

# 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)



Is it a bird? Is it a plane? No, it's a dragon!

## How do you do it?

On my travels over the last few weeks, I have met a couple of people who have been very interested in The Treehouse, and subsequently staggered, when they learn that the school is a charity, receiving no public funding. When asked how we manage to keep the school open and running, my response is that we receive tremendous support from our families, trustees and friends of the school. When you stop and think about it, our achievement is remarkable but just goes to show what can be done when there is a common and united goal. Heartfelt thanks to you all.

## Fruit Snack

We currently have more than enough fruit at The Treehouse and won't need any more until Wednesday. To save money and reduce waste in the future, please check the basket to see how much we have before buying any.

## The Treehouse Trustees

We continue to be very grateful for the vital role that the trustees of The Treehouse play: ensuring that the school meets its statutory obligations; raising funds (if you haven't visited The General Stall yet, please do); taking a genuine interest in the school; and children and supporting all elements of our work. I would like to take this opportunity to thank them all for their hard work and ongoing commitment to The Treehouse.

Due to unforeseen circumstances, Sam Rhodes has had to step down as the Chair of the Trust but will remain a trustee. We welcome Chris Smith who some of you may already have met; Chris brings a wealth of energy, enthusiasm and skills to The Trust.

If you would like to learn more about the Trust, please come along to The Trustees' AGM which takes place at The Treehouse on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> March from 7.00 - 7.30 pm.

## Judo Update

Steve has kindly lent each child a judo gis (kit) which will be kept at The Treehouse. Please could your child bring a (fabric if possible) bag to school to keep their kit in. Due to a lack of storage space, we will send PE bags home, letting you know when your child will need their PE kit again. If you would like watch a judo session, you would be most welcome any Wednesday at 11.00 am in The Scout Hall.

Dear Lee,

Please find enclosed a donation of £80.00 from a contribution of Christmas trees sold in 2013. We have continued to plant our own trees but the dry weather and rabbits seem to be against us. This year's trees were sourced from a sustainable farm on the Gower in South Wales.

I hope the small donation will be of benefit to the Treehouse and the children.

Best wishes, Vanessa and Colin, Cross road, Cholsey

## Dates for Your Diary

27.1.14

Ryman Family Music

29.1.14

Swimming am

30.1.14

Judo am (£2.00 please)

31.1.14

Friday Forest: The Holies, Streatley Hill.  
Please let Lee know if you can drive.



# Going for Gold!

## Keeping You in the Loop

One of the areas that we are keen to develop this term is the children's ability to recognise and deal with different feelings. We plan to use our Friday Forest Sessions as a context for developing this work, starting by providing opportunities for the children to identify the range of emotions they may feel in the course of a day. Psychologists believe that one of the key things we should be helping children to develop is their resilience and the ability to deal with and 'bounce back' from life's knocks. Equipping children with the tools that they need to deal with their emotions is the first step.

### Trees

Practice the 'cup' letters with your child, u and y, making sure that they start at the top of the letter. How many can they do in 5 minutes?

Alternatively, play noughts and crosses with each player taking a different letter.

### Houses

Please ask your child if they have completed their italic handwriting 'homework' which is due to be returned on Monday (27<sup>th</sup> January). This will not be a regular requirement, but on the occasions when homework is given, my main goal is that the children a) do a good job and b) learn to take responsibility for the task themselves.

## Looking for something to do. How about...

### Body Smart

- Doing some laps of the park in preparation for the Treehouse fundraiser at the end of April. Jo explained that there is a special event for children
- Practicing moves for the Dragon dance...handstands, teddy rolls etc.
- Blowing bubbles with your head underwater in the bath to improve your swimming

### Number Smart

- Teaching somebody at home to play 'Wild Jack'
- Making a maths loop game
- Practicing using division

### People Smart

- Making a model or finding some information relating to China
- Cooking a meal for your family

### Practically Smart

- Making something out of origami
- Making Jane Liu a Chinese New Year card

### Self Smart

- Thinking of a new competition for the Gang

## To Celebrate...

- Ollie for swimming on his back unaided for the first time!
- Herbie for cycling to The Patch independently for the first time!