

# THE TREEHOUSE SCHOOL UPDATE

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The Treehouse School

Website: [www.thetreehouseschool.org.uk](http://www.thetreehouseschool.org.uk)  
Blog: [www.newschoolproject.wordpress.com](http://www.newschoolproject.wordpress.com)



## **Jamie Oliver, Eat Your Heart Out!**

As you can see from Edith's soup moustache, on Friday we all enjoyed our usual tasty and nutritious lunch in the woods. This week however, in recognition of Jamie Oliver's Food Revolution Day, the children were in charge of the catering arrangements. Seasonal vegetables formed the basis of the leek and potato soup that the youngest children cooked for us. This was accompanied by celery bread that Alice and Martha made, and for dessert we feasted on Freya and Gracie's cookies containing a variety of seeds and dried fruits. Delicious and nutritious! The only disappointment was that Jamie didn't pop in to join us but I suppose you can't have it all!

We are hoping that details of The Treehouse's adventures in the woods will feature in next week's issue of children's newspaper, First News.

## **Our Unsung Heroes and Heroines...**

Last week unexpectedly, I stumbled across a group of parents and Friends of the School beavering away on a variety of fund-raising and administrative tasks on behalf of the Treehouse. It prompted me to think about all of the hard work that goes on 'behind the scenes'. Examples include our mega cleaning team; our tremendous trustees; the efficient office team; the reliable washing team; the hard working catering team and those of you who help us with the maintenance of The Treehouse. Then there's Val who turns up every Thursday after school to assist us with a list of jobs that need doing just as we are starting to flag...and I could go on.

Whilst I realise that we are all driven by the desire to offer our children a high quality education on a shoe string, we would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge those who beaver away behind the scenes to keep this show on the road!

2 litre plastic drink bottles needed for the greenhouse that we are planning to start making over half term.

## **Classical Music on a Summer's Afternoon**

So far we have sold 17 tickets for our summer concert only 153 to go! Please spread the word and encourage your friends, neighbours and colleagues to support what promises to be a most enjoyable event.

Also, if anybody is willing to host a crèche for younger siblings on the date of the concert, please let me know.

## **Shake, Rattle and Roll!**

Artist Nick Garnett will be back at The Treehouse this Thursday creating some musical instruments from recycled materials. If you have anything that might be suitable 'knocking around' we would be most grateful.

## **INSET Day**

Just a reminder that this Friday, we will be closed. We look forward to seeing you all after half term on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June.

Thank you for the clothing for our Bags-2-School collection.



# Going for Gold!

Our final week before half term will comprise starting to transform the outdoor classroom into an information centre and creating some musical instruments from recycled materials. Each child will undertake some research into a bird, animal or plant which will form the basis of some writing and artwork that will be displayed in the classroom. On Tuesday afternoon, the children will watch *The Iron Man* at Jo Heydon's house so that they can compare the book with the film. Please collect your child from 10 The Forty at 3.15 pm.

The houses are going to have a bit of fun in maths and Lisa is going to introduce us to fractals on Monday (ask your child to explain what they are when they come home on Monday). The Trees will start to think about at 3 dimensional shapes.

In PE, we will continue with our skipping focus building up to a presentation for parents and members of the Day Centre which will take place after half term. Following a very successful tennis lesson last week, the children will visit Cholsey tennis courts on Wednesday (weather permitting). They will need their scooters.

Thank you for the feedback regarding children's manners at home. We will continue to work, on this area at school so that we are 'gold standard'.

## Trees

- Please continue to read with and to your child on a regular basis. The Trees are making tremendous progress with their reading and have gained a great deal of confidence in themselves.
- Number bonds to 10 and 20.

## Houses

- Handwriting practice on a regular basis.
- Times tables - revisiting those that they have already learned.
- Speaking slowly, clearly and with good eye contact to the listener.

## Other Ideas

- Look at your house and garden on Google Earth and then challenge your child to make a lego plan of your house and garden to scale.
- Do some research into African Land Snails - how long does it take for their eggs to hatch? What do they eat? How long do the snails live?
- Plant and grow some vegetable seeds at home.
- Try the worm experiment - mix some mustard powder with water and pour it onto a square of soil in your garden. Count how many worms come to the surface.
- Learning how to answer the front door and respond to visitors, deliveries etc.

## To Celebrate...

The children's developing interest in food and their cooking skills - they made some delicious soup, celery bread and seed cookies for Jamie's Food Revolution Day last week.