

THE TREEHOUSE SCHOOL UPDATE

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The Treehouse School

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



The AlfFred!

We have named the new play equipment, 'The AlfFred' in recognition of the time and hard work that our good friends Alf and Fred, put into collecting and rebuilding our fabulous climbing frame. What a top team!

Forthcoming Dates for Your Diary

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)

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

Less is More?

Whilst out walking recently, I came across a lady who had just moved back to the UK after living overseas for just over twenty years. During our conversation, I discovered that she had worked in several very poor African countries helping communities to set up sustainable agricultural projects so that nutritious food was available throughout the year. It became clear that she had thoroughly enjoyed living and working in communities where the people were happy, generous and supportive of each other, despite having very little, through good times and bad.

Later in the week, whilst analysing the results of our sunflower investigation which involved planting three seeds in varying strengths of soil, two of the children concluded that the reason the seed in the richest soil hadn't done so well was 'because it was too rich, a bit like some countries where they have too much and become a bit greedy'. They went on to explain that in their opinion, the sunflower in the regular soil was thriving 'because it was a bit like a poor country where the people may not have much but are happy anyway.'

Not the most scientific explanation but probably one of the most profound that I have ever heard from a child and certainly something for us all to think about.

Hot Stuff!

Many thanks to all those who supported our Indian take away night, and a special thanks to Cassie, Mitch and Emma Bearpark for creating such a mouth-watering range of dishes. A total of just over £200.00 was raised for the Treehouse....woo!

Green and Gorgeous

This oasis situated in Little Stoke is well worth a visit particularly for those interested in gardening and locally grown produce/flowers. As well as selling bouquets made to order, the shop sells flowers, fresh eggs, preserves and vegetables on Saturdays between 9.00 and 4.00 pm.

Any Old Rags...?

Thanks to your support, the most recent Bag-2-School collection raised £106.50. Please make a note of the next collection date on your calendar which takes place on September 23rd.



Going for Gold!

We start the week with a visit from sculptor Nick Garrett, who will be making some musical instruments from recycled materials. The music focus will continue throughout the week with a visit on Tuesday from 'The Book Shop Band'. The children will have a go at making their own instruments from a range of recycled materials and learn more about how sound travels.

In mathematics this week, The houses will continue to look for patterns and relationships within and between shapes and numbers. They will learn how to find the area and perimeter of a triangle and the features of equilateral, isosceles and right-angled triangles. This term during their 'Going for Gold' sessions, they are working on their times tables up to 5x in random order. The Trees will continue to work on numbers up to 20 using a new resource, numicon to enable them to see patterns and relationships visually. They are also thinking about the difference between odd and even numbers.

In English, we have started our new class story, 'Stig of The Dump' which we will use to help to develop the children's comprehension skills and to promote reading as an enjoyable and pleasurable activity. Writing opportunities will focus on starting sentences in a range of ways and using a wide range of interesting and relevant vocabulary.

In PE, the children will develop their skipping routine for our sports' night and continue to learn how to play Tennis. They will need their scooters and helmets on Wednesday.

Our new star target is to use time well and we are encouraging the children to make the most of every minute!

Trees

- Please continue to read with and to your child on a regular basis.
- Number bonds to 10 and 20.
- Spotting 2D shapes at home and when out and about (square, circle, triangle, rectangle, pentagon, hexagon)

Houses

- Handwriting practice on a regular basis.
- Help your child to learn their times tables up to 5x so that they know them instantly.
- Speaking slowly, clearly and with good eye contact.

Other Ideas

- Go for a walk and try to find/identify/measure a weed or wild flower for our on-going competition (the record is currently a red campion which measured 128 cm!)
- Count and record the number of fruit and vegetable portions you eat over the course of a week.
- Listen out for the cuckoo (been heard in Cholsey over the last week).
- I-player Spring Watch and write down three fascinating facts that you have learned.

Two things to Celebrate this week...

James for being awarded his purple belt in karate, and the amazing progress that all of the children at The Treehouse have made with their skipping (thank you Andrea).