

THE TREEHOUSE SCHOOL UPDATE

Issue 152
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The Treehouse School

The River Thames photographed by Harry



Leg-It for The Treehouse - 2016

On Sunday (5th June), we hope as many of you as possible will be taking part in this year's Leg-it Challenge. To celebrate the Queen's birthday, you could aim to raise £90...or £900 if you are really going for it! Perhaps you might dress yourself or your bike/scooter/canoe royally!

If you have taken part in the challenge before you will know what great fun it is. The Leg It Challenge has become one of our big annual fundraisers and this year we would like it to be better than ever; our goal is to raise £8,000 for the school so please spread the word!

As in previous years, the Challenge will start at the Head of the River pub in Oxford at 10.00 am, and finish with a cream tea at The Treehouse. A celebratory meal will take place on the evening on Friday 10th June at the Scout Hall. If you are unable to take part this year, perhaps you could sponsor the rest of us via our website.

Thank you Team Endean, for cleaning the Treehouse for us, when Cheryl was unwell.

Following a recent visit to Cholsey Library, Co-ordinator Amanda wrote:

'Just to say what a wonderful bunch you and your Gang are. You and Shaz are doing the most amazing job. Thank goodness for people like you offering an amazing and unique education.'

Change is as Good as a Rest!

Wherever you are, and whatever you are up to this half term, I hope that you are enjoying a break from your usual routine. There is no doubt that the combination of our busy lives coupled with the demands of The Treehouse, can be exhausting for us all. I would strongly recommend some time outdoors, enjoying the beautiful spring sights, sounds and scents if you get a chance. You never know, you might even spot a kingfisher - like the beauty below photographed by Roger Wyatt last week.



Dates For Your Diaries

Sun 5 th June	10.00 am – Leg-It Challenge! Start at The Head of the River pub in Oxford.
Mon 6 th June	INSET/Rest Day.
Tues 7 th June	8.45 – 9.15 am -Treehouse Trading
Weds 8 th June	9.00 am – Judith visiting to help Alex with his woodwork project.
	2.00 pm – Visit to the Day Centre to find out more about the history of the village.
Fri 27 th May	1.30 pm – Treehouse visit The Bodleian to view an ancient map.
	Friday Forest at the Millennium Woods with new children joining us. Please collect your child from the woods.
	Leg-It Celebration Evening 6 – 8 pm at The Scout Hall.
Sat 28 th May	Party in the Park - Shaz's sister Becky, selling clothing with some of the proceeds going to The Treehouse.

What an enjoyable Sports' Night; thank you Shaz for organizing the evening, and to you all for supporting this event.



Half Term: Monday 30th May to Tuesday 7th June.



Going for Gold!

Keeping you in the Loop - Mystery Story Writing Competition 2016

Background

On the weekend of 9th - 11th September 2016, Cholsey 1000 Plus and Wallingford Museum are planning to hold 3 days of events and activities to celebrate Agatha Christie's life at Winterbrook, where she wrote most of her works. As part of the Agatha Christie Weekend, a Children's Story writing competition on the theme of: **A Mystery in Cholsey / A Mystery in Wallingford, has been planned.** It is hoped that local children will participate.

The Competition

The competition is open to all Cholsey and Wallingford children in two age groups: school years 3 to 4, and school years 5 to 6. Stories should be up to a maximum of 500 Words. Children are encouraged to make reference to the Radio 2 '500 Words' competition website. Illustrations may be included but will not be part of the judging. **Entries must be received by Friday 15th July, and should be posted to Sue Jeffs, at 8 Pound Lane, Cholsey.**

Judging

A local author will judge the entries over the Summer break, with the entries being displayed in both Cholsey and Wallingford over the Agatha Christie weekend. There will be one winner in each age category.

It would be great if as many of the Houses as possible could enter the competition. Perhaps you could write a mystery story based on the findings from our Forty Project. Apparently, Tom the ghost inhabits number 12!

Looking for something to do?



Freya's fantastic Stone Age 'micro-den'.



Don't miss Spring Watch...featuring golden eagles and their chicks.

Learner Smarties

After half term, we will be visiting The Bodleian Library in Oxford to see a very old map of Cholsey. Over the half term, why not walk around The Forty, looking carefully at the houses. Be a detective, taking photographs of any houses that you think we may see on the map of Cholsey created in 1695. Can you find out more about them?

Calling Den Makers Everywhere!

'The Den Book', containing photographs of The Gang, was published in May. The book was written by Fiona Danks and Jo Schofield who aim to reconnect children with the outdoor world by encouraging active free play. This book is intended as a starting point, to inspire children everywhere to go outside and make wonderful dens, leading them into imaginary worlds and bringing them closer to nature. Packed with ideas and fully illustrated with colour photographs, there are ideas for woodland hideaways, garden dens under the washing line or outdoor furniture, shelters created from recycled materials such as a cardboard box castle and a bubble wrap space capsule, and even miniature dens for toys or imaginary little people (see Freya's fab micro-den above). Following its publication, Fiona and Jo are running a den building competition through their website (www.goingwild.net). Families can make and photograph their dens and send them to the website; the best and most inspiring creations will win a copy of the book.

This week, a special mention to Freya for suggesting the winning name for Cholsey's Children's Centre. The 'Happy Hub' is now up and running in the village.