

THE TREEHOUSE SCHOOL UPDATE

Issue 154
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The Treehouse School

Spring Watch at The Treehouse



'Window onto a Better World...'

A first for The Treehouse this week, when twenty or so teachers, headteachers and advisors visited, on Thursday evening just at the heavens opened! Those helping, rallied around to make sure that as far as possible it was 'business as usual', and we enjoyed a really positive couple of hours together. Afterwards, an advisor wrote:

'I was one of the privileged participants at the Early Education gathering last night. Thank you so much for your warm welcome and the care with which you had organised our time with you. I can see it's a natural extension of how you do everything at the Treehouse. I confess to not having heard of you before, despite having lived and taught in Watlington for many years. I came away last night inspired by your vision and what you are achieving. Thank you for a window onto a better world for children and communities.'

Reflections after The Leg-It Celebratory Evening

Hi Lee and Shaz,
What a lovely, friendly family evening tonight and thank you for asking me to present the certificates. You two are to be congratulated on your results with the children. Every child who came for a drink asked very politely for it and also said thank you afterwards, and most of them also had a conversation. A lovely atmosphere. It was also good to have a conversation with Finn and Dylan too, who have certainly grown up so much since Friday Forest sessions. I am sure they will fit in so well when they join the Treehouse Gang in September. Gilly

Treehouse Exhibition of the Children's Work

We would like to invite you all to an exhibition of the children's work, which takes place on **Wednesday 6th July** from **10.00 - 11.00 am** and again from **2.00 - 3.00 pm** at The Treehouse. Please invite your friends and relatives along too.

Does anybody have any **strong cardboard** or **free-standing table top display boards** that The Gang could display their work on at our exhibition please?

Dates For Your Diaries

Sun 19 th June	Father's Day.
Mon 20 th June	Robsons return from their holidays.
	9 - 10.00 am Judith helping Alex.
	Pm: Cricket; please collect your child from the Park.
	1 - 2 pm Year Six are visiting Ilges Lane.
	1.30 pm PE: Cricket in the park.
	2.45 - 3.15 pm - Visit to Cholsey Library.
Tues 21 st June	First day of summer!
	8.45 - 9.15 am Treehouse Trading
	12.30 - 2.30 pm - Prospective parents visiting The Treehouse.
	2.30 - 3.15 pm - Houses visiting Lionel Baldwin to find out more about the history of The Forty. Please can the Houses walk home from The Forty?
Weds 22 nd June	Happy Birthday Jess - 7 today.
	Tess visiting Langtree School for the day.
Thurs 23 rd June	Mags visiting D'Overbroeks.
	Tess visiting Langtree.
	2 - 3.15 pm 'Classical Music Off' at The Scout Hall
Fri 24 th June	Friday Forest - venue tbc.
Sat 25 th June	10 - 12 pm: Village Fabric Workshop.
Sun 26 th June	Wallingford Cycle Festival.

Please come and join us for an afternoon of Classical Music on Thursday from 2.00 - 3.15 pm in the Scout Hall.



Going for Gold!

Keeping you in the Loop - Supporting your child with their Mathematics

Most, if not all of the mathematics we do as adults, has a purpose. Those of us who enjoy cooking and baking are often required to measure, double or adjust quantities. In the work place, many of you will be required to do different calculations, throughout the day, and if you're self-employed, just keeping your books up together requires some complex mathematical calculations. In addition, all of us estimate and calculate on a fairly regular basis - how long will it take to...how much will it cost to...how many will I need to...how much do I need to...

Just like any other area of learning, we believe that it is important to give children purposeful contexts for the mathematics challenges that we set them, as well as giving them opportunities to practise and refine their mental maths skills, and range of mathematical strategies. Last week, The Trees made elderflower cordial which required some counting and accurate measuring, as well of course as some reading and practical skills. During our 'Free Choice Friday' reading session we found out (from a book published in America) that rabbit's ears are four inches long and that rabbits can jump up to 32 inches. Some conversions were required, which led to a discussion about how long our ears are, and how high we can jump. Incidentally, some of the children then remembered that Austyn, our 8 year old Kenya visitor, could jump 145 cm, which was his height!

One of the ways in which you can support your child with their maths, is to draw attention to any mathematics that you do (e.g. It's 8.21 am, I want to get the Update finished by 9.00 am, so I have just over half an hour), as you do it, as well as looking out for opportunities for them (why don't we see how high/far you can jump...?).

Looking for something to do?

Classical Music Competition

On Thursday 23rd June, a panel of judges will be visiting The Treehouse/Scout Hall to hear each family's classical music choice. Children: please prepare a one minute persuasive argument aiming to convince the judges to vote for your track. Family members and friends of the school are most welcome to join us from 2 - 3.15 pm for our Classical Music Competition!

Number Smart Challenge

Can you make 27 using all four of the following numbers, and any of the four operations (+ - x ÷)?
5 4 9 7 7

Self-Smarties

How about planning ahead... Prepare something at the weekend to sell at Treehouse Trading on Tuesday.

Wallingford Cycle Festival Sunday 26th June

Are you planning to take part? Take a look at the website (www.wallingfordfestivalofcycling.co.uk) to see which races you are eligible for.

The deadline for our Major Exhibition is getting closer...why not work on your project at home this weekend?

Learner and Nature Smarties

Following our visit to Basildon Park, how about taking your family on a nature walk, pointing out the any of the trees or plants that National Trust Ranger Ben identified during our wildlife walk? Can you find a sweet chestnut tree, a fox glove, a coppiced hazel, a speckled wood butterfly?

Are all butterflies symmetrical?



This week a special mention to Shaz, her sister Becky, and niece Amy, who raised an amazing £600.00 for The Treehouse selling beautiful clothing and face painting at the 'Picnic in the Park' last weekend. What a successful day, thank you all.