



TAVERHAM HALL

Preparatory School

12 March 2010

Dear Parents

Highlights this week must be the Pre-Prep Activity Week which Mrs Davies will talk about later in the newsletter. The youngsters have had a fabulous week and the four children who came in for 'taster' days picked a wonderful week to sample Pre-Prep!

To reinforce the point made in last week's newsletters about LEPR, please do not feel obliged to reach any targets for fund raising as the pupils have been informed that loose change will suffice in their efforts to raise money for this worthy cause.

PREP

On Monday Year 4 went to How Hill where they learnt about different habitats, food chains, visited a Victorian marshman's cottage and experienced the beautifying properties of Broadland mud!



The following pupils are the proud recipients of internal scholarships after the recent assessments and are joined by external candidates to be announced in due course:

Scholarships and Exhibitions

Robert Baker	Sports Scholarship
Thomas Barter	Academic Scholarship
Madeleine Clements	Music Exhibition
Lydia Ellis-Baumber	Music Exhibition
Tilly Mann	Academic Scholarship

'Radiator of the Week' last week was Robert Baker for his polite, helpful and courteous behaviour around the school.

This week the 'Radiators of the Week' were India Gill for all her help in the dormitories and Samantha Blackman for assisting with extra break duties and her positive and proactive behaviour.

World Book Day

Last Thursday, the school celebrated World Book Day in a number of different ways. At 1105 on Thursday, the pupils and teachers in the school undertook a D.E.A.R. No matter what lesson both pupils and teachers were in the middle of, they Dropped Everything And Read. Pupils and teachers were found quietly reading throughout the school.

The enthusiasm for reading continued into Friday as well, with the ongoing 'Reading Raffle'. Every time a pupil was spotted reading around the school, their name was entered by the teachers into a prize draw that was drawn on Monday during assembly.

The lucky winners of a book token and a red were:

Hart Fargo
Samantha Blackman
Isobel Hall
Rhys Pearson-Shaul
Jabez Cook

Those pupils' names that were drawn out, who received a red were:

Will Mitchell
Gregory Chamberlin
Samuel Field
Charlie Sizer

On Tuesday 23 March, the reading theme continues with a book sale and book activities run by The Norfolk Children's Book Centre. This book shop was recently mentioned in the EDP and is run by book enthusiast, Marilyn Brocklehurst. One of Marilyn's colleagues will be running workshops/activities with Years 3 - 5 and the book sale will be open to all year groups to buy books throughout the day, with an opportunity for parents to browse and buy from 1500 - 1650. With the Norfolk Children's Book Centre being a smaller, more personalised business, the staff and Marilyn can almost find a book for everyone, even the most reluctant reader.

The Norfolk Children's Book Centre will be returning again to the school on 13 May as well, with Marilyn herself running the book sale and running talks aimed at the older children and at parents as well. A letter will be sent out soon containing further information about the book sales.

As ever, it has been a busy week on the sports front, starting with last Sunday's tournament...

Sport

The **first team** travelled across to Gresham's for the **county hockey finals**. The first game was against Gresham's and only two minutes into the game, Robert Goldsmith whilst trying to keep the ball out of the net, unfortunately collided with the posts. Play was held up for about 10 minutes whilst he was cared for but it was great to see him come back. With an unsettling start the team lost 4-0 to Gresham's.

The next match against Norwich proved to be a much closer game with both sides having chances and both keepers performing heroics in goal, especially Harry Gayfer. Georgie Michael nearly won

the game with 20 seconds left on the clock but was thwarted again by some great keeping. Norwich won a penalty corner as the whistle went, but put it narrowly wide. The game ended 0-0.

The boys then had to play Beeston and were again indebted to some great defending by Scott Wigglesworth and excellent keeping from Harry to keep the score down. We did manage a goal when Blyth Few scored a short corner, but were eventually beaten 3-1.

The last game saw us play Town Close where we again tried very hard but ran out of legs. It was their 4th game in a row, with the matches 10 minutes each way and only a short break between games. We must thank the boys for their efforts and some excellent play. Special mention must go to Blyth Few for all his running in midfield, Scott Wigglesworth for all his efforts in defence and Harry Gayfer for some outstanding goalkeeping. Harry Gayfer will be awarded his colours at the end of the season.

The **Colts** continued their hockey season with four matches against Norwich School last Friday.

The **Colts' A** were disrupted by illness and unavailability but this did not prevent them giving a well regarded Norwich side a really good game. In fact, after the early exchanges were fairly even it was Taverham that took the lead when a short corner was smashed home by James Robb, who enjoyed his best game of the season. Norwich then hit back and only fine work by keeper Tom Martin and defender, Freddie Mann kept them at bay. It was annoying then when a Taverham attack broke down and Norwich attackers equalised. Unfortunately this was repeated which gave Norwich the lead and despite a concerted series of attacks we could not manage an equaliser. This was an excellent performance though and bodes well for next year as most of the side are in Year 5 and in the case of the promising Jack van Poortvliet, Year 4!

The **Colts' B** were well below strength with several playing for the A's and it showed as we struggled to contain a well drilled Norwich side. To our boys credit they made their more skilful opponents fight for everything and defenders, Hart Fargo and George Clements were simply outstanding. We eventually lost by two goals to nil but the boys can take a great deal of credit from this battling display.

A depleted **Colts' A** team played in the **County Championships** at the weekend and gave a good account of themselves. They performed admirably against the eventual winners Gresham's, losing 3-1, but we did come back strongly from two down to make a real game of it. All the boys played well but special mention should go to Freddie Mann who had to play in goal when regular keeper, Tom Martin fell sick on the morning of the tournament. In front of him Ben Hall and James Robb worked hard in defence and captain Kieran Peters and Jack van Poortvliet showed pleasing touches in possession. Up front the ever willing, Yuri Konstantinidis ran hard and winger, Robert Baker scored a deft goal from a short corner to cap a strong display. We then lost to Beeston and Town Close, losing our defensive shape as this small, young squad were visibly tired. Nevertheless, it was a great effort by the boys.

The **Under 9 A team** played Norwich School on Friday. We started strongly and Charlie Sizer scored an excellent goal. From then on we controlled the game and looked like we would win easily. We kept Norwich at bay and spent most of the first half attacking their goal looking to extend our lead. Norwich managed to score a goal which actually came off the Norwich player's foot. Unfortunately the umpire did not see this so the goal was allowed to stand. It was very disappointing to be drawing a game we should have been winning at half time. We started the second half strongly and continued to press forward. Norwich played a ball across our goal which was unfortunately turned into our own net under no pressure from the opposition. Final score 2-1.

Under 13 Netball v Wymondham College. This fixture was played in a different format to usual. It gave all players and reserves a chance not only to play, but to experience various and unfamiliar positions during the afternoon. Instead of one continuous game it was split in to 4 mini matches and for each one the bulk of players moved positions. Hollie Milton had a very different role to normal, attacking rather than defending, and was voted by the opposition, outstanding player of the team. Although we were unable to win any of the matches the scores were pretty close

ranging from 1 – 7 at worst, to 1 – 4 at best. An energetic session for all and some outstanding play from members of both teams. Colours in Final Assembly will be awarded to Georgina Lyon.

And Wednesday afternoon matches

The **1st XI** made the long trip down to Orwell Park yesterday to play on their Astroturf. After a quick warm up, we began the match quite strongly with Blyth Few and Robert Goldsmith dominating the midfield areas, yet we did not threaten their goal enough. The pitch and weather conditions were not conducive to playing good hockey but we were winning the battle for possession. Blyth converted a short corner just before half time to make the score 1-0. The second half passed with both sides cancelling each other out, save for a bit of quick thinking from the Orwell captain who fashioned an easy chance to equalise. Despite having more chances to win the game it finished a 1-1 draw, which was a shame because it was a game that Taverham were well capable of winning. We must ensure that we raise our game next week and ensure that we win our final match of the season at Glebe House. Many thanks must go to our merry band of supporters who have travelled near and far throughout the season, even outnumbering the home supporters on occasions, so thank you Mrs Gayfer, Mrs Michael and Mr & Mrs Hunt.

By the time the **Colts A** had worked the long journey out of their system they were two goals down and with a mountain to climb against a typically cultured and skilful Brandeston side. Just before half time another soft goal meant that they trailed by three goals and deserved little better. In contrast the second period saw a different Colts A emerge with Kieran Peters pulling the strings and substitute, Ben Hall making an impact up front. At last we managed to string passes together and Rob Baker hit some threatening crosses. Sadly, a brilliant save by their keeper and the post prevented us from getting back into the game.

The **Colts B** game was totally different with a determined and lively start by us giving our opponents plenty to think about. In fact clever prompting by Ben Hall and lively play by forwards, Charlie Sizer and Oliver Conway gave us the edge by the end of the half. However, after the break we allowed bad habits to reappear and by defending too deeply we encouraged Brandeston forward and we quickly conceded. Still determined work by Yuri Konstantinidis kept us afloat until a late second goal confirmed Brandeston's victory.

The **Colts C** team lost 2-0 against a very strong and skilful Brandeston side who scored twice in the first half of an entertaining match. Ben Green played well at the back, defending well and Will Barker made several good saves to keep the score down. The second half was more even with James Graver breaking out but unable to convert a good chance, whilst the defence held out well as a team to stop any more goals. Peter Walker and Toby Little fought hard in the middle. Will Barker again kept well and was man of the match.

The **Colts D** team lost 1-0. A fine performance by all the team saw half time arrive with no goals from either team. Tom Martin played well in goal and was supported by Sam Baker on his debut this season. Edward Clough found width but rarely saw the ball and Jamie Burke, Ryan Martin and Isaac Little battled well in mid field. Will Graver came on at half time and showed good moments of skill and Hugo Jones moved up-field to add some potency to the forward line. Brandeston scored a good goal early in the second half and despite some pressure Taverham could not get into the area to find an equaliser.

Under 13 netball v Riddlesworth. An even game, in which we led for a while during the first quarter. However, during the mid part of the match play was messy, crowded and possession too often lost. Subsequently we found ourselves going in to the last quarter 10 – 17 down. This proved to be our strongest section but it all came together just too late and despite scoring more goals than Riddlesworth at this point, we finished up 15 – 20 behind. As always 100% effort was put in by all but skills and tactics let the team down in this game. Once again the opposition voted a player of the match, this time it was Georgina Lyon for her excellent work at goal defence. Also we should mention shooters Sacha Burke and Victoria Baker who worked hard and added to the score board.

The **Under 11 A** team had a great victory against Riddlesworth Hall on Wednesday afternoon. After a little confusion due to goal posts being welded at 9 feet for the under 11 team instead of the normal 10 feet which we have used to play our matches, we graciously agreed to play the home sides wishes! We started the match with great enthusiasm, the girls making some great moves down the court to Annie Serruys and Charlotte Billig who took a little time to adjust to the different height goals. Rosie Griggs played superbly at centre with Jemma Crossley and Sophie Richardson working well together in defence. Anna Jolly and Hermione Buttery worked tirelessly as our wings making sure that the ball made it safely to the shooters in the semi circle. Our goal scorers were, Annie Serruys, Charlotte Billig, Jemma Crossley and Louisa Crabtree.
Taverham 17 – Riddlesworth 5! Well done Girls.

The **Under 9's** had a tough match away at Riddlesworth but by dint of some good team work they secured a 6-3 win. The defence had to work hard but the team put into practice more of the skills that they have been practising and it paid off. The opposition were taller than us so much jumping was required to intercept the ball successfully. We still need to make better use of space on the court but it was a much improved performance, well played everyone.

Girls swimming v Hethersett on Thursday. As always a close fought competition, plenty of wins for both teams. With the scores kept secret until the end, it was anyone's guess who would be victorious. In the end, by just 2 points Taverham came out on top 126 – 124. Congratulations to all for an excellent all round performance.

Winning relay teams were:

Yr 3 / 4, both freestyle and medley relay races

Yr 5, both freestyle and medley relay races

Giant canon relay, A squad

Individual wins for:

Evie Andrews

Georgina Lyon

Ellie Serruys

Chiara Bettoni

Tegan Payne

Amelia Ellis-Baumber

Annie Serruys

Double wins for:

Jemma Crossley

BOARDING

Girls

Knitting needles are still clicking away in the dorms and two large squares for the 'dorm blanket' have been completed. There is a long way to go, but with such enthusiasm we will get there! Sophie Owles, Lydia and Amelia Ellis-Baumber are now bringing in their knitting from home. Amelia has invented some very interesting stitches.

Charlotte Caswell entertained us by dressing up as a 'fortune teller' and read our palms. She was very convincing and had us all in stitches (more stitches dropped!).

On Wednesday hedgehog dorm was turned into a 'pampering parlour' – with pedicures on offer, which was just the thing after games. India Gill, Sophie Owles, Sophie Richardson and Jemma Crossley soon made appointments. They enjoyed a luxurious food scrub, followed by a foot spa, file, buff and foot massage with a lovely lavender and mint cream. Mrs Crossley also came to the salon and offered head massages. Sophie R said 'my toes feel so relaxed and clean'. Sophie O decided her feet had a strange tingly feeling afterwards and that her mum would really enjoy this! India thought her feet felt really light. Everyone went to sleep quickly as they were so relaxed. The girls are eager to make another appointment when the Taverham Hall Pampering Salon is open again!

Thursday night was craft night with paint, glue, ribbons and stickers on offer. Some mum's will be in for a nice surprise.

Boys

This week in the boys' dorms we have discussed setting up a Junior Debating Society. Lately Matron has often heard the Year 7 and 8 boys deep in discussion, all trying to get their views across eagerly and passionately, so a debating society made perfect sense. The boys seem keen and over the next few weeks we will be exploring debating topics for the start of next term. So far we have – *Families Should Only Have One Car per Household* and *Television is Bad For You*. It should be interesting and the teams will be keeping the newsletter updated.

The younger boys have been thinking of their mothers and ways of reminding their mothers of them when they are not around. All will be revealed this Sunday!

Henry Alston, Toby Little and Tom Martin have been praised for taking pride in their dorm. They have started redecorating it and are full of ideas.

Albert Sorensen Pound has started off the knitting club and gave a demonstration to Toby Little and Matron. Miss Jones, one of our gap students, is going to attempt finger knitting with all the boys so that we can construct a 'Spider's Web of Communication.' This will mean that everyone's strand of knitting is tied together to form a giant web on which we can post messages, debating topics, ideas and thoughts etc.

PRE-PREP

Every year in March the Pre-Prep abandon their usual timetable and enjoy a varied and exciting programme of experiences in Activity Week.

This year's programme began with a music day. The children started with a 'sponsored sing'. Lots of parents came to listen and it was a super way of starting both our week and the day. It is amazing how many songs can be sung in half an hour! Each year group was then able to take part in a music making workshop which included: filling little bottles with varying amounts of water and blowing across the top to create the perfect cuckoo note, playing a tune using a comb and a piece of folded newspaper, and stringing elastic bands over containers. Finally the guitar ensemble, the Prep School choir and the African drums entertained us all. We are going to use the money raised by the 'sponsored sing' to buy some exciting new musical instruments.

On Tuesday the Pre-Prep went to the Inspire Science Centre in Norwich. Everybody had a brilliant time trying out all the exhibits. The most popular were the giant bubble maker and the electric ball, which when touched, meant that you could pass on a tiny electric shock to other people. The children enjoyed a super science show on food. They especially enjoyed watching custard being set on fire and gherkins being electrocuted and giving off a strange orange glow! Everyone tucked into their packed lunches before heading back to school on the coach.

Wednesday was a day full of enthusiasm and creativity! The children created giant wall hangings by weaving a variety of fabrics and textures. They had free reign choosing from different drawing tools, using their imagination to draw pictures on long strips of wallpaper taped to the floor in the hall. They also learnt how to fold and weave paper to make 'explosions' of colour with fantastic 3D paper designs. A very busy day was enjoyed by all.

Dinosaurs came to Pre-Prep on Thursday. The children learnt a lot of interesting facts about dinosaurs; they were fascinated to learn that dinosaurs could have been any colour – no one knows! - except that a fossil of an orange dinosaur feather was found in China. The children handled casts of dinosaur skulls, claws and teeth; they even held genuine dinosaur bones and an egg. The highlight was to see the allosaurus skull with its 70 teeth! The children were also able to make dinosaur fossils, they had to choose their own fossil and then pour plaster of Paris into a mould, which they were then able to take home at the end of the day.

We will have news from our final forest school day in next week's newsletter. This has been a fantastic week and a lot of artwork, photos and diary writing have been the result.



Please Help

Please could everyone save their Tesco vouchers for the Pre-Prep. We are hoping to get enough vouchers to buy some playground equipment.

GENERAL

Years 3 and 4 Entertain

Members of Years 3 and 4 have been hard at work rehearsing a series of poems and sketches in recent weeks. On **Thursday 18 March at 1830** they will be presenting a short evening of entertainment to all those who would like to come and support them. It will be a fun event and those of us who witnessed last year's evening will be more than ready for Thursday!

Matrons' Corner

Any sickness, vomiting or diarrhoea, medical issues/updates MUST be reported to either of the matrons as well as informing the form tutors. This also applies to any child who is off games for any reason.

Our policy re sickness and diarrhoea clearly states that a child must not return to school until 48 hours after the last bout. Our policy follows the guidance laid down by the Norfolk County Council and the Health Protection Unit.

Parents who are going away or who may be inaccessible for any reason MUST provide the school with alternative contact person/persons who will be available in the event of an emergency.

Children must not carry any medication or 'homely' medicines (cough pastilles, topical creams etc.) around with them. These must be handed in to one of the matrons who will administer the medicine with the written consent (we have a form available) of the parent or carer.

Midsummer Ball

On Friday 2 July we are holding a Midsummer Ball for all current parents and Old Taverhamians. As a charitable trust we are holding an auction during the evening and would welcome any donation of prizes that would be fitting for this occasion. If you can help with this, kindly contact Sharon Gabriel on 01603 868206 or email sgabriel@taverhamhall.co.uk. Thank you for your support.

Pop Quiz

As I prepare to partner Mike Jolly in hosting tonight's 'Pop Quiz' to a packed audience in the drawing Room I leave you with a teaser!

From which song is the following lyric?

**“And now we meet in an abandoned studio.
We hear the playback and it seems so long ago.
And you remember the jingles used to go....”**

Answers on a postcard please

I hope you have a restful weekend with your children and rumour has it that Spring is just around the corner.

M A Crossley
Headmaster

Dates for your Diary

Tuesday 16 March	1700	Y6 Parents' Evening
Thursday 18 March	1830	Y3&4 Entertains
Thursday 25 March	1430	Pre-Prep Dance Display
Thursday 25 March	1900	Prep Spring Concert
Friday 26 March	1200	Term ends for Pre-Prep / Nursery
Friday 26 March	1230	Term ends for Prep