



# TAVERHAM HALL

## Preparatory School

5 February 2010

Dear Parents

I am delighted to announce that Mr Joel Worrall will join the school in September 2010 as our new Deputy Head, replacing Mr David Ross who takes his well deserved retirement this summer.

Joel is currently Head of Boarding and Head of Maths and Games at Forres Sandle Manor School in the New Forest. He has really impressed staff, governors and pupils in his visits to the school and certainly has a huge amount to offer. Joel and his wife Sarah are expecting their first baby very soon and I know everyone in the community will welcome them all very warmly to Norfolk in due course.

### **OFSTED Inspection Report**

The Nursery was inspected on 20<sup>th</sup> January and a full report will soon be available on the Ofsted website. A link will also be available directly from the school's website in due course.

As indicated in last week's newsletter the results make extremely pleasing reading. The overall effectiveness of the Early Years provision was rated as 'outstanding' and great credit must go to the Nursery staff and of course the pupils! An extract from the report can be seen below:

*'Children are developing skills for the future as they make excellent progress in all areas of learning. They develop high levels of confidence and self-esteem as they learn to use their own initiative, make choices and be creative.*

*They concentrate well, listening to stories and are keen to answer questions and make their own contributions. Children demonstrate high levels of involvement in their play and are motivated to learn. They discuss things that are important to them at circle time and older children answer the register in French as well as English.*

*There are excellent opportunities for children to develop problem-solving and mathematical skills.*

*Children have exceptional opportunities to learn about the world around them. The 'Forest school' activities provide children with the chance to explore and investigate outdoor environments, while developing skills of cooperation and using their initiative'.*

### **PREP SCHOOL**

Well done to all of Year 5 who performed impressively in this week's assembly where 'using their voices' was the theme and culminated in many different versions of 'Hey my name is Joe'. Year 3's class assembly on Tuesday was another treat which was enjoyed by staff, pupils and parents. Incidentally, parents are always more than welcome to attend assemblies where their children are performing.

This Sunday's rearranged trip to Warwick for the Under 9 rugby team's high profile national tournament will go ahead, weather permitting. Parents are reminded that the arrangements are exactly the same as were issued for last weekend's postponed event.

### **Year 5 RS visit**

Last Thursday, Year 5 visited Norwich High School who were hosting an Exhibition titled 'Jewish Way of Life'. They had the opportunity to look at various displays and also see, as well as handle, Jewish items that we are currently learning about in RS. There were lots of interesting activities but the two most fascinating seemed to be writing their names in Hebrew and finding that they were able to bend over without losing the kippah on their head!



This week has been a busy one for visitors and prospective parents and I am always reminded of just how fortunate we are to work within this community. The pupils have impressed visitors from the John Innes Centre who worked with Year 8 on this occasion and have exciting ventures planned with the science department.

Prospective parents have commented on the courtesy and manner of our pupils but also the terrific displays around the school for which Mrs Stamp should take great credit. Cecily Rainey's art work in 'big school' in preparation for her forthcoming scholarship attempt is simply stunning and complements the framed Headmaster's Photography Competition winners whose work is proudly on display in the outer hall.

### **Sport**

The 1st XI boys' hockey side surprised themselves and the Norwich U13 A team this Wednesday with an outstanding performance. Mr Martin takes up the story .....

From the start Norwich came out and dominated the match so much so that Harry Gayfer must have thought that he was at Custer's last stand battling the Indians, as he repelled wave after wave of Norwich attacks. The rest of the team gradually got into the game and towards half-time we were starting to create some chances ourselves. After some comforting words from their coach at half-time, the team started to grow in confidence and Robert Goldsmith scored the first goal of the game which was quickly followed by another from Blyth Few, who was linking well with both Sam Hunt and Georgie Michael to create a number of chances. The inability to clear a simple ball gave Norwich a goal and a foothold back into the game. However the boys rallied well and instead of retreating back into their half and holding on to what they had, they drove forward in search of further success, which came from a well taken goal by Georgie Michael. The game then finished on a high note as Robert Goldsmith burst clear one-on-one with the goal keeper and, as he was going round him he was clipped, which resulted in a penalty stroke. Robert kept his composure to slot the ball home giving the first team a well deserved 4-1 win over a good Norwich 'A' team who battled well and had good chances themselves. We are delighted with the team's performance as all the players worked tirelessly throughout and gained that elusive win. On top of that they scored 4 goals into the bargain. They must continue to work hard, as they have now seen that hard work is rewarded.

**The Colts'** second set of fixtures saw them travelling to a new fixture at Wisbech Grammar where we were given a warm welcome.

**Colts' A** were not at full strength so it was pleasing that they played their full part in a tight game. Driven forward by captain, Kieran Peters they matched their opponents for most of the match, although they were indebted to goalkeeper, Tom Martin who made several fine saves. He didn't deserve to be beaten but Wisbech pressure told and we conceded just before the break. The second half saw us more on the attack but despite the team's best efforts the equalizer just wouldn't come and we were defeated by a single goal.

**The B's** most influential and dynamic midfielder, Yuri Konstantinidis played for the A's and the B's really missed his drive in midfield. Again the defence of Albert Sorensen-Pound and George Clements did their best but we were well beaten 6-1. However, the team did manage to get on the score sheet when a late tactical substitution led to a cracking goal from a short corner for Kieran Peters.

**The C's** defended stoutly and Peter Walker was particularly impressive in a 3 goal defeat. It was obvious that we had improved on our first outing and debutant, Harry Darley showed some promise and skill in midfield.

**Under 9's** - after last week's 5-0 win against a fairly weak Beeston Hall team, the Under 9 A team came up against a strong Wisbech Grammar School. Both teams traded attacks in the early stages and it looked like it was going to be a close affair. We defended strongly despite having numerous short corners awarded against us. We created a lot of opportunities to score but Wisbech defended resolutely and managed to block all of our shots. However, just before half time, Ryan Green broke down the left and calmly slotted the ball into the goal to lead 1-0 at half time. There was still work to be done as Wisbech pressed forward and had more and more opportunities. James Cherry made a fantastic double save when a Wisbech player was put clean through. We went back up the pitch and a strong shot from Ryan Green went in off the keeper. At 2-0 we started to dominate the game and, after some wonderful work down the wing involving Harry Williamson and Jack van Poortvliet. Ryan Green tucked home his third goal of the game with a first time shot. Wisbech scored a late consolation goal as our defenders found themselves drawn to the ball. James Cherry managed to slow the ball down and Felix Heywood bravely, but unsuccessfully, tried to stop the ball crossing the line and ended up in a twisted heap in the goal. It was an impressive performance and a good result. Man of the match: Jack van Poortvliet – for controlling the game from the middle, tracking back to defend and setting up numerous scoring chances.

### **PRE-PREP**

**Reception** children have been learning about bread; they have been discovering what it is made from and they have tasted different types of bread. They followed this up with The Little Red Hen story, acting out the parts and writing and illustrating their own stories. In Forest School this week they made apple cups.

**Year 1** have excelled at sport this week. They have all enjoyed improving their hockey skills and then put them into practice by playing a very close and exciting game against each other. The final score was 3-3! In topic they have been learning about the weather and in art have created some super umbrella mobiles and designed their own patterns and colour schemes.

**Year 2** continue to really enjoy their science project on electricity. This week they have created their own circuits with motors and coloured spinners. They are now adding working lights to their lighthouses. In Forest School the challenge has been to make a small tower from branches and see how high they could make it balance.

Finally, if anyone is having a 'sort out' over half term the Pre-Prep would be very grateful for any lego, knex or construction toys that are no longer required.

### **NURSERY**

The older Nursery class have been investigating transport this week and have been learning about space. The children were enthralled by the Apollo 13 space launch from Cape Canaveral. This was followed by fun and games in the hall which helped them to understand a little of what gravity means. You cannot discuss rockets without mentioning aliens – green lifelike cakes were created – a delicious way of extending the project!

The younger class have also been baking this week with their version of hot cross buns. It is lovely to see how our two year olds are growing in confidence and enjoying all that life in the Nursery has to offer.

### **PARENTS' SPRING LUNCH**

Due to last year's popularity, parents from our Nursery, Pre-Prep and Prep School are warmly invited to join us for lunch on **Thursday 25 February from 1200** at Cafe Orgasmic, 6 Queens Street, Norwich (near Tombland).

A special lunch menu has been put together for £10 (*Pizza or Salad, nibbles, glass of wine or soft drink, tea or coffee*).

Please register your interest at the school office or with Mrs Crossley as soon as possible, as places are available on a first come first serve basis.

It is a great opportunity to get together and we hope you will be able to join Mrs Crossley on that afternoon.

Have a restful weekend. I look forward to seeing many of you in Warwick for an 1100 start on Sunday!

M A Crossley  
Headmaster

### **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

15 - 19 Feb	-	Half Term
25 Feb	1200	Parents' Spring Lunch
25 Feb	1900	Parent Information Evening – Nursery to Reception (Drawing Room)