

THE TREEHOUSE SCHOOL UPDATE

Issue 24
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The Treehouse School

Website: www.thetreehouseschool.org.uk
Blog: www.newschoolproject.wordpress.com



Going for Gold

This week, thanks to Cassie, the Treehouse became the proud owners of a **golden cushion**, to be used to celebrate children's achievements or '**golden moments**'. As well as academic achievement, like for example the amazing progress that Samuel has made with his handwriting, we are also keen to acknowledge children's progress in other areas.

So along with Samuel, a number of children (and some adults too!) also got the chance to sit on the golden cushion. Examples include: Tess for eating a portion of raw carrots for the first time; and Harry for doing a job that he *really* didn't want to do (clean out the guinea pigs!).

As well as making the children feel proud of themselves, focusing on individual's strengths and achievements in this way also helps to build their confidence, which in turn raises their self-esteem. These areas are both essential requirements for successful learning and future happiness...who would have thought that a cushion could be so vital! Maybe I should take it along to Dragon's Den?!

Red Nose Day

Our '**Five Penny Fete**' will take place on **Friday 15th March** from **2.00 pm** at **The Scout Hall**. The children might like to wear something **red** to school on Friday as well as a **red nose** if they have one. Friends, younger children and family members are most welcome to join us. I am collecting photographs of adults taken when they were a baby/toddler for a '**Guess Who?**' competition. If you have one that you would be prepared to lend me, please send it in.

Dates for your Diary

Hope you can make it to '**The Friends of The Treehouse Meeting**' next **Monday (18th March)** and the following evening when (our heroine) Sue Palmer will be giving a talk at Icknield Community College, Watlington. To book a free place, please contact Helen Rints Tel: 07504958334 or via e-mail: helen.rints@oxfordshire.gov.uk

The Treehouse Leg-It Challenge

After last year's successful "Leg-it" Event the challenge is back! If you did it last year you will know what great fun it was and how much it is still fondly remembered by the children who took part. If you couldn't do it last year please join us this year.

The Leg-it will take place on Saturday 13th April starting at 10am. If you would like to get there early coffee/hot choc will be available to purchase in the Head of The River pub before we start. The challenge involves participants making their way from Oxford to Cholsey, using a route of their choice, via any sustainable means of transport - biking, walking, canoeing, hitching, scooting or any other means and being sponsored in order to complete the challenge!

This event is open to anyone who is up for a challenge, using any means of sustainable transport and all participants will receive a medal and certificate in recognition of their achievement. In the evening there will be meal at the Red Lion from 7pm should you wish to sit with your fellow participants and regain some calories! For more information, please see Emma.

We have just received a cheque for £196.73 from Easy Fundraising. Huge thanks to those of you who support us through using this facility.

Recycle and Raise Funds for The Treehouse

Ali Fisher, a good 'Friend of The Treehouse' has kindly found some new ways to raise funds for us.

Please look out any **unwanted cds, dvds, blue rays, computer type games and books**. We can also obtain money from the **collection of aluminium and steel cans/tins**. Please wash them, remove the labels and bring them in to The Treehouse.

If you are able to, please arrange collection points at work and ask your friends and family members if they could also collect for us.



Going for Gold!

The children at The Treehouse practice basic and essential skills in English and Mathematics daily during our 'going for gold' session. Using the Olympic competitors as role models, they have come to understand that you have to work hard to achieve success, even if you don't always feel like doing it! Whilst we have never believed in primary aged children having set homework, I thought it may be helpful to share areas that the children could practice at home with a parent if the opportunity arises.

Trees

Please continue to support your child with their reading...they are flying! Not just their reading book, please just enjoy any books together.

Letter formation: The Trees now have handwriting books so that they can practice the letters rehearsed at school

Number bond challenge: which two numbers make ten? Using objects e.g. counters, help your child to practice their number bonds.

Houses

Practice subtracting a (2 digit) number from 100, e.g. $100 - 20 =$, $100 - 15 =$
 $100 - 75 =$

Encourage your child to do 3 lines of handwriting practice daily.

Ask your child to teach you the dice game (2 dice required) to practice their tables.

Read to your child on a regular basis, asking them to listen out for the best words that the author has used.

Other Ideas

- Find out five facts about golden eagles.
- Prepare something for the Red Nose Day Fundraiser e.g. How many sweets/toys in a jar? Guess the name of ????? Lucky dip (with unwanted toys?)
- Practice skipping with your child - how many skips can they do in a minute?
- Encourage your child to conserve energy e.g. by turning off lights when rooms are not in use, turning off the tap when cleaning teeth;
- Celebrate an active rather than passive activity e.g. when your child chooses to play in the garden rather than using the computer;
- Praise your child for putting things back in the right place (they are brilliant at it now at school)

To Celebrate...

The Houses defeated the parents in our Countdown Quiz this week with a final score of 6 - 5 to the children. We look forward to a homemade celebratory pudding on Monday!