

THE TREEHOUSE SCHOOL UPDATE

Issue 28
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The Treehouse School

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



Phew!

Our Annual Leg-It Challenge was a tremendous success thanks to you all. Trustee Eve Evans summed up the event:

'Another huge success- not that we expected anything less from you and your team of supporters! Even the weather was kind.'

As well as raising some much needed funds for the school, the Challenge also encourages those taking part to think about their carbon footprint, one of the school's key aims. Last but not least, it is such a boost for the children's confidence and self-esteem - imagine being able to walk or cycle 18 miles - a tremendous achievement.

We would very much appreciate it if all sponsor money could be sent in to school by the end of the month so that we can circulate a final total.

Abel and Cole Fruit and Veg Bags

Our thanks to those of you taking part in this scheme which raises just under £20.00 per week for the school. Please bring your brown bags back and hang them in the cloakroom so that we can return them to Abel and Cole on a weekly basis.

Nature Notes

The observant amongst you will have noticed that a new whiteboard has been attached to the back door for children and adults to jot down any interesting local nature sightings. This week we have enjoyed watching two red-legged partridges feeding in the garden.

Nice To See You, To See You Nice!

Whilst it's always lovely to have a break, it's also great to get back to school and into the swing of things again.

This week, we were delighted that the children settled back into school-life so well and that we were immediately able to build on what we had established in previous terms.

Our main challenge now is to find a topic or theme that captures the children's imagination in the same way that our Skymaster story did. In all my years of teaching, I have rarely seen children so animated and self-motivated. Fingers crossed that our transformation into an Environmental Centre does the trick.

DIY SOS!!

This term we would like to build a greenhouse from plastic bottles, make a compost heap, build some herb beds and create some different habitats to encourage a wider variety of wildlife into the garden. If you, or anyone you know, has some spare time, and would like to help us with one of these projects, we would love to hear from you.

'Summer' PE Kit

Thank you all for returning the children's waterproofs and PE kit this week. Now that the weather is warmer please could you also send a pair of shorts, t-shirt and sun hat for the children to wear and ensure that they have a pair of trainers in school for all PE sessions.

Wow! We have been promised **£500.00** from the Free Masons to spend on play equipment for the back garden. How lucky are we....



Going for Gold!

Over the next term, we are going to become an 'environmental centre' which will give us the opportunity to learn more about our local area and how we can take care of it. Last week the children spent some time learning how electricity is created (from oil, gas, coal, rubbish, sun and water) and making electrical circuits. This will be developed this week as they learn how to make switches and think about how to conserve electricity. We are going to have a whole day at school without electricity on Thursday, why not try it at home too! Following this, it is likely that we will move on to looking at rubbish, something that the children have become very concerned about. If you have any good ideas or resources that you think would support or develop this theme, please do let us know.

Trees

Please help your child to practice forming letters in the 'ladder' family (up and down) correctly - b, h, k, l, t,

Number bonds to ten - try using playing cards to practice (e.g. $9 + 1$, $7 + 3$ etc.)

Reading...what progress! Thank you all for working so hard to support your child with their reading. Please keep up the good work.

Houses

Give your child a number e.g. 40 and ask them to identify its multiples (the numbers in the times tables that will go into it without leaving a remainder) so for 40 it would be 2, 4, 5 and 10.

Please encourage your child to practice their times tables at home, revisiting those previously learned as well as the ones that they are on now.

Other Ideas

- Identify how many ways you use electricity in your home e.g. washing machine. Can you find one for each letter of the alphabet?
- Locate your electricity meter and record how much electricity your family use in a day/week/month.
- Design and make a bag to take shopping with you.
- Ask the children to tell you what they like/dislike find puzzling and any patterns that they have spotted in our new story, The Iron Man.
- Go for a walk with some binoculars and look out for something interesting to write up on our nature notes board.
- Go cycling with your child, practice how to ride safely on a road.

To Celebrate...

Each child now has a golden folder to record their achievements. They are situated in the hall by the front door. Please do look at them with your child on a regular basis.