

# THE TREEHOUSE SCHOOL UPDATE

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The Treehouse School

## Treehouse Champion High Jumper!



## Right on our Doorstep...

The Treehouse School is currently exploring The Forty and its history with The Eastender.

Recently, we visited Brentford House, as we got an invitation when we sent round a questionnaire. It was very interesting to hear about Tom the Ghost, whom, in theory, is Lionel Baldwin's grandfather. The house's frame was built from old ships timbers from boats that sailed the River Thames. Having an old house can be dangerous though. Eight years ago, Hilary (owner of the house) had her grandson, Oscar, staying there when the ceiling fell on him. The biggest piece of plaster missed him by inches. Brentford house may have once been a cowshed. The people who were reinforcing the floor found a cow carcass under it.

By Magnus

(Look out for the rest of Mag's report in the Summer Edition of The Forty Magazine).

Dear Both,

The concert today was a real joy and I felt lucky to experience it and proud of the children who confidently 'sold' their classical music choices to us. Such a rich diversity of music for us to listen to. From my personal perspective the pieces ranged from some I didn't know at all to some which took me back to music memories from my own childhood. And the icing on the cake was watching the spellbound faces of the children during the performance by Lisa and Rob. Magic! Thank you to everyone, Alison.

## Highly Recommended...

After another action packed week, and the country in a state of shock, The Patch was definitely the place to be on Friday.

Before we left, there was just time for some discussion and a Learning Log entry; Tess wrote: 'Well what can I say? The country is confused, David Cameron is no longer Prime Minister and, the pound is dropping in Europe. 48% wanted to stay In, 52% wanted to Go. What will the UK's next move be?' A good question.

Politics put to one side, we set off for a long overdue visit to one of our favourite Forest School locations, The Patch. It was time to see if anyone could jump as high as a rabbit! Edith had discovered from her research that rabbits can jump up to a metre. Ollie nailed it, and we all forgot what was happening in the rest of the world as we enjoyed a little paradise, right on our doorstep!

## Dates for Your Diaries

Sun 26 <sup>th</sup> June	<b>Wallingford Cycle Festival.</b>
Mon 27 <sup>th</sup> June	<b>Happy 12<sup>th</sup> Birthday Paige!</b>
	<b>10.00 – 11.00 am Judith helping Alex with a woodwork project.</b>
	<b>Pm: Cricket, please collect your child from the park/allow them to walk home.</b>
Tues 28 <sup>th</sup> June	<b>8.45 – 9.15 am Tuesday Trading.</b>
Thurs 30 <sup>th</sup> June	<b>Deadline for all major exhibition work!</b>
	<b>9.30 – 11.30 am Tess visiting Langtree.</b>
Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> July	<b>7.00 am – 7.40 am 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the beginning of the Battle of the Somme. Commemorative event at the Pavilion. All welcome. Gang members: Please let Lee know if you are attending.</b>
Sun 3 <sup>rd</sup> July	<b>Alex's 11<sup>th</sup> Birthday.</b>
	<b>11.00 am Centenary Service of Remembrance at The Pavilion.</b>

## Please Note:

You are very welcome to join us at The pavilion on Friday at 7am, to remember all those who died in the The Battle of The Somme, which took place 100 years ago. Afterwards, we will serve breakfast. Please let Lee know how many members of your family would like to stay for breakfast. As it's an early start, we will finish school at 1.30 pm. Children should be collected from The Old Bakehouse.

**Wallingford Festival of Cycling tomorrow...lots to see and do.**



# Going for Gold!

## Keeping you in the Loop - The Project Approach to Learning

The Project approach that has evolved at The Treehouse, offers us a way to develop in-depth thinking while engaging the minds of children. Our job is to take a strong guidance role in the process while children study topics of their choice with purpose and flexibility. Project work presents many opportunities for children's ideas to be valued, their creativity to be encouraged, their interests to be nurtured, and for their learning needs to be met.

Projects emerge from children's interests. Rather than offering immediate answers to the questions children ask, our role is to facilitate learning as we guide children towards a deeper understanding as they discover the answers themselves through various lines of enquiry. We aim to offer children as many first hand experiences as possible. Children also consult secondary sources of information such as books, the internet, and you at home.

The projects that the children are currently working on, will be exhibited on Wednesday July 6<sup>th</sup> at The Treehouse from 10 - 11 am and 2.00 - 3.00 pm. We hope that you will be able to spare an hour or so to come along and see what the children have achieved. Please do invited friends, relatives and anybody else who may be interested in our work and approach.

## Looking for something to do?

### Nature and Learner Smarties

**Red or Blue?** We were all bursting to know whether the red or blue packet contained the space seeds and we now know that before Tim went to space, he flipped a coin to decide which pack would contain the space seeds and recorded it on video. Yesterday we discovered that it was the **blue** seeds that went into space. Owen, who conducted the experiment for The Treehouse, said "This reflects what most of you thought."

Over 5,400 participants entered their data which has now been sent off for analysis. We will hear the results of the experiment in the Autumn when we will receive a final report. I wonder what it will say?

In the meantime, Owen has set up his own experiment, investigating the effects of temperature on seed germination. Why not think of a question that you would like to find the answer to and set up your own experiment at home?



### Elderflower Cake

**Why not try this delicious cake which includes elderflowers?**

Makes 2 loaf tin size cakes.

Grate 4 large carrots mix with 4 large free range eggs, 300g Self raising whole meal flour, 150ml oil, 150g raisins 150g chopped dates, 50g raw brown sugar, coarse grated rind and juice of a whole lemon, 1/2 cup of orange juice, 2 teaspoons of cinnamon and the flowers from ten heads of elderflower (stripped from the flowerheads). Cook at gas mark 5 for 50 minutes to an hour or until cake skewer comes out clean.

### Agatha Christie Story-writing Competition!

On the weekend of 9<sup>th</sup> - 11<sup>th</sup> September 2016, there will be a full 3 days of fun community 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, Cholsey 100 Plus are holding a Children's Story-writing Competition on the theme of: **A Mystery in Cholsey / A Mystery in Wallingford**. The competition is open to all Cholsey children and all Wallingford children in two age groups: school years 3-4, and school years 5-6. Stories should be up to a maximum of 500 Words. Illustrations may be included but will not be part of the judging. Entries must be received by Friday 29<sup>th</sup> July, and should be sent to: [suej@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:suej@hotmail.co.uk), or by post to: Children's Story Competition, 8 Pound Lane, Cholsey.

### Learner Smarties

**What would you like to learn about The Battle of the Somme? List your questions and do some research to find the answers.**

**Well done Ollie, Eddie and Grace for winning this year's Classical Music Competition! You**