

THE TREEHOUSE SCHOOL UPDATE

Issue 64
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The Treehouse School

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



Some of The Gang in their 'finery' outside The Corn Exchange

Lights, Camera, Action!

This year's Film Festival was a really enjoyable event and tremendous success too. Huge thanks to Sally for organising the Festival, Jo for directing our film, and The Corn Exchange for hosting the event. A big thank you also to Eleanor and Vicky for taking photos on the red carpet during the film festival. They are available to view online at

http://www.photobox.co.uk/my/album?album_id=2471260967

Since the postage is £2.99 we may as well place a collective order. If you add the required photos to the basket (that way you can choose the size of the print you would like and gloss/matt) then calculate how much your order costs and send the money into school. Once everyone who would like to has ordered, Jo will send the payment off.



The Treehouse School

A child's primary education is all about creating secure foundations for the future. It saddens me greatly that mainstream schools, under the leadership and spotlight of politicians, continue to focus on Literacy and Numeracy, tests and targets. This often results in children becoming disaffected and in some cases, feeling like they are failures at a very early age.

The Treehouse children continue to thrive in all areas of their development, largely because we are able to offer a broad and balanced curriculum and to provide them with a range of experiences too. There isn't a day that goes past when I don't thank my lucky stars that we have chosen to 'opt out' and offer an alternative.

Dates for Your Diary

17.3.14	Green Family Music
17.3.14	7.00 pm Trustees' Annual General Meeting – all welcome.
18.3.14	Individual Project Trip Day
19.3.14	Swimming
20.3.14	Judo
21.3.14	Bag 2 School Collection Friday Forest at The Patch, bikes please.
24.3.14	Heydon Family Music
28.3.14	2.15 pm Individual Project Exhibition All welcome.
3.4.14	Landmark competition
4.4.14	Easter egg hunt – Arboretum.
7.4.14	Easter holidays
23.4.14	Term starts.
19-23.5.14	Treehouse Book Week (20.5.14 Dress up as a book character)

Bag-2-School Collection - This Friday (21st March)

Please return your filled bags to The Treehouse by 9.00 am on Friday morning.



Going for Gold!

Keeping You in the Loop

As you know, the children have been working on their own individual projects, practising and refining key skills in the process. Having selected a topic or area of interest, the older children were given a list of criteria which they have been working through. There is no doubt that the individual projects have enabled the children to become far more independent and resourceful; they are all much better at trying to resolve their own problems as they come across them without automatically seeking help from an adult. The children are also beginning to take more time over their work, and in so doing, have achieved some excellent outcomes. Fully aware that some of the children will be leaving the Treehouse in just over a year, this approach is excellent preparation for the future.

Trees

The Trees' reading is coming on in leaps and bounds! Please continue to read with and to your child, as well as drawing attention to environmental print and words e.g. Road signs, posters, banners etc.

Houses

The Houses are well on track to meet our goal of knowing all their tables by the end of the summer term. Please continue to work with your child at home on their tables, revisiting those already learned too so that they are embedded.

Looking for something to do? How about...

Nature Smart

- **Listening out for different bird songs (Martha)**
- **Going on a nightwalk (some of the Gang did this at the weekend at about 7.30 and spotted bats and heard an owl (Mags)**
- **Seeing how many ladybirds you can find and counting their spots (Freya)...and finding out why they have different numbers of spots! (Shaz)**

Word Smart

- **Creating a spring alphabet(Shaz)**

People Smart

- **Spending some time outside playing (Samuel)**

Number Smart

- **Collecting natural objects, bagging them up and using them for counting (Herbie)**

Picture Smart

- **Making some leaf art (Gracie)**

To Celebrate

The Gang's ability to identify birds, reptiles, spring flowers and mammals during our visit to Tony Rayner's wonderful garden.