

THE TREEHOUSE SCHOOL UPDATE

Issue 145
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The Treehouse School

Mixed Reactions from Herb and Ollie at Oxford's Refashion Event on Thursday...



The Treehouse 'Peaks'

What a treat to be in the audience at the Corn Exchange last night and to watch 'Peake vs Vader' win at the Wallingford Children's Film Festival - a well-deserved award and for the second year running too! The audience knows quality. Congratulations to Tess, who has developed a great talent, and to all her well-chosen cast. Very good too to see our 'old girls' Martha and Paige pick up another award with their team. They are clearly continuing to develop skills nurtured early on at The Treehouse. Well done everyone,
Alison (Chair of the Treehouse Trust)

Please promote the 10K Race amongst your family, friends and work colleagues.

Have a Break, Have a Chocolate Quiz!

Georgina Eccleston has been selected to take part in an International Scout and Guide jamboree in Finland in the summer. She has to undertake some fundraising and so she is selling chocolate quizzes for £1.00. Freya has some of these quizzes at The Treehouse. They need to be completed and returned before Monday March 21st. All completed quizzes will be put into a draw to win a chocolate hamper.

Recipe for Success

Like me, I am sure that if you attended the Film Festival this week, you were blown (or should I say blasted!) away by the quality of The Treehouse's entry this year, which demonstrated, on many levels, just how far the school has come in four years.

With far more autonomy than the majority of schools in this country, we are free to explore different teaching methods and strategies, evaluating and developing our practice as we go. The Treehouse's Peake Versus Vader film: **built on the children's interests** (Tim Peake/Star Wars); **demonstrated that we have high expectations** (children of all ages delivered their part really well); **gave children responsibility and the support they need to do a good job** (Tess had overall responsibility for the casting, costumes, filming, editing, sound, captions, t-shirt design/orders); **provided the time needed to do a good job** (we started to think about the film in the autumn after Tess and Jo visited Bicester film festival). It's not really rocket science is it?

Dates for Your Diaries

Mon 14th March	Dance practise at The Scout Hall. Please collect your child from The Treehouse. 7.00 pm Trustees' AGM at The Treehouse. All welcome.
Tues 15th March	8.45 am Treehouse Trading. 10.30 – 11.45 pm Judo Happy Birthday Gramp, 80 today! Please bring your bikes or scooters to school for a farm play in the afternoon. Home drop off, a little later than usual – please let us know if this is not convenient.
Weds 16th Mar	9 – 10 am Dance Festival Rehearsal
Fri 18th March	Friday Forest at The Holies. Ciara joining us. Home drop off.
Sat 19th March	Last day of the winter! 8.30 pm Earth Hour: Herb found an article asking us to switch our lights off for an hour to focus the World's attention on the threat posed by Climate Change. Visit wwwf.org.uk/earthhour16 for more details.
Sun 19th March	Spring begins!
Mon 21st March	Please bring your library books back, and return Georgina's chocolate quiz sheet.
Weds 23rd March	Easter Egg Hunt and Easter holidays begin.

Please note: the spring term ends on Wednesday 23rd March.



Going for Gold!

Keeping you in the Loop - If a Job's Worth Doing, it's Worth Doing Well!

Some time ago, we created the 'tare' at The Treehouse, as a way of describing the pace and quality of learning the children should aim for. Drawing on Aesop's well-known fable, the hare and the tortoise, we noticed that some learners at The Treehouse were a bit like hares, racing around, getting nowhere fast, and achieving disappointing outcomes; whilst others were akin to the tortoise, plodding on, taking ages to get anywhere or complete anything! 'Tares' on the other hand, (a hybrid of the hare and tortoise), have the haste of the hare and the tenacity of the tortoise; they do things properly and well, a winning combination! Over time, and with repeated positive reinforcement and constant reminders, we have seen more and more children work hard and well, achieving excellent outcomes and in doing so, gaining a great sense of pride in themselves and their achievements.

Recently, we have taken this one step further with the older children, asking them to look for the 'tare cut', in other words, to think about the most efficient way to solve a problem, or complete a challenge or a chore.

Like anything we do at school, the strategies above will have far more impact if you can reinforce them at home. Look out for the occasions when your child is a 'tare' or takes a 'tare cut' praising them for it, and articulating what it is they have done that you have noticed.

Looking for something to do?



PICTURE SMARTIES - CAN YOU HELP? HM QUEEN'S 90TH LOGO NEEDED!

Cholsey is joining in with HM the Queen's official 90th Birthday celebrations on 11th June. Cholsey 1000 Plus are looking for a logo for the Cholsey Celebrations, and are sure the children of Cholsey can produce a super one!

So, a competition is now open to design a logo for the Queen's 90th Birthday celebrations, to use on all their publicity and hopefully re-produce on a special Birthday Cake.

The competition is open to all children attending Cholsey schools and closes on Thursday 24th March. Your entry needs your name, address and age, and can either be left at Cholsey School office or delivered to Clover Cottage, 5 Honey Lane, Cholsey. Come on picture smarties, you can do it! Cholsey 1000 Plus look forward to receiving your suggested logo!

New Houses:
Colour your domino dog for our competition/your homework.
Due in Monday.

Practically Smarties:
Make something to sell at Tuesday Trading next week.

All Gang members: Strengthen your number smart pathways - practise your tables with a pack of cards.

Learner Smarties: Prepare yourself for 'Rocket Science' - The Seeds Return!
At 04:26am on Tuesday 2nd March, Commander Scott Kelly of NASA and Russian cosmonauts Mikhail Kornienko and Sergey Volkov of Roscosmos landed safely back on Earth in Kazakhstan with our lettuce seeds. The seeds then travelled with Scott Kelly to NASA in Houston on a charter flight from Moscow, Russia and returned to the UK on Thursday. The scientists are now getting ready to pack them up so they can be sent to us with our Rocket Science experiment pack in April!



This week, a golden mention to The Gang, and Jo, for our stunning 'Peake Vs Vader' film premiered at Wallingford Children's Film Festival. Thank you Sally and Paul Eccleston too, for organising a bigger than ever Film Festival raising a grand total of £722.00 for The Treehouse. Who would believe that so many interesting creatures would fit inside such a small bag?! Thank you Michael, Edith, Geoff, J.C., and Kelsey for an enjoyable and informative 'Really Wild Day'.