

THE TREEHOUSE SCHOOL UPDATE

Issue 117
June 2015



The Treehouse School



Doing the splits on a branch at Wittenham Clumps!

Treehouse Bake Off

A cake-making prodigy will be judging our Bake-Off on Friday, after Martha wrote an impressive letter to teenager Amy-Beth Ellice. Amy 18, from Essex started baking at the age of three and landed her first book deal with her recipe collection Amy's Baking Year aged 14. She launched a cupcake and cake business at the age of 13 with the help of her mother, as they both thought they could make better cakes than those that were already out there. The teenager makes cakes for regular clients as well as celebrity functions. Her book, Amy's Baking Year, features recipes themed around the four seasons and occasions such as for Mother's Day, Easter, Halloween and Christmas.

As the heat is on (!), we have decided that children may use their child-initiated time on Thursday afternoon to bake at home if it is convenient for families, and they would like to. We look forward to seeing their creations on Friday morning when Amy will join us to judge them.

Advanced Notice...

Our final Forest School Session of the school year will take place on **Monday 13th July** at Holmwood in Boars Hill, with a later than usual drop off (4.30 - 5.30 pm). We are offering an optional, but strongly recommended 'rest day' on **Tuesday 14th July**, before we visit London for our **Lion King** treat on **Wednesday 15th July**.

If a Job's Worth Doing...

The children have continued to knock our socks off over the last few weeks as they have applied themselves to the current Treehouse challenge, report writing. Despite not being the easiest or most engaging of tasks, children of all ages and abilities have opted to stay after school, complete extra work at home, and make good use of every minute of the school day.

I am sure that you will appreciate the outcome, and that they will enjoy looking back at their report in the future.

But for me, this exercise demonstrates so well The Gang's growing ability to persevere and rise to the challenge; particularly admirable when it's an area of the curriculum that many children do not find the easiest or most enjoyable. They never let us down.

Dates for Your Diaries

Monday 6 th July	Greens and Andrea back from their hols! Paige's Music Choice Treehouse Telegraph: Freya Rounders at The Park Sharon Parker, visiting from Langtree
Tuesday 7 th July	Tuesday Trading Year Six to Wallingford School for the day. Interviews in the evening. Archie, Eddie, Gracie, Jess, Lewis and Will joining The Treehouse for the day.
Weds 8 th July	No shoes day! Laura Lee visiting am.
Thurs 9 th July	10.00 am Visit to Tony's garden 1.00 pm Optional Baking at home afternoon.
Friday 10 th July	Treehouse Bake-Off am 2.00 pm – Smartie Assembly in the Scout Hall
Saturday 11 th July	Year six long weekend away
Sunday 12 th July	Year six long weekend away
Monday 13 th July	Forest School for The Gang at Holmwood. Treehouse Telegraph: Grace



**Thank you Ian for reorganising our cloakroom.
Ian's next challenge is to ride a penny farthing around
the village. Watch this space!**





Going for Gold!

Trees

How about doing some drawings/illustrations to include in your report? Find a picture to copy if you are not very confident. Remember to use fairy lines just in case you go wrong!

Houses

How about doing some drawings/illustrations to include in your report? Find a picture to copy if you are not very confident. Remember to use fairy lines just in case you go wrong!

Keeping You and Your Child in the Loop...Gardening at The Treehouse

As you may recall, The Gang planted some seeds earlier this year, some of which are doing really well in The Treehouse raised beds. It's unavoidable yet disappointing that most of vegetables will be ready for harvest during the summer holidays when there are no children around to pick or enjoy them! With this in mind, we have decided to leave the side gates unlocked so that families may visit the garden during the holidays if they wish to. If the garden looks dry please water it for us, and do feel free to pick anything that is ripe. You are welcome to use the Treehouse garden for a play while you are there too. All we would ask is that the children follow 'The Treehouse Rules' (copy will be displayed on conservatory window), and that any equipment that is used, gets put away again afterwards.

Finally, if your child has grown potatoes, tomatoes or beans, either at school or home, they could enter the 'novice' class in the Cholsey Flower Show.

Scorching weather, how about...

As the weather is scorching at the moment, the Gang were asked to think about some activities they could do at home in this kind of weather...

- Have a water fight or a water balloon fight;
- Get your costumes on and use sprinklers;
- Make your own healthy juice or lollies;
- Go swimming outdoors for example at Wallingford, Shillingford Bridge or Hinksey outdoor pools;
- Organise a water-themed day...;
- Paddle in the brook.

Also, how about practising your recipe for The Bake-off. You could shop for local ingredients to really impress Amy, and prepare a written label to accompany your baking so that she knows where you got your ingredients from.

This week a golden mention to the ACE team for their tremendous fundraising efforts throughout the year.