

THE TREEHOUSE SCHOOL UPDATE

Issue 149
May 2016



The Treehouse School

Herb enjoys his pudding in the hole he created at Shotover.



Never, Never, Never Give Up!

Following several requests, and a persuasive letter written by Alex and Mags which was delivered by hand, The Bodleian Library in Oxford have agreed to allow The Gang to visit! The purpose of our visit is to view an original map of Cholsey, which was created in 1695! The children are well below the minimum age the Bodleian permits to enter the library and access the collections, so we are thrilled that they have agreed to bend the rules on this occasion. Well done Alex and Mags for your hard work on this

**Treehouse Sports' Evening
Friday 27th May at The Scout Hall
5.30 - 7.00 pm
All Welcome!**

Dear Alex, Freya, Mags and Tess,
I just wanted to send a quick note to you all to let you know how much I enjoyed the Food for Thought event today and how impressed I was at how you conducted yourselves - taking orders, serving food and chatting with the customers with real aplomb. Everyone I spoke to was extremely impressed and thoroughly enjoyed themselves. You were terrific ambassadors for the school and I felt proud of you all. Well done!
Mitch.

Roots for the Future

It doesn't seem that long ago that we were waving off the first six founders of The Treehouse does it? Where does the time go?

Last week, as I watched the current year sixes conversing confidently with a room full of adults, many of whom were strangers, at the Food for Thought lunch, I had to remind myself that they were only ten and eleven years old!

The day after they set off on a 10K cycle ride, following the route the runners take, on and off-road, with some very badly behaved motorists to contend with, and some challenging decisions to make.

Meanwhile, in school, they work industriously and with a great deal of autonomy on projects that interest them, as well as supporting the younger children, as they prepare for a final exhibition of their work at the end of term. Awesome.

In contrast, all over the country last week, children were being tested to see what they had retained after months, and in some cases, years of coaching and studying. Food for thought?

Dates For Your Diaries

Mon 16 th May	11.00 am Shirley Skeat's visiting to help Edith with a sewing project.
	Athletics and cycle races – please bring your bike and helmet to school.
Tues 17 th May	8.45 am Treehouse Trading.
	2.00 pm Judith visiting to help Alex with his woodwork project.
Weds 18 th May	Happy Birthday Herb! 9 Today. Newbury Wolf Sanctuary visit. Bring some pocket money to spend in the shop if you like. Home drop off.
Fri 20 th May	The Patch – Houses, please bring your bikes and helmets. Trees will be driven to The Patch on this occasion. Home drop off. Food Revolution Day!
Sun 22 nd May	4.30 am Dawn chorus walk. River walk starts at The Morning Star, woodland walk starts at The Forty.
Mon 23 rd May	Athletics and cycle races in the park. 2.45 pm – Library visit. Please bring your library books back to school. Children to be collected from the park please.

The very well organised and supported Cycle Sale was a tremendous success raising £1800.00 for The Treehouse. Top teamwork strikes again!



Going for Gold!

Keeping you in the Loop - Project Based Learning at The Treehouse

As you may have already gathered, The Houses are currently working on a 'Major-Project' of their choice, which will be exhibited at The Treehouse on **Wednesday 6th July, from 10 - 11.00 am and 2.00 - 3.00 pm.** The Trees will also be displaying some of the outcomes of their child-initiated learning too. Please make a note of these dates in your diary and invite anybody along who you think may be interested.

The exhibition will enable the children to develop and refine many of the skills that we believe to be important at the Treehouse, such as: taking responsibility for their learning; reading for information; planning and evaluating their outcomes; meeting deadlines (all work to be completed by Thursday 30th June); presenting their learning in a variety of formats and talking about it to different people.

We would welcome your involvement in this project, as always, supporting your child in any of the following ways: taking them on a trip to enhance their understanding of their chosen area (**Monday 6th June** might be a good day to do this); reading and talking about the project and how it is progressing with them at home. We would urge you all to work alongside your child, on the project at home, and are sure that both you and your child will gain something from this. Shaz and I will happily talk you through ways in which you could be involved. However, please don't be tempted to take over or do things for the children.

Looking for something to do?



Nature and Word Smarties

On the Internet, search for the Wolf Sanctuary in Beenham, Newbury, and find out how many wolves they have. What are their names? Which is your favourite? Why? Start to create a 'wolf' mind map including any questions that you would like answered when we visit on Wednesday. Your research could be added to the '31 Days in May' reading record.

New Houses

Please read through your Learning Log thoroughly, with an adult or older sibling, responding to the comments. You may decide to add an entry about something you do over the weekend too.

BE ORGANISED!

Read the Update and make a note of any relevant dates in your diary every weekend.

Word Smarties

Search through the Update to see if you can find any missing capital letters!

A Nature/Self Smart Idea...

Will has planted some vegetables in his patch at home. Why not take a leaf out of his book and start your own vegetable plot. He is thinking about selling his produce at Tuesday Trading...

Tuesday Trading this week...what could you sell?

Bake-Off

Get ahead of the game and start trying out some recipes for the Bake-Off. Competition is sure to be tough this year...

Number Smarties

What's the difference in mm between the circumference of the largest and smallest thumb in your family?

This week, a special mention to Year Six for: waiting on guests at the Food for Thought Lunch so attentively; completing the 10K cycle challenge competently and confidently and to Alex and Mags for persuading The Bodleian Library to let us visit! Also to Edith for completing a chapter book, in just under 2 weeks!