

THE TREEHOUSE SCHOOL UPDATE

Issue 121
September 2015



The Treehouse School



Camp Treehouse 2015

Weather permitting, this year's Camp will take place from Thursday (10th September) to Friday (11th September) at The Old Bakehouse. All members of The Gang are invited to join the Camp, sleeping in 'homemade' shelters or tents in the orchard, if they would like to. More details and a kit list, will be circulated over the weekend. Please be aware that the Camp will finish at 10.30 am on Friday. For working parents, Jo Heydon has offered child care at her house until midday.

Thank you Jean and Anton for our new sandpit and garden play equipment. Also for maintaining our garden for us.



Wallingford Leisure Centre Extra-Curricular Activities

The Leisure Centre will be starting a range of sports courses during the week commencing the 14th September. Primary age children are able to take part in Fencing, Climbing, Athletics and Tae kwon-do courses, or join the Dance, Gymnastics, Trampoline or Netball clubs that run classes at the centre. For more details, please contact Sarah Bradford, Booking and Activities Coordinator. at Wallingford School 01491 829 760.

Up, Up and Away!

It is remarkable how quickly the new children have settled into The Treehouse, and how smooth their transition has been. Already familiar with the environment, and some of our routines and expectations, overall the first couple of days have been very positive. The older children continue to be great role models, demonstrating maturity, good leadership skills and excellent behaviour. This is particularly impressive for those who have new siblings joining us at The Treehouse. We have been keeping an eye on our 'leavers', who look so smart and grown up in their uniforms, and have already earned two merits between them! Although it's still early days....I'd say, so far so good!

Dates for Your Diaries

Sat 5 th Sept	2.00 pm – Gracie Irish Dancing at The Bunkfest
Sunday 6 th Sept	2.30 pm – Gracie Irish Dancing at The Bunkfest
	Agatha Christie Event – 2 – 5 pm , Chelsey Pavilion. Paige will be exhibiting some of her work there.
Monday 7 th Sept	Mags' Belated Birthday Lunch!
	Lee's Music Choice
	PE begins, indoor kit please.
Tuesday 8 th Sept	Lee and two children to Radio Oxford for live broadcast from 9.10 – 9.20 am
	2.30 pm Rob and Lisa Wilson performing Lee's music choice.
Weds 9 th Sept	Happy Birthday James!
Thurs 10 th Sept	10.30 am/ 6.00 pm Cycling session for 'House' parents.
	1.00 pm Camp Treehouse at The Old Bakehouse.
Friday 11 th Sept	10.30 am Camp Treehouse finishes! Early finish.
Mon 14 th Sept	Visitor Helen Irving to The Treehouse
	Shaz's music choice
	Country Dancing in The Scout Hall
Tues 15 th Sept	Houses cycling course begins
Weds 16 th Sept	Bag-2-School collection.
Thurs 17 th Sept	Cycling Session 2 for The Houses

Owen's **balloon**, released on our first day, has been found in Brockham, Surrey, having travelled South East, 72 km/45 miles!



Going for Gold!

Keeping You and Your Child in the Loop...The Log Book

As you know, ever since we opened The Treehouse, the children have taken it in turns to update our Log Book. We now have three volumes, which over time have improved tremendously in quality, demonstrating the progress that the children have made in their writing. From time to time, we enjoy looking back through the Log books together. It was really lovely on our first day back to read Samuel's last entry, written at the end of term, comprising the speeches that the year six children made at their Leavers' Assembly. He also passed on his best wishes to the new children, a thoughtful and considerate gesture.

We shall continue to send the Log Books home on a rota basis, so that each child gets a turn. Initially, the (new) Trees should draw a picture or some pictures depicting the day, with an adult scribing a sentence or two. As their capabilities, stamina and skills develop, they will be able to do this with increased independence.

The older children should be encouraged to continue to capture the day, working as independently as they can, in different ways. We have been so impressed with the outstanding entries that have been made in the past, and are sure that these will continue to be of a high standard, providing inspiration for the younger children too.

Learner Smarties:

- Research and create a poster showing poisonous wild plants that we may come across during our Friday Forest sessions, for example ragwort, lords and ladies and deadly nightshade.
- Plan a day for our visitors from South Africa, who will be joining us on October 1st. They are both headteachers and would like to learn more about our country and schools when they visit.
- Use a compass (they can be found on mobile phones) to create a course for another family member to follow. Hide some treasure at the end!
- Think about some new challenges for The Treehouse. We will be discussing them on Wednesday at our School Meeting.

Nature Smarties:

- Forage for some hedgerow fruits. There are blackberries, cherry plums, sloes, damsons and rosehips in and around the Millennium Woods and 'Donkey Field'. Either freeze them for our hedgerow jam making session, or make a crumble, some jam or syrup with them for your family.

Practically Smarties:

- Practise building a shelter in your garden that you could make at Camp Treehouse. Prizes will be awarded at Camp for the best shelters!

Self-Smart:

- Copy the dates from this week's Update into your new academic diary. You could also ask your parents for a copy of the dates for the term to transfer into your new diary too.
- Learn your address and telephone number. Add them to your diary.

Word Smarties:

- Share a book with another member of your family. Make a note of the title in your diary, and your likes/dislikes/puzzles or patterns.

This week, a special mention to Paige and Samuel who were both awarded merits on their first day at secondary school.