

THE TREEHOUSE SCHOOL UPDATE

Issue 33
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The Treehouse School

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



Forthcoming Dates for Your Diary

Monday 3rd June 10 am - 12.00 noon
Nature walk with Tony Rayner

Wednesday 5th June - am
Visit to local nursery, Green and Gorgeous

Friday 7th June - 3.15 pm
Skipping presentation for parents.

Saturday 8th June - 6.00 pm New Pavilion
Golf Society Race Night (funds being raised for
The Treehouse)

Monday 10th June
Recycled Musical Instrument Workshop with Nick

Tuesday 11th June - 10.30 - 12.00
Bookshop Band at The Treehouse

Friday 14th June
Friday Forest at Wittenham Clumps

Saturday 15th June 9.00 - 1.00 pm
Garden Maintenance Morning
(not suitable for children)

Sunday 16th June - Father's Day Cycle ride
postponed until the summer holidays.

Tuesday 18th June - All day
Visit to Withymead Nature Reserve, Goring.
£1.90 per child for the train fare please.

If You Go Down to The Woods Today...

Hopefully by now, most of you will have seen the article featuring The Treehouse in Children's newspaper, First News. As well as good publicity for the school, I really hope that the article might encourage readers to think a little more deeply about how we are educating children in this country.

The task of equipping children with the skills, qualities and knowledge that they will need for a happy, healthy and successful future should not be taken lightly, however I do believe that we are on the right track here at The Treehouse.

In a country with: an obesity crisis; six out of ten UK species in decline (front page First News); and some of the unhappiest young people in the developed world; in my opinion, parents, politicians and educationalists alike should be working in partnership to address and resolve some of these problems as a matter of urgency. I look forward to being contacted by Michael Gove for some advice!

Ready, Steady, Go...

Mitch has confirmed that the final total for the Leg It Challenge was a tremendous £2,874.81...Our thanks to all participants and sponsors.

Huge thanks also to 'Friend of The Treehouse', Victoria Glancy, who raised a further £376.03 for us when she ran a marathon recently. What a girl!

Classical Music on a Summer's Afternoon

So far we have sold 21 tickets for our summer concert only 149 to go! Tickets are available from The Treehouse, The Four Teas Café and Just Trading in Wallingford. Please spread the word...

Second Hand Sales

Donations of clothing and other saleable goods has resulted in a total of £274.81 raised on ebay. Our thanks to all involved.

Treehouse Greenhouse

Thanks to the Kennedy and Tavinor family, our greenhouse is coming on really well. We have calculated that we will need a further 35 six foot garden canes and 350 plastic 2 litre bottles to complete the project...so please drink up!

We have purchased some good quality second-hand play equipment for the garden which Alf and Fred will kindly be collecting for us from Lancashire on Wednesday. If you can help to unload the equipment on Wednesday evening (time tbc), please contact me.



Going for Gold!

Things are taking off in The Treehouse garden with the construction of a greenhouse from plastic bottles and the addition of some new play equipment for the children. Trying to get the balance right so that the garden is an oasis for the children, as well as for a range of wild and plant life, is quite a challenge however we are getting there. After half term, we will continue to work on the art work and writing required to complete the refurbishment of the outdoor classroom and also finish the greenhouse with the children's help.

Following our introduction to fractals, the houses will continue to look for patterns and relationships within and between shapes, numbers and in nature. This fascinating and highly challenging unit of work has led to a great deal of interesting discussions and the opportunity to learn how to find the area of a shape too. The Trees will continue to work on numbers using a new resource, numicon to enable them to see patterns and relationships visually.

In PE, our skipping unit will come to an end after the presentation to members of the Day Centre on Friday afternoon. Tennis will continue.

We will also be starting a new class story.

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

- Skipping - challenge your child to do a few more skips than they can currently do.
- Encourage your child to measure and record how much their sunflower has grown daily.
- Learning how to answer the front door, telephone and to speak to 'unfamiliar' adults appropriately e.g. shop assistants.
- Plan, shop and cook a lunch or evening meal together.
- Read First News and find three interesting articles to share with another member of the family. Encourage your child to complete some of the puzzles/competitions.

To Celebrate...

Alice, Gracie, Martha, Paige and Tess for fantastic concentration and pattern spotting in maths.