

THE TREEHOUSE SCHOOL UPDATE

Issue 108
May 2015



The Treehouse School



Treehouse 'Chain Gang' in Basildon Woods

Just wanted to say 'Well done' for another successful 10K on Sunday. The weather held and there were a lot of smiling faces as I looked around. Angie Regan xx

ACE Update

This year's **Car Rally/Bike Sale** takes place next Sunday, 10th May from 11.00am until 4.00pm. If you have bikes to sell please bring them along at 10.00am. If anyone would like to come and help for an hour that would be much appreciated – please let Sally know what times would suit you.

The Nearly New Sale is the following weekend on Saturday 16th May in The Regal from 10.30-12.00; help is needed from 9.00am. Sellers packs are still available if you want to have a clear out.

Anyone for Tennis?

**Great British Tennis Day - May 17th
10.00am-4pm**

at the tennis courts, Cholsey.

This is a national event

Come along and "TRY TENNIS FOR FREE."

Sound Advice from a Top Bloke!

Sir Ken Robinson, an adviser to governments on education, spoke recently about how schools can be more effective for children.

"If you engage children's imaginations, their curiosity, you get them working in teams, you get them doing practical work -- it's a very different dynamic in schools.

The culture of education literally is all about standardising. It's alienating teachers, it's alienating kids, and it's not doing the job. Schools need to make education more personalised," Robinson said. "Because everyone is different, they learn in ways that need to be individually addressed."

He said there are ways to do this, even in large classrooms, by motivating students creatively. Two factors that lead to this success are a broad curriculum and flexibility in teaching.

No wonder The Gang are thriving and making such good progress. Thanks for the affirmation Sir Ken!

Dates for Your Diaries

Monday 4 th May	Bank Holiday
Tuesday 5 th May	Lion King practise all day. Please wear 10K t-shirt if you have one.
Weds 6 th May	Gracie's Birthday 10.00 am Eve's Choko Experience
Thursday 7 th May	Owen's Birthday 10.30 am Alison, Joy Whitby, Hugo and Mary Rose Brunner visiting. 1.30 pm Needle felting workshop with Madeleine 2.30 pm – Hula hooping workshop
Friday 8 th May	9.00 – 10.00 am Red Cross Collection Forest School Lollingdon – bikes please.
Sunday 10 th May	11 – 4 pm Wallingford Car Rally and Bike Sale
Monday 11 th May	Mags/Ollie - Treehouse Telegraph Rounders – 3.15 pm
Weds 13 th May	Day Centre Visit 7 – 9 pm Lion King backdrop sewing workshop
Friday 15 th May	Friday Forest - Arboretum
Sat 16 th May	10.30 – 12. Nearly New Sale

**The 10K Race and Bunny Run raised £2090.00!
Thank you all.**



Going for Gold!

Trees

Please add an entry in your Log Book about our new Forest School Location, Basildon Park. What did you become smarter at during our visit?

Houses

Please read through your Learning Log, making sure that you have responded to all of the comments, written an entry about our Grundon trip, and first visit to Basildon Woods. Remember to use your best 'Going for Gold' author and secretarial skills.

Keeping You and Your Child in the Loop...Food for Thought

As you may be aware, running alongside our Lion King Production, there is an African theme which has been shaped and influenced by the children's interests. Having predicted that The Gang would want to learn more about African wildlife, we were surprised when through discussion, it became clear that what they really wanted to understand more about was the division between rich and poor across the world. We were all horrified to discover that 60% of the population does not have enough food, particularly when we learned from the bin men that they collect 2 tonnes of food waste from Cholsey alone every Thursday. This in turn, led to one of the children proposing that we eat just rice for lunch one day, a suggestion which was discussed at some length and carried during our School Meeting last week. Next Tuesday, some of us have decided to eat rice and drink water for breakfast, lunch and tea throughout the day, whilst others are going to stick to the lunchtime challenge. Either way, I am quite sure that we will all learn a great deal from this experience and hopefully remind ourselves how fortunate we are.

For the update this week, we thought of something we could be doing at home in preparation for our production:

- **Sing along to your CD**
- **Meet up with the other people in your scene and rehearse at home**
- **Invite people to watch the production...tickets available from next week.**
- **Practise your words, making someone hear them from the bottom of the garden or the top of the stairs is a good way to rehearse projecting your voice**
- **Work on your accent**
- **Look for items for costumes in charity shops**
- **Find t shirts and leggings to wear with your costume (brown, black, animal print...)**
- **Practise getting into character**
- **Do some ribbon dancing**
- **Practise the dance sequence Laura taught us**
- **Work on Lisa's top performing tips**

This week, a special 'golden' mention to Emma, Johnny, Jed and Stan Smith who continue to support the Treehouse from afar....thank you all.