

THE TREEHOUSE SCHOOL UPDATE

Issue 39
July 2013



The Treehouse School

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



What a Beauty!

Thank you all for the wonderful campfire tripod that I received for my birthday. We have already enjoyed a delicious chicken and chorizo hotpot (thank you Sue and Lucy for rising to the challenge!) It's a really lovely piece of kit that you are most welcome to borrow for family parties/get togethers.

Legoland Trip

Weather permitting, it is likely that the children will be able to spend some time in the Water Park at Legoland on Tuesday. Please ensure that your child is wearing sun screen, has a swimming costume, towel (per family) and sun hat with them. We will provide a packed lunch, drink and ice cream. Children may also bring up to £5.00 pocket money in a purse to spend on a souvenir. To make the most of the day, we would like the children to be at school by 8.30 am and will drop them off at home between 4.00 and 6.00 pm (weather, stamina and traffic dependent!)

Forthcoming Dates for Your Diary

Sunday 14th July - The Treehouse Summer Concert
3.30 pm - Cream Tea. 4.30 pm Concert commences. Please can the children wear something pretty/smart.

Tuesday 16th July - Legoland Trip

Friday 19th July - Final Friday Forest at The Old Bakehouse
We will be spending our final Forest School session at The Old Bakehouse with the younger children. **We would be grateful if you could provide some healthy/homemade finger food that can be shared at lunchtime.** Children should be collected from The Bakehouse at 3.00 pm please.

We Did It!

Well here it is, the last Update of our first year at The Treehouse. We made it...and what a year it has been!

Right at the start of this journey, a good friend gave me a card which said, 'Leap and the Net will Appear'; well it certainly did. I can honestly say that whilst I never doubted that we would open a school, Shaz and I didn't really know how on earth we would do it, let alone how we would keep it going. We needn't have worried.

United in our goal to provide our children with the education that they deserve, we (parents, Trustees, volunteers and Friends of The Treehouse) have done it. The Treehouse children are happy, motivated, engaged and thriving educationally. I very much hope that you all felt the same sense of pride and joy that I did as I watched the children receive their 'smart' awards yesterday. It really was the perfect end to a pretty much perfect year.

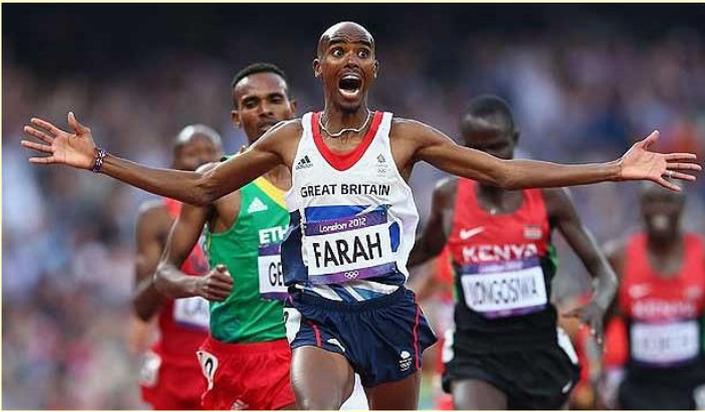
Summer Concert

Just a quick reminder that the children need to ready for a short rehearsal with Sue Ledger at 3.45 pm prompt tomorrow. They should meet Shaz at the entrance to Bridge House dressed in their smart clothes (having already eaten their scone!)

Please also bring picnic rugs, and as tomorrow promises to be another lovely day, sunhats and sun cream.

Green Fingers

The first Treehouse gardening session will take place on **Thursday 1st August**. Please e-mail Emma if you are planning to attend and can help (2.00 - 3.00 pm approx) and/or would like to join the picnic at 12.30 pm (weather permitting!)



Going for Gold!

Trees

- Please continue to read with and to your child on a regular basis. The school will be open most Thursday afternoons for our gardening session so your child needs to change their book, this is the perfect opportunity.
- Continue to look for any opportunities for the children to count, spot numbers/shapes in the environment and to practise their number bonds to 10 and 20.

Houses

- Help your child to learn their times tables up to 5x (or beyond if they are secure) so that they know them instantly.
- Read a novel with your child, making entries in their reading journal about what you like/dislike/any patterns you can spot and anything that puzzles you.

Other Holiday Ideas

- Create a holiday scrap book/diary to share with the other children at the start of the new term.
- See if you can tick off some of the National Trust's 50 Things to do before you are 11¾ <https://www.50things.org.uk>
- Create something for Cholsey Flower Show - Saturday 10th August. Schedules available from Cholsey Post Office and Ray Park's butchers.
- Provide regular opportunities for your child to help you to cook, and/or to follow a recipe, and/or plan and cook a meal from scratch.
- Go for regular bike rides encouraging your child to: change gears while cycling (as opposed to when static); use their brakes; keep a safe distance from the bike in front of them; and to check driveways for themselves.
- Walk along the river and see if you can spot something for every letter of the alphabet.
- See how many different wild grasses you can find and identify.
- See if you can find a wild flower or weed that is taller than 3.37 m (337 cm). Alex is currently the winner of this competition!
- Visit Withymead nature reserve in Goring (it is possible to cycle there).
- Visit <http://www.fairytalefarm.co.uk>
- Keep measuring and watering your sunflowers for our competition!

To Celebrate this week...

Gracie...for cooking a Victoria sponge independently.