

THE TREEHOUSE SCHOOL UPDATE

Issue 43
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The Treehouse School

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



Jane slices Moon Cake for us to try.

How Lucky Were We?

Never one to miss an opportunity, I was thrilled when a new 'Friend of The Treehouse' and local resident, Jane Liu offered to spend the day with us so that the children could learn more about her home country, China.

Jane went to a great deal of trouble to ensure that the children had a really interesting and informative day. As well as finding out what life would be like for a child living in a different country, our children sampled some delicious Chinese food, created some beautiful models of their zodiac sign, and learned more about the Chinese culture.

The day was a great success on so many levels. The Gang were exceptionally well behaved, attentive, appreciative and polite throughout Jane's visit. They learned more about a different culture from an authentic source, and how enjoyable it is to learn from an expert. Our deepest thanks to Jane for planning and organising such an interesting day for us.

Autumn Produce

Thanks to the generosity of some local people, we have enough fruit to keep us going for a few days. Please check the fruit basket before you send any more in.

French Club

French Club begins this Monday (23rd September) after school from 3.30 - 4.30 pm. If you haven't had a chance to do so yet, please can you let me know if your child would like to participate.

Hickory, Dickory Dock...

Time has been flying, literally, at The Treehouse as our collection of radio controlled clocks have become rather confused! My thanks to Karen for contacting the supplier to get some free replacements.

Reading Passports

We have decided to introduce a Treehouse Reading Passport which we hope will encourage children of all ages and abilities to read a wider range of books at home and at school this year. The passport contains a series of 'bookworms' which should be coloured in once the reading activity is achieved. If you would like a passport for an older or younger sibling, please let us know.



We discovered that we have three little pigs, a collection of monkeys, several roosters, a couple of dogs and a goat at The Treehouse!

Abel and Cole

Thanks to Cassie's organisational skills, and to those of you who purchase your fruit and vegetables from Abel and Cole, we have now raised a tremendous £486.41! Please spread the word, the more customers that use this service, the more funds we raise for The Treehouse.

Also if anybody fancies building a simple shelter so that the veggie bags can be protected from the elements, please let me know.

Forthcoming Dates for Your Diary

Monday 23rd September
Monday 23rd September
Thursday 25th September
Friday 26th September

French Club starts for the Houses
Bags to School Collection - 9.00 am
Cycling practice (bikes please)
Friday Forest at The Patch (bikes please).



Going for Gold!

Keeping You in the Loop...

Every day scientists are discovering more about how our brains work. As well as being fascinating, their findings enable us to help children learn more effectively. We know for example, that some of the most effective learning happens when we experience things, rather than being told about them. Furthermore, if we are able to articulate what we have learned then it is far more likely to stick! With this in mind, we have given each child a learning log or diary so that they can keep a record of their learning and achievements. Please do ask your child about their logs every now and then.

Within our current focus on trees, we are also promoting communication (word smart) skills, providing opportunities for the children to talk to a partner and within a small group. Initiating and sustaining a conversation, and responding to what others say are essential life skills, but not the easiest thing to learn how to do, as we are discovering...

Trees

The Trees have got back into the swing of reading and are motoring on again. Please do as much reading with your child as you are able to.

They have continued measuring this week and are learning to judge how long a metre is. Challenge your child to find 3 things at home or in the garden that are longer or shorter than a metre. Some of the children are getting their numbers in a muddle, so any number spotting whilst out and about would be helpful too.

Houses

The Houses italic handwriting has got off to a good start this week, as the children start to learn how to form letters in the 'c' family (a, c, d, g, o, q). Please encourage them to practice at home, perhaps asking them to teach you?

After the summer break, some of the children's times' table recall skills are a bit rusty. Please find time if you can to revisit the tables that they have already learned in both consecutive and random order.

How about...?

- Going for a walk and collecting a leaf from each native tree species that you see for our leaf collection. If you have some crayons at home, you could do a leaf rubbing.
- Going for a closely supervised cycle ride on the pavement or road to develop your road safety and awareness skills. Don't forget to leave a space between cyclists.
- Going on a geocache hunt!
- Counting the money in your money box or parent's purse or wallet. How rich are you/they?
- Sending an e-mail to another member of The Treehouse Gang.
- Looking up a recipe that uses apples or plums for us to try baking on Thursday.
- Making an animation using plasticine figures.
- Making up a quiz about China for your family to enjoy.
- Going on an alphabet scavenger hunt, like we did at Friday Forest this week.
- Predicting what is going to happen next in our story (Stig of The Dump). You could draw a picture or write what you think in your reading journal.

To Celebrate....

- The quality of the children's writing in their thank you cards and the letters that they wrote to Jane Liu.
- Still no food waste since the start of term (13 consecutive days) even with stuffed marrow on the menu (thank you Lucy and Sue for rising to the challenge!)