

THE TREEHOUSE SCHOOL UPDATE

Issue 131
November 2015



The Treehouse School

Birthday Bumps in The Millennium Woods



Golden Gang

Following a craft workshop with *The Gang, Friend of The Treehouse, Lyndsey Webb* wrote: 'As always it's an absolute pleasure to make things with your tribe. Watching them not only help each other with their individual pieces but also gently remind each other when manners were required was just so lovely to watch. I've said it before but there is no harm in saying it again....you're school and all who are involved is brilliant and exactly what a school should be like.'

Treehouse Auction of Promises

As well as being a huge financial boost to The Treehouse, evenings like last night are also a tremendous morale booster. They are a reminder of the level of support that we have, which continues to grow. I often ask myself why this is the case, and arrive at the same conclusion...it is because we want to make a difference.

I should like to thank each and every one of you for the part you play, or have played, on this journey.

'That was just perfect tonight, just perfect. Everyone loved being there, the money was given freely and the food was just fab! Marcus was a hero; he made £1000s for The Treehouse. Laura was a star! Seriously, it was perfect. It would not be possible to do better as far as I can see. You have done a superb job and you should feel very very proud of all you are achieving.' *Treehouse Supporter*

An Evening of Thanks to you all.

Please join us at The Scout Hall on Monday 14th December, at 6.00 pm.
Nibbles and Drinks provided.
RSVP: Alex

Christmas Craft Sale

Come along to our Christmas Craft Sale. Get your presents, decorations and some sweet treats. There will be free refreshments too.
We all hope you can come.
Thursday 26th November, The Scout Hall,
2.00 - 3.00 pm.
Freya

Dates for Your Diaries

Mon 23 rd Nov	Visit to London: Royal Academy cancelled
Tues 24 th Nov	No Tuesday Trading. Optional Christmas Craft sale preparation at home. Please let us know your plans.
Thurs 26 th Nov	2 - 3 pm Christmas Craft Sale at The Scout Hall. Please invite your friends and relatives.
Fri 27 th Nov	Friday Forest: Arboretum. Christmas decorations going up at The Treehouse
Saturday 28 th Nov	10 am Community Tree Planting in the Park
Sunday 29 th Nov	7.30 pm Wreath making at The Scout Hall with Vicky Beardall-Richards. Mulled wine and nibbles. Proceeds to The Baby Bar and The Treehouse.
Mon 30 th Nov	Willow wreath making at The Treehouse. Each family to make one.
Tues 1 st Dec	No Tuesday Trading
Thurs 3 rd Dec	Slippers to School for Shelter Charity

Have you heard...? We raised in excess of £8,500 at our Auction of Promises. Words fail me.



Going for Gold!

Keeping You and Your Child in the Loop...Next Steps

As you know, at the beginning of each new school year, we celebrate The Treehouse's birthday, and release helium-filled balloons, each with a child's wish for the year attached. Some of the children's wishes are quite specific, for example, to learn to read or to touch type, others less so, such as 'To help the Treehouse to thrive.' These are referred to as the child's balloon wish.

This year, as well as their own balloon wish, we have given each child an additional wish or target to work upon. These goals, carefully selected by either Shaz or myself, are the child's next learning challenge, which once secure, will enable them to take the next big step forward in their learning. Effort and progress towards meeting the challenge will be acknowledged with a coloured star.

Balloon wishes can be found in each child's Learning Log and are on display in the Meeting room. The more we all refer to and talk about the wishes, the more likely it is that the child will achieve them. As well as knowing what their wishes are, we also need to help the children to understand how they can be accomplished. So for example, if a child's goal is to become more organised, discussing strategies such as writing lists, packing and unpacking your own school bag, planning ahead and updating a diary, will all help.

Finally, in consultation with the children, we have identified a whole school wish, which is to communicate well with others, or to become more word smart. This is an area that the children felt we all needed to work on. If you can promote this, or your child/rens individual balloon wishes at home, we would be most grateful.

Looking for something to do at home....

Learner Smarties:

Houses: Read and update your Learning Log. We have had a just over a sixth of the academic year, how do you feel about the progress that you have made since September? Discuss it with a parent.

Ask a relative who their hero or heroine is, and why. Print out a picture of the person and bring it to The Treehouse so that we can all learn more about them.

Number Smarties

Apprentices/Houses: Play countdown with another member of your family <http://nrich.maths.org/6499>

Trees: Roll a dice, how many more to make 10? How many can you do in a minute?

Practically Smarties:

Cost your Christmas Craft and decide on the price that you will charge. Create a poster to accompany your product.

People Smarties:

Look out some blue Lego bricks so that Tess can complete our Ai Weiwei portrait.

Word Smarties:

Can you find a word containing two or more of the sounds we have been focusing on (er, oo, ee)? Tess noticed that jubilee contains all three sounds. Keep an eye out during the weekend and let Lee know via e-mail if you find any!

Big thanks to: Jo and the Auction of Promises Team, The Pledgers and The Punters for such an enjoyable, successful and positive evening.