

# 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)



September 2013: Shaz lights The Treehouse's First Birthday Cake, expertly made by Martha.

## Making Memories

Our new school year got off to a tremendous start with a day of celebrations at The Treehouse's First Birthday. Following a delicious birthday buffet, friends and relatives joined us for party games and chocolate cake in the afternoon, before the grand finale, when each child released a balloon, attached to which was their wish for the year.

As well as believing that all children should have a happy and successful primary education, we also believe that it should be memorable. We very much hope that The Treehouse Gang will look back on days like this with fondness and affection in the future.

## PE

This term we will continue to play rounders on a Monday afternoon with Andrea and look forward to starting swimming lessons on Tuesday afternoons later this month. Please ensure that your child's kit is in school.

In an effort to improve our communication with the outside world, the school telephone is now situated in the kitchen! If it rings while you are in there, we would be most grateful if you could answer it and take a message for us.

## Fruit Snack

We are really pleased that thanks to your generosity, the children are able to enjoy a wide range of fresh and dried fruit mid-morning on a daily basis. To avoid wastage, and to ensure that we have the quantity of fruit needed throughout the school week, this year, we have decided to ask two families to supply fruit on a given day. Kate Casey has kindly agreed to organise this on our behalf and will be in touch this week with more details.

## Forthcoming Dates for Your Diary

Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> September	Parent/Teacher Consultations
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> September	Cycling in the afternoon (can you help?) Please bring bikes.
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> September	Friday Forest at Lollingdon.
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> September	Chinese Day - Visitor Jane Lieu will tell us all about China
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> September	Bag 2School Collection

## Spit Spot!

It was lovely for the children to be able to return to a clean, tidy and well maintained school this week. Our thanks to the cleaning and gardening teams who worked so hard over the summer break to make sure that the school and garden were ready for the new school year. Thanks also to Paul Eccleston, Paul Kennedy, Barry Robson and Justin Rhodes for attending to all sorts of maintenance jobs that needed doing, to Lucy for stepping into the breach as and when required and to Val for rearranging our collection of books. Finally I should like to take this opportunity to thank Craig Simpson for continuing to clean our windows for us without payment.

## General Stall

Andrea, Eve and Jo continue to do a sterling job keeping the GS up and running. If you are able to help out on a Saturday morning, it would be very much appreciated. Eve has put a great deal of thought and hard work into creating systems that ensure that the stall runs really well. Please let Jo know if you are able to help out.



# Going for Gold!

## Keeping You in the Loop...

This year we will use Howard Gardener's Multiple Intelligences or 'Smart' areas as a reference point for much of the children's learning. Focusing on the areas that a child is good or 'smart' at (Body, Learner, Music, Nature, Number, People, Picture, Practically, Self, Word) raises their confidence and self-esteem, both of which are essential for successful learning.

### Trees

Following the long and busy summer holidays, the Trees need to get back into the habit of **reading** on a regular basis, as well as being read to of course. Encourage your child to use their sounds, the illustrations and the rest of the sentence if they get stuck on a word.

Whilst out and about, please spot opportunities for your child to do some everyday **Maths** - counting, number and shape spotting, weighing, measuring...

### Houses

The Houses also need to develop good **reading** habits. The more reading they do, the better their vocabulary, writing and spelling will be. Reading to your child will also help them to develop a wide range of skills and strategies as they watch an expert at work.

Finding opportunities for your child to do everyday **Maths** at home, for example, weighing ingredients, checking change, telling the time, etc. Always ask them to explain how they worked their answer out.

## How about...?

- Identifying some common native trees in your garden or whilst out for a walk. How many did you see? What did you use to help you? Think about what you would like to learn about trees and make a note of your ideas.
- Completing one of the National Trust's 50 things you should do before you are 11 and three quarters.
- Going for a closely supervised cycle ride on the road to develop your road safety and awareness skills.
- Measuring your sunflower. How much has it grown since you last measured it? What has changed since you last looked at it?

## To Celebrate...

Our first potato crop! Thank you Emma, we very much look forward to enjoying the potatoes at lunchtime this week.