



TAVERHAM HALL Preparatory School



Academic summary
September 2014 to July 2015

Welcome

Taverham Hall Preparatory School is justifiably proud of its established academic reputation. The educational focus remains firmly on the individual with a continued commitment to outstanding pastoral care and small class sizes. A body of inspiring and dedicated staff, together with the breadth of opportunities on offer, makes Taverham Hall Preparatory School exceptional. The high standards achieved by our pupils are recognised by both senior schools and inspection teams.



“There is an excellent success rate in Common Entrance examinations and Year 8 leavers consistently obtain places in their first choice senior schools, several with scholarships” (ISI)

Prep School Exam Results 2015 Year 8 Leavers’ Common Entrance

24 Scholarships/Awards were offered to Year 8 pupils by senior schools

94% of all grades above 50%
72% of all grades above 60%
41% of all grades above 70%

83% of pupils achieved at least one mark over 70%

Reasons families choose Taverham Hall Preparatory School

- Outstanding pastoral care and vibrant learning environment.
- Set within 100 acres of stunning woodland with own stretch of River Wensum in Taverham – voted one of the most desirable postcodes in the UK.
- Rated ‘Outstanding’ in four inspections by Ofsted and ISI.
- Unique tailored preparation of pupils for senior schools of their choice.
- Small class sizes and dynamic teachers.
- Pre-Prep pupils are heard to read every day and achieve significantly above the national average.
- Unparalleled Forest School lessons with practitioners at the highest level (OCN Level 3).
- Inspirational experiences in art, music and drama, with weekly performance opportunities.
- On-site swimming pool, sports hall, sports fields, netball and tennis courts, and adjacent AstroTurf.
- Taverham Hall Scholarships available from Year 3 (age 7+) to children of outstanding ability.



A vibrant Nursery

Taverham Hall School's Early Years Foundation Stage facility (which includes Pre-Prep's Reception year) has been rated 'Outstanding' by Ofsted (2010) and ISI (2010 and 2014) inspectors.

Taverham Hall Nursery School became the first in Norfolk to introduce a bespoke curriculum ensuring pupils participate each day in literacy and Maths activities.

Whilst drawing on the strengths of the current Early Years curriculum it crucially offers pupils further opportunities to develop their learning, enabling those who are ready, to read and write and develop their mathematical skills beyond the current levels of expectation.

Children aged three to four follow the Jolly Phonics scheme, which is a fun and child-centred approach to teaching literacy, with puppets and actions for each of the 42 letter sounds. It also provides the opportunity to learn visually some high-frequency words, which cannot be decoded phonetically. Early writing skills such as the correct pencil grip and formation of letters using sand tray activities, tracing, whiteboards and pencil and paper activities are also covered.

Whilst in Nursery, pupils are prepared for their move to the Reception classes by developing their skills in all areas of the curriculum, enjoying a wide range of activities such as dance, drama, music, sports, Forest School, arts and crafts.



Pre-Prep pupils excel

Excellent National Foundation for Educational Research (NFER) English and Maths tests results along with reading and spelling ages:

- 96% of Year 2 pupils achieved above national average grades for Reading
- 83% of Year 2 pupils achieved above national average grades for Spelling
- 83% of Year 2 pupils achieved above national average grades for English
- 79% of Year 2 pupils achieved above national average grades for Maths.

Value Added

Over a nine-month period Pre-Prep pupils have made an average of:

- 16 months progress with Reading.
- 11 months progress with their Spelling.

Pupils are heard to read individually every day which aids the development of reading skills and encourages a love of reading at an early age. The acclaimed Read Write Inc scheme supports the children's literacy development even further with children grouped by ability so they learn rapidly at the right level and on-going regular assessments tracking every child's progress. In Maths use of the Numicon resources enable pupils to gain a deeper understanding into the logistics of mathematical thinking.



What's new?

The School has added the following to its excellent and extensive range of facilities.

2015: Laser cutter and 3D printer for the DT Department; science and wildlife pond;

refurbished Prep School pupils' and boarders' Common Room and Outer (entrance) Hall

2014: Refurbished Netball/Tennis Courts & Computing Suite; School website & social media platforms

2013: Outdoor woodland classroom; refurbished DT block & zip wire and ropes course

2012: Two new Prep School classrooms and high-spec Astro turf

2011: Purpose-built Nursery extension

Plans for 2015/2016: Final stage of iMac Music Suite installation.

Overseas trips

In addition to numerous educational visits and excursions which enhance pupils' curriculum from Nursery to Year 8, each year Prep School pupils are offered educational trips abroad.

- Spring 2015 5-day Ski trip to Switzerland (biennial)
- Autumn 2014 Senior Hockey and Rugby Sports tour to Ireland (biennial)

Planned for 2015/2016:

- Autumn 2015 5-day residential to France
- Summer 2016 Bay of Naples, Italy

School's Awards & Accolades

The School's most recent ISI inspection report, undertaken in June 2014, rated the overall provision of EYFS as outstanding once more in all areas, which complements the three outstanding inspection reports undertaken in 2010 and 2011 as well as the Healthy Schools Award, demonstrating the importance Taverham Hall places on emotional health and well being.

Taverham Hall's holistic education is further enhanced through its Forest School lessons which provide pupils with an outdoor resource across the curriculum and freedom to explore the 100 acres of the School's beautiful wooded parkland. This unique learning environment is enhanced by a wonderful outdoor classroom.

"The surrounding parkland is a paradise for pupils."

"The curriculum is significantly enhanced by Forest School sessions" (ISI)

OCN Forest School Leader award, since 2009

A number of Taverham Hall staff are qualified to deliver Forest School teaching to the highest standard by Forest School practitioners: level 3 of OCN Forest School Leader Award. Learning follows 'enquiry through exploration' principles. Forest School encourages children to learn and develop socially, physically and emotionally. It boosts their self esteem, confidence and ability to work with others and allows children the opportunity to make choices for themselves.

Highlights 2014-2015

Healthy Schools Award 2012; reaccreditation 2015

Taverham Hall meets criteria in four core themes which also cover the emotional, physical and learning environment that the School provides: personal, social and health education, healthy eating, physical activity, and emotional health and wellbeing.

Woodland Trust Gold Green Tree School Award 2015

Pupils participate in green activities such as tree planting, reducing carbon emissions, recycling and various Woodland Trust activities.

RHS Campaign for School Gardening, Level 3 2015

Taverham Hall pupils develop and actively use the School garden areas.

Best School Food Project 2013

Taverham Hall School was listed as 1 of the 4 finalists at the Norfolk Food & Drinks Awards and received a Highly Commended certificate.

Centre of Excellence for Norfolk Youth Cricket & home venue for National Premier League Netball

Taverham Hall School's Sports Hall facility is the Centre of Excellence for Norfolk Youth Cricket. In addition, the Sports Hall is used as the home venue for the National Premier League Thoroughbreds netball team.

English

- Annual Spelling Bee competition for all Prep School pupils.
- Summer poem competition: pupils were invited to write a poem a week covering a variety of topics.
- Winter Haiku creative writing competition.
- Gifted & Talented: selected pupils entered the online tutorial-based, critical-reading course provided by OLP Oxford, which aims to deepen understanding of key themes, promote critical thinking and analysis and develop intellectual confidence. Pupils received Platinum Awards as a result of their high quality responses and intellectual challenging contributions and through provoking questions.
- Visit from author Doug Vallgren who led a workshop on How to Write a Book.
- Annual Book Fairs & Talks providing tips and advice on reading books – one each term.

Science

Visit from Dr Ed Blane (wildlife advisor for Natural England) who spoke about the Life Cycle of the Bumblebee. Pupils learnt about the importance of insects.



History
History



Hands on the Past 'Magna Carta' workshop for Prep School pupils in line with the 800th anniversary of the sealing of King John's Magna Carta.

Computing

- Taverham Hall secured 1st and 3rd place of the KS2 Category of the Scratch Off Competition.
- Computing Hobby was introduced as a new after-school activity for Pre-Prep and Prep pupils.

Languages

- Prep School Latin Day Workshop led by Ralph Jackman, author of 'Actium's Wake' and finalist in the prestigious Foreword review's IndieFabBook of the Year 2014. Pupils learnt how Latin connects different cultures and languages.

- Eurotalk Junior Language Challenge: Pupils under 11 years of age are given the opportunity to enter this annual national competition. Taverham Hall pupils have entered this competition for the past 8 years – learning the basics of languages such as Italian, Spanish, Japanese, Chichewa, Portuguese, Kazakh, Greek, Korean and Dutch through a number of online games. Each year pupils qualified for the regional finals held in Cambridge and in 4 out of the 8 years pupils reached the ultimate final in London. This year five pupils qualified for the semi-final having learned Italian. They played 'live' against other semi-finalists in the region having learned Japanese in the summer holidays. One pupil qualified to go through to the national finals and finished in 23rd position having learned Somali in three weeks.
- Italian, German, Spanish and Mandarin Language Workshops took place as part of the School's Language Awareness programme.
- Gifted & Talented programme: a number of pupils took part in a local Language Detective Day focussing on non-verbal communication, repetition, memorisation techniques and links between languages.

Maths

- The UKMT Team Mathematical Challenge 2015: Taverham Hall finished 6th out of 17 schools in the regional round. Taverham Hall won the Regional Finals in 2013 and was one of 80 schools who qualified for the National UKMT Finals where they finished in 41st position out of 80 schools.
- The UKMT Junior Mathematical Challenge 2015: 14 pupils received the following medals: 2 Gold (both qualified for the Junior Kangaroo Challenge), 9 Silver and 3 Bronze levels.
The Junior Challenge 2015 thresholds scores were:
Bronze 51-61 Silver 62-77 Gold 78+ (= top 6%) Kangaroo Qualifier 88-104
- Prep School annual Maths Day which focused on problem solving and teamwork challenges.
- Happy Puzzle Company workshop for Pre-Prep and Prep School pupils which focused on critical thinking skills and teamwork.

Music and Drama

- Weekly music assemblies, junior and senior concerts, rock band performances and the House Bullard Music competition took place featuring original compositions, class work and solos.
- Many pupils received instrumental lessons at the School or were involved in one of the 10 extra-curricular music activities on offer. Pupils took practical ABRSM music exams and maintained the School's record of a 100% pass rate, with several gaining merit and distinction.
- Prep School pupils performed in a Drama production of Aladdin rewritten by the Director of Music to incorporate this year's focus on World War 1 plus a Year 3 Christmas drama performance.
- Pre-Prep pupils performed in a Christmas play called The Hoity-Toity Angel, and Nursery had its own Christmas nativity play.
- Pre-Prep children sang songs themed around 'Noah' in a performance to parents.
- Pre-Prep pupils performed in a Dance Show called 'Dance through the Decades'.
- Nursery pupils performed in a Dance Show.
- Taverham Hall's Chapel Choir performed at Wymondham Abbey and North Elmham Church.
- A Year 8 pupil gained a place in the Norwich Anglican Cathedral's Girls' Choir.
- A Year 8 pupil performed as a 'Lost Boy' in



- Norwich Theatre Royal's 'Peter Pan' production.
- Chapel Choir went to see the hit musical 'Cats' at the London Palladium.
- A Year 5 pupil performed at the Theatre Royal with the Central School of Dancing and Performing Arts in the 'Heart & Soul' production.

Art

- Pupils produced artwork for the School's annual summer art competition; theme 'Outer Space'.
- Pupils entered the Headmaster's annual photography competition; theme: Life on Earth
- Pre-Prep and Prep School pupils designed their own hats for the School's Easter Bonnet Parade.
- Year 7 pupils visited the National Portrait Gallery to focus on Tudor paintings and drawing techniques.
- Year 8 pupils visited the Sainsbury Art Centre for a sculpture workshop led by artist Kaitlin Ferguson.
- Year 8 pupils created coloured woven structures inspired by parts of flowering plants and paintings by Georgia O'Keefe.
- Year 6 pupils attended an Art Day at Felsted.

DT

- Introduction of DT laser cutter and 3D printer.
- Year 8 pupils designed and created toys for Harford Manor School using the new laser cutter.
- Pupils built their own trebuchets for the House Trebuchet Competition.
- Year 3 pupils designed and built their own rockets, learning about the importance of material selection.
- Pupils received Commendations for their work in the annual Rotary Club Technology Competition.
- Pupils took part in a DT Activity Day at Felsted.

PHSE

- Cool sea Explorers workshop for Pre-Prep and Prep School about protecting our oceans.
- Childline Schools Service workshop for Years 5 & 6 to raise awareness of personal safety.
- Road Safety Talk by a Norfolk County Council's Road Safety Officer entitled 'Be Bright, Be Seen'.

Sporting achievements

Pre-Prep & Nursery

In the Pre-Prep department pupils have been offered Cricket, Cheerleading, Gymnastics and First Steps Rugby as new sports hobbies, as well as their usual activities of Fencing, Tennis, Football, Tag Rugby and Contemporary Dance. Pre-Prep children continue to work towards the national accredited ASA Scheme in their weekly swimming lessons provided by a specialist teacher in the School's indoor pool. They also receive weekly PE lessons and all take part in the annual Pre-Prep Sports Day.

New onsite optional swimming lessons were introduced this year for pupils and their parents in the Nursery department. Another new initiative in Nursery is Tag Rugby in addition to the normal Dance and PE lessons, mini Hockey, Tennis and annual Nursery Sports Day.

Prep School

Total of 355 fixtures took place and the School represented Norfolk successfully in sport with teams reaching the national finals in hockey, rugby and skiing. In addition, county cups were secured in Cricket. Individual national representations were made in Athletics, Rugby, Swimming and Tennis. Pupils from Year 3 onwards have the unique opportunity to take up the hobbies of fishing and canoeing during the Summer Term.

Specialist coaching workshops

- Northampton Saints Academy Rugby Coach and Director of Sport at Framlingham College, Mr Simon Sinclair, put U11A and U13A teams through a number rigorous drills by providing an hour of intensive training, each improving their technique and acquiring new skills.
- U11 A and U13A girls' teams enjoyed a hockey skills workshop lead by one of Dereham Hockey Club's players and coaches.



- Masterclass netball workshops for Years 3 to 5 and Years 6 to 8 girls' teams were provided by netball coaches from Oakham School.
- Pupils received top-level coaching from Danny Lawrence GB international gymnast and Commonwealth Games silver medalist.
- A CoNAC (City of Norwich Athletics Club) coach trained pupils from Years 5 to 8 in the Prep School's Athletics Hobby.
- Norwich City Football Club U21 Captain, Cameron Norman, provided a talk and coaching to our Nursery and Prep School pupils.

Swimming

- Three pupils (Years 5, 6 and 7) swam qualifying times in the regional IAPS swimming trials and represented the School in the National IAPS finals; the Year 7 pupil won a bronze medal in the freestyle category.
- Taverham Hall School won swimming galas v Glebe House and Beeston Hall.
- A Year 7 pupil won the 75m Blakeney Regatta Open Swim 2014.
- A Year 5 and Year 7 pupil were selected to represent the UEA City of Norwich Swimming Club in London as part of the Southern Region National Junior Inter League semi-finals (having successfully taken part in the Eastern Junior Inter League). The UEA City of Norwich Swimming Club finished 3rd overall and went through to the finals.



- A Year 5 pupil took part in the UEA Club Championships for 9 year olds finishing 1st in the 100m Individual Medley, 200m breaststroke and 50m fly and 3rd in the 50m freestyle.

Hockey

- The U9A and B girls' teams were both crowned winners at the King's Ely Hockey Tournament in their respective groups.
- The U9B boys' team were crowned winners of the Beeston Hall tournament. The U9A team finished runners up in their group at the same tournament.
- The U11 boys' team finished in 3rd place in the plate finals of the IAPS East Regional Championships.
- The U13 boys finished 4th in the IAPS Regional Hockey Tournament and qualified for the IAPS National Finals where they finished 2nd in their group. They reached the quarter finals as one of the last 8 teams in the country and eventually finished joined 5th out of a total of 16 teams.
- The U13 girls entered the IAPS Regional Hockey Tournament and finished 3rd place in the Plate Competition.
- The U13 boys' team finished runners up in the Norfolk In2Hockey County Championships and went through to the East Round of the In2Hockey National Schools' Championships.
- The U13A girls' team finished runners up in the Norfolk In2Hockey County Finals and went

through to the East Round of the In2Hockey National Schools' Championships.

- The U13A girls' were crowned winners of the plate final at the Gresham's tournament whilst the U13 boys were unbeaten as a team in the outdoor matches and U13B boys finished runners up in the indoor matches at the same tournament.
- A Year 4 girl was part of the U10 Norwich City Hockey team who won the County Finals.
- A Year 7 girl was selected for the U13 County Hockey team and two Year 8 girls and boys were selected for the U14 County Hockey teams.
- Two Year 8 girls played for the Norwich City U14 team who won the Regionals and qualified for the National Finals at the Olympic Stadium.
- Two Year 8 girls were selected by the East region Hockey Performance Director to join the Junior Regional Performance Centre.

Rounders

Taverham Hall's U12 rounders team finished in 3rd position in the Norwich Area U13 Rounders Tournament.

Netball

- The Year 6 team finished runners up in plate finals of the Norwich School Netball Tournament.
- A Year 8 pupil was selected to train with the Norfolk County Netball Satellite Academy squad whilst a Year 7 pupil was awarded U11 Netball Player of the Year for her club.





Rugby

- The U9 Rugby team topped their group at the regional stages of the National Schools Rugby Championships and as a result qualified for the National Finals where they reached the quarter finals and finished in the top 8 in the country. This team has been the most successful U9 team according to school records.
- The U11A team recorded the most successful season in the past 5 years and both the U9A and U9B teams remained unbeaten.
- The U12 team were crowned winners at the Great Finborough Rugby Tournament 2014 where 16 teams competed for the trophy.
- Two Year 6 pupils were selected for the first stage of the East and West Midlands Barbarian Prep School's Rugby Club Squad. Both progressed and were selected to represent the U11 Midlands Prep Schools Rugby Squad.
- A Year 6 pupil was the proud recipient of the Matt Hampson 'Hambo' award from the Leicester Tigers Rugby Camp, recognised as being the outstanding player.

Cricket

- The U9A team remained unbeaten all season.
- Both the U11 and U13 teams captured the County Cup Champions Titles.
- The U11 team finished runners up at the Area Finals in Chigwell.

- The U11 team won all their matches at the Gresham's Cricket Festival and were crowned winners of the plate final at the Framlingham College Cricket Festival.
- Each year a number of Taverham Hall pupils are selected to play for the Norfolk County Cricket Squad. A further 7 pupils were selected: 2 U10, 1 U11, 2 U12, and 2 U13 county cricket groups. One U13 joined the Centre of Excellence Academy.

Cross Country

- The U8 and U11 girls' teams won bronze and silver medals respectively in the Norwich School tournament. In addition, an individual gold medal was won by one of the U8 girls and a silver medal by one of the U9 girls.

Table Tennis

- Three Year 8 boys qualified to represent the West Norwich & Dereham Schools Sports Partnership Table Tennis team for the Norfolk School Games Finals in table tennis. Their team won all 7 of the group games.

Athletics

- The UEA 2015 Junior Athletics Championships 1st places were achieved in the 55m hurdles girls, 100m girls, cricket ball, rounders ball and long jump boys; 2nd place in 100m boys.
- Pupils have qualified for the national finals at the Prep School's Athletics Tournament in Birmingham for the past 10 years. A further 3 pupils qualified after competing at the East Area Prep Schools' Athletics Championships in Bedford for the U14 and U12 discus, U12 long jump and U12 100m events. At the nationals all three pupils secured silver medals (U14 and U12 discus and U12 100m).
- At the Langley Senior Athletics meet Taverham Hall pupils secured 26 first places, whilst at at Gresham's Senior Athletics meet pupils secured 6 first places.

Tennis

- A Year 8 pupil was crowned U12 Girls National Tennis Champion after winning the Bolton Arena Winter National Tennis Tournament. She also secured the: 14U Easton College Christmas Challenge Title; 16U title and 14U mixed doubles title.
- Taverham Hall's Senior Girls' tennis team secured a win v Beeston Hall.

Football

- The U8 team finished runners up in the Langley football tournament.
- The U11 boys' team reached the ISFA Regional Champions and finished 2nd in group.
- Norwich City FC Academy: a Year 8 pupil signed a two year contract for the 13-15 age group. In addition, a Year 2 pupil was selected to join the U8 pre-academy football team.
- A Year 5 and Year 4 pupil represented Norwich City Football Club and their team won the Ford Cup tournament in Cologne and were awarded Player of the Tournament and Most Competitive Edge respectively.
- A Year 5 pupil represented Norwich City Football Club at the international Rood Wit tournament and was awarded Player of the Tournament.

Show Jumping

- A Year 3 pupil won a 1st place award for her equestrian skills.

Gymnastics

- A Year 5 pupil finished in 7th position for the East Anglia region and received the Pommel Horse Achiever of the Year.

Skiing

- Taverham Hall's mixed team won the gold medal trophy at The Caxton FX Independent Schools Association National Indoor Ski Championships, which took place at the Snowcentre, Hemel Hempstead. In addition the two Year 8 girls

secured 2nd and 4th place in the individual events. Over 50 schools were involved with more than 150 children taking part in the Junior section of the racing.

- Two Year 7 pupils teamed up with pupils from other local schools for the Dereham & West Norfolk Partnership Year 7, 8 and 9 Ski Team at the Norfolk Winter School Games team ski relay and individual slalom events. The team won a gold medal and one of the Year 7 pupils also won a gold medal for the individual slalom event.

Fishing

- A Year 8 pupil secured first place out of 70 competitors in a fly fishing competition.
- At the Norfolk Inter-schools Coarse Angling Championships organized by West Norfolk & Dereham School Partnership at Barford Lakes. Taverham Hall secured 1st, 2nd and 3rd positions in the team competition and 1st, joint 2nd and 4th in the individual placings.





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