

# THE TREEHOUSE SCHOOL UPDATE

Issue 137  
January 2016



The Treehouse School



**Dawn Treat:** Thank you Lynn Family for inviting us to observe a barn owl hunting behind your home. What a great way to start our day.

## Treehouse Swap Shop

The first Treehouse Swap Shop went really well, with lots of satisfied customers! As a result, we have decided to hold the **session monthly**, on the second Tuesday of the month (Ollie's idea because Tuesday is the second day of the week which may help us all to remember!). Please save any unwanted new or nearly new items for our swap shop. The next session will be held before school on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> February.

## Treehouse Boot Camp!

The first session of our winter PE sessions, based on local fitness guru, and friend of the school, Nix's 'boot-camp' was a great success despite the dreadful weather!

This week Nix will join The Gang for the session. Please could children wear their PE kit to school every Monday (jogging bottoms, a long-sleeved top, jumper, trainers) and also bring a lightweight waterproof. Apologies in advance, your child is very likely to get muddy over the next few weeks! It would also be helpful if all children could be collected from the park at 3.15 pm every Monday. Thank you.

## ***"Shame there's not more people doing what you are..."***

We have had such a wonderful response to our 'New Year, New School' campaign, following the excellent media coverage last week. The quote above accompanied an online donation, whilst the following messages came in the post:

*"I saw your school on the local BBC news last night and felt I should support such a wonderful idea - even though I do not have school age children and no idea where Cholsey is. That doesn't matter - a good education does. I wish you every success".*

*Anonymous donation (£5.00) received from Buckingham.*

*"Dear Sirs,  
I saw a piece on the news about the great work you are doing at your school and enclose a donation (£10.00) towards your fund.*

*Congratulations for making such a difference to children. Yours faithfully Linda Chilcott"*  
(Ewelme)

*"Best wishes for your endeavors" Jennie*  
(£50.00 donation)

To date, we have raised just under £1,000 since last week's broadcasts, taking the total for our new build to a tremendous £17,000! However, I think that the sentiments behind the messages are as valuable as the donations.

## Dates for Your Diaries

<b>Monday 18<sup>th</sup> Jan</b>	Boot Camp in the park. Please collect your child from there at 3.15 pm. Claire Middleton, student teacher visiting The Treehouse.
<b>Tues 19<sup>th</sup> Jan</b>	Tuesday Trading  Judo  Rose Noorduijn visiting for lunch and to help Freya with a sewing project.
<b>Thurs 21<sup>st</sup> Jan</b>	11.00 am Centenary of Remembrance at The Pavilion. Owen reading a poem.
<b>Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> Jan</b>	'Winterwatch' at Red Cow Cottage with Tony Rayner.
<b>Mon 25<sup>th</sup> Jan</b>	Robson Family Music Choice Boot Camp at the park.
<b>Tues 26<sup>th</sup> Jan</b>	Judo

**New Year, New School: To donate by mobile phone text: TTTT37 £1 to 70070 (or you can replace £1 with £2, £3, £4, £5 or £10)**



# Going for Gold!

## Keeping You In The Loop – Focus Children

Based on a very successful model seen at Carterhatch School, we have decided to implement a strategy aptly named the 'Focus Child.' On Friday each week, we will select a younger and older child to become our 'focus children' for the following week. Each child will be selected at least once per term. Once the children have been selected, we will e-mail you a parent consultation sheet to complete at home with as much detail as possible. Furthermore, we will ask you to take some photos over the weekend. The consultation sheet gives a fascinating insight into the child's home-life, and the photographs provide a stimulus for discussion the following week. Over the weekend, we will look through the child's learning log reflecting on the progress that the child has made and identifying any areas for further consideration or investigation. These will be noted.

Throughout the following week, the adults will observe and interact with the children in their pursuits, looking for teachable moments in which they can make a difference. Such interactions are then recorded on a sheet thus recording the focus child's learning journey for that week. All adults who interact with each child contribute to the record.

In the week following, we will invite you into school for a short discussion sharing a summary of our findings and discussing any points that you have raised on the consultation form. Together we will agree on possible areas to focus upon in the future, and how we can all support the child with these. Later at home, we would like you to talk your child through a summary of their learning journey recording the child's thoughts and comments.

In this way, we are capturing a snapshot of the child's achievement and progress at least three times a year. Time well spent.

## Looking for something to do at home....

### Learner Smarties:

- Find out as much as you can about ospreys (currently featuring in our story) and share it with us all so that we can all understand a little more about their behaviour.
- Find out why Tim Peake's spacewalk was cut short, and why he is a British record breaker.

### Nature Smarties:

- Brush up on your bird identification skills in preparation for the 'Big Schools' Birdwatch' which we will be doing in February. Take a look at the Woodland Trust [bird identification sheet](#) to help you.

### Self Smarties:

- Plan an activity, or create something to sell at Tuesday Trading.

### Word Smarties:

- Do all syllables contain a vowel or y? Let's see if Sally is right. Pick ten words at random and see if they follow the rule.

**Our thanks to Patsy, new friend of The Treehouse, for all her help with our 'New Year, New School', campaign.**