

THE TREEHOUSE SCHOOL UPDATE

Issue 47
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The Treehouse School

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



Gold standard work from Alice

Swimming

With quite a chill in the air, please could you ensure that your child has a warm jumper or fleece and coat with them every Tuesday to put on after they swim.

Forthcoming Dates for Your Diary

Monday 21 st October	Shaz's Choice of Music
Tuesday 22 nd October	Swimming
Thursday 23 rd October	Cycling (please bring bikes and helmets)
Friday 24 th October	Visit to the Pictures in Didcot (free!)
Monday 28 th October	Half Term

If you have any long cardboard tubes like those used to store wrapping paper on, please send them in. The children would like to make their own marble run.

Be There or Be Square!

We hope that you are looking forward to the rounder's match this Monday at 2.00 pm in the park (weather permitting). Children can either be collected from the park at 3.15 pm or from The Treehouse at 3.30 pm. French club will take place as usual at Jo's house afterwards.

Living for Today

This week I was asked several times by members of the public if Shaz and I would be going on strike. Being in the fortunate position of absolutely loving our jobs, and privileged to be working in a school that we have created, the concept is of course completely alien to us. Why would we want to miss a day with the children even if we did belong to a union!

For Shaz and I, and hopefully others too, teaching is a vocation; something that we chose to do and gain a great deal of pleasure from. Seeing children make progress and thrive under our guidance is absolutely priceless.

So rather naively perhaps, while neither of us are thinking too hard about the future, we are living for today and having a wonderful time doing it!

PTA Update

Our wonderful PTA continue to raise essential funds that help to keep The Treehouse open. Thank you all for your help.

The last Bag 2 School Collection raised £92.00.

Auction of Promises, Friday 8th November
Although we have lots of small pledges, we could still do with a couple of larger ones e.g. balloon ride, so please put your thinking caps on! Please also invite your friends, neighbours and family to the evening.

Nearly New sale, Saturday 16th November, The Regal Centre. Please encourage your friends to sell as well as to come along to the sale to buy. If you can help at the sale, please contact Sally.

Christmas Stall and Nativity, Sunday 1st December. Please provide filled jars, homemade confectionary such as fudge, toffee apples and cakes. Nativity times 1.30pm & 3pm

Top Gun at The Corn Exchange, 8th Feb 2014 7:30 pm. £6 a ticket.

10k Run Sunday April 27th We will need lots of people to marshal from 9am until midday. Refreshments to be served on the day. Please could each family leaflet cars to help to promote the run beforehand? Sally to circulate details.

Film Festival - Date to be confirmed.



Going for Gold!

Keeping You in the Loop...

The ability to communicate with others, either verbally or in writing, or to be **'Word Smart'**, is an essential skill. Just like learning to walk, there are steps that children need to pass through before they become proficient, and it is our job as their teachers to support them at every stage. One of the difficulties for early readers and writers is their ability to juggle or focus on too many things at once. In writing, we support children through the use of the concepts of the 'author' and the 'secretary'. The author's job is to grab the reader's attention by selecting good words for example, whilst the secretary's role is to attend to the spelling, presentation and punctuation used. Trying to do both at the same time is a real challenge for children so in separating out these roles, we enable them to do their very best work.

Trees

- Ask your child about the story they are writing about their conker character...the ideas they came up with were amazing!
- We are counting in twos at every opportunity as some children have started to learn their 2x tables. Please reinforce at home if you are able to.

Houses

- We have been using a numberline, sometimes mentally, to find the difference between two numbers e.g. when working out how much change to give somebody. See if your child can show you how to work out how much change you would get from £5.00 if you spent £1.35, using a number line.

How about...?

Number Smart

- Going to the local shops to buy some shopping, and then calculating how much you have spent and how much change you will get.

Word Smart

- Making your own animal alphabet and inventing your own collective nouns e.g. A grace of red kites.

Nature Smart

Planting a walnut or conker to see if you can grow your own tree.

People Smart

- Planning and helping to cook a meal for your family.

Practically Smart

Doing some finger knitting.

Body Smart

- Catching a leaf that falls from a tree so that you can tick off one of the '50 Things to do before you are eleven and three quarters'.

To Celebrate...

- Still no food waste since the start of the new school year (33 days). Jamie Oliver eat your heart out!