARENT PORTAL OR WEBSITE FOR A FULL LIST OF EVENTS AND SPORTS FIXTURES.

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

Join us at the Royal Norfolk Show for activities and refreshments throughout the day, including a range of 'Town Close' baked goods, Dann's Ice cream and Pimms.

10.00am

Storytelling with Mr Tiley-Nunn for children aged 2 – 10 years old

11.00am

Musical Performances

12.00pm

Choir performing on the main Bandstand (Wednesday)

1.30pm

Science Magic Show with Mr Chapman

2.30pm

Musical Performances

3.00pm

Drinks Reception (Wednesday)



STAND 52
SECOND DRIVE/AVENUE 3
PLUS, VISIT OUR SCHOOL
GARDEN IN THE
GARDEN VILLAGE



TOWN CLOSE SCHOOL

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Year 7 Residential to France
w/c 1st June

Year 1 Reading Cafe

Tuesday 2nd June, 8.00am in the Pre Prep Hall

Year 6 Humanities Trip

From Tuesday 2nd June

Year 8 Lake District Trip

From Sunday 7th June

Year 2 Reading Cafe

Tuesday 9th June, 8.00am in the Pre Prep Hall

Year 3 Information Evening for parents in Year 2

Wednesday 17th June, 6.00pm in the Read Hall

Nursery Sports Day

Wednesday 17th June, 9.00am on the Front Lawn

Year 1 Sports Day

Wednesday 17th June, 2.15pm on the Front Lawn

Reception Sports Day

Thursday 18th June, 9.00am on the Front Lawn

Year 6 Production

Thursday 18th & Friday 19th June, 6.00pm in Read Hall

Year 6 French Breakfast Cafe

Friday 19th June, 8.15am on the Front Lawn

Year 2 Sports Day

Friday 19th June, 2.15pm on the Front Lawn

Nursery Celebration Assembly

Tuesday 23rd June, 2.30pm in Read Hall

Bryan Read Summer Concert

Tuesday 23rd June, 6.00pm in the Read Hall

Norfolk Show- School Closed

Wednesday 24th June

Prep Sports Day

Friday 26th June

Art Exhibition

w/c 29th June in Read Hall

Year 4 Residential to Horstead

From 1st July

Year 2 Moving Up Celebration

Wednesday 1st July, 2.15pm in Read Hall

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

MATCH REPORT

BOYS CRICKET

This Wednesday 5 teams travelled to Framlingham for a busy afternoon of T20 cricket, with plenty of strong performances, competitive matches and encouraging individual displays across all age groups.

The U13A side faced a strong Framlingham Prep XI. Batting first, Framlingham posted 134-4 from their 20 overs, with Town Close producing an excellent effort in the field to keep the scoring under control. Phillip S, Thomas M and Louis H all impressed with outstanding diving stops in the outfield, showing great commitment and energy throughout the innings. The standout bowler was Evan S, who delivered an exceptional spell of 3 wickets for just 8 runs from his four overs. Seb M and Elias Y also bowled economically to help restrict the hosts. In reply, Wolf S and George W gave Town Close a steady start, both scoring 11. The chase gathered momentum when Evan S, who finished unbeaten on 28, and Ben S (17) put together an important partnership that briefly swung the game back in Town Close's favour. However, once Ben S was dismissed, wickets began to fall regularly against accurate Framlingham bowling, and Town Close were eventually bowled out for 102. Despite the defeat, there were many positives to take, particularly in the fielding and bowling performances. Evan S was deservedly named Player of the Match. One area for improvement identified by the team was reducing the number of extras conceded.

The U13B team also faced a tough challenge, eventually losing by 68 runs after Framlingham posted 165-5. Town Close fielded well throughout the innings and produced some tidy bowling performances. Boris D and Archie G were the pick of the bowlers, both returning figures of 1-17 from their three overs. Framlingham's innings was anchored by one outstanding batter who scored a half-century. Chasing 166, we responded positively. Archie G batted confidently for his 14 before being dismissed by a superb piece of fielding, while Rory W produced an excellent innings, carrying his bat from the third ball of the innings to finish unbeaten on 34. Although the target proved beyond reach, there were encouraging signs in both the batting and fielding displays. Player of the Match was Rory W.

The U13C fixture produced exciting results, with the game ending in a dramatic tie with both teams finishing on 293. The match featured some excellent individual performances, with Players of the Match awards going to Marcus A, Cruz C, Ilex S and Henry McC. Particular praise was given to captain Ilex S, who led the side calmly and confidently throughout the game. The match highlighted the importance of teamwork and provided valuable lessons for the whole squad.

This week the U11A and E teams played against Framlingham Prep. The U11A side enjoyed a comfortable 37-run victory over Framlingham after posting an impressive 167 in their 20 overs. James B, Harry B, Henry A and Beau R all retired after lengthy stays at the crease, with Beau R top-scoring superbly with 31. Framlingham were always behind the required rate during the chase, thanks in part to some excellent fielding led by William C. James B produced a decisive spell, taking two wickets in one over to remove Framlingham's two most dangerous batters. Further wickets from Harry A, Yves VD and Arthur G secured a deserved victory for Town Close. James B was named Player of the Match, with special mention also going to Beau R for his top-scoring innings.

The U11E team won a great match by 3 runs in the final over. It was a fantastic example of how fun cricket can be, with every player proudly showcasing their batting, bowling, and fielding skills. There were two Players of the Match; Krishna D who was outstanding throughout the match, playing with great skill and dedication, and Scott L, who also made a decisive contribution by taking the winning wicket with the penultimate ball of the match.

GIRLS CRICKET

On Monday, the U13As faced a very strong Langley side in the second round of the Norfolk County Cup. The girls were outstanding in the field, showing excellent teamwork and disciplined bowling throughout the match. Despite their best efforts, Langley proved too strong with the ball and were able to bowl us out to secure the win.

The team responded brilliantly on Wednesday against Framlingham College, bouncing back with an excellent all-round performance to claim victory. Matilda C starred with the bat, retiring unbeaten on 30, while Sophia G led the energy in the field and produced two superb direct-hit run outs. Alice B continued her impressive season by striking with the very first ball of her spell, and Philippa C took a fantastic catch above her head in the field. It was a wonderful team performance, with the girls showing great support for one another and clearly enjoying their cricket. Player of the Match was awarded to Matilda C.

A great game of cricket from the U13B team against Framlingham College on Wednesday. The team showed great persistence with their accurate and clinical bowling display, along with some powerful batting, leading to a strong 60 run victory for the team, scoring 332 runs to Framlingham's 272. Opposition player of the match was awarded to Amelia B. Well done to all involved.

MATCH REPORT

GIRLS CRICKET CONT.

The U11As produced another hugely encouraging performance against Framlingham College, continuing the impressive progress they have shown throughout the season. The standout feature of the match was the outstanding bowling display from the Town Close side, who claimed six wickets in just 12 overs. Backed up by sharp, energetic fielding, two of those wickets came from excellent run outs, highlighting the team's growing confidence and awareness in the field. With the bat, the girls showed significant improvement, with far greater fluency and intent at the crease. The bat is finally beginning to swing a little more freely and the team's hard work in training is clearly paying off. Florence L batted superbly, playing a number of magnificent pull shots on her way to several boundaries and providing one of the highlights of the afternoon. The running between the wickets was also noticeably sharper, with the girls communicating well and constantly looking to keep the scoreboard moving. Perhaps most pleasing of all is how this group is blossoming under the Captaincy of Joanie S, into a close-knit team, determined to put in strong performances while encouraging one another positively throughout every stage of the game. No surprise then that Joanie S was made Player of the Match.

After a couple of enforced changes to the team, the Under 11Bs were excited for their next fixture against Framlingham College and produced an excellent all-round performance. Winning the toss, Framlingham chose to bat first, but some superb bowling from Town Close kept the scoring tightly controlled throughout the innings, restricting the opposition to just 53 runs. Outstanding bowling figures came from Hannah B, who claimed an impressive 2 wickets for 4 runs, while Clementine H-J and Charlotte W also contributed strongly with the ball with figures of 8 for 1. Following some focused batting practice during the week, the girls took to the crease full of confidence, and this was immediately evident in the opening overs. Player of the Match Charlotte L, alongside Ani M, made a fantastic start and almost secured victory within the first four overs alone! Charlotte L played a superb innings, scoring an excellent 32 runs. The batting remained steady throughout, although some difficult deliveries, including wides and no balls, limited opportunities for the later batters to showcase their skills fully. The girls should be extremely proud of their performance. Team spirit was excellent throughout the match, and every pair worked hard together to support one another. It was a fantastic display of determination, teamwork and growing confidence.

A speedy match for the 'D' team V Norwich High School and home turf seemed to suit as bowling and batting showed good progress. Player of the Match, Ola B, bowled cleanly with only one wide ball and 2 runs scored from her overs whilst Alice T bowled 2 wickets. Batter of the day was Victoria W who scored 3 boundaries. Lots of fun in an evenly matched game with Town Close just winning.

The U11E team came up against Norwich High School to play a lovely game of pairs cricket. Town Close batted first, facing some tough bowls from the opposition. Sabrina S and Ella H batted first to bring the score up to 218 runs. They were followed by Ophelia B and Grace C who managed to score off lots of no balls, bringing our total up to 229 runs. Next up were Eva W-H and Eliza C who scored a huge total of 48 runs as a pair, conceding only one wicket. Our final batters were Matilda H and Nava C who worked hard to bring our final batting score up to 290. In terms of our bowling, we managed to achieve many dot balls and prevent some very strong Norwich High batters from scoring too highly. In the end the runs totalled out as a draw due to timings and batting/bowling opportunities for all the girls and it was all in all a lovely afternoon of cricket despite the cloudy weather. Opposition and coach's player of the match went to Eva W-H, undoubtedly awarded for her excellent batting and backing up.



Whitsun Holiday Outdoor Cricket Clubs

At 'Hilltops' Lakenham Hewett RFC
Main Road Swardeston NR14 8DU

Tues 26th and Weds 27th May

For Years 1 upwards

£45 for one
day and £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 sunblock, hat, plenty of drinks and a packed lunch.

10am to 3pm on the following days:

Tues 26th and Weds 27th May 2026

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.