

THE TREEHOUSE SCHOOL UPDATE

Issue 73
June 2014



The Treehouse School

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



Is it a bird? Is it a plane? No it's a dragon of course!

Good News!

Andrea's hard work has paid off again...
"The Trustees thank you for your recent letter appealing for financial support and have pleasure in enclosing a cheque for £500.00 which comes with their best wishes."
The Sandford Trust, Chipping Norton, Oxon.

The Treehouse Leg-It Challenge 2014

Yesterday was the Leg-It Challenge. This was my first and I cycled. Our route was Oxford to Radley to Abingdon and to Cholsey. Last year was stonking with rain, now that was different!

Half way was very annoying because there was a huge bog. My shoes got covered with mud. Approaching Abingdon I saw some sprinklers. Mum said to me that Alicia had been there when she was young. Crossing the road, I saw an Aston Martin come past us.

Cholsey was getting close as we were gaining on South Moreton. Our destination was in sight. Cholsey finally! Back to school, yes! My time, 3 hours and one minute. Success!

By Samuel Endean

Samuel wrote this unaided and unprompted at home after the Leg-It Challenge.

Simply the Best!

It's always lovely to see The Gang after a break, and this week was no exception. With lots of holiday news to share, our week kicked off with children congratulating each other on their 'Leg-It' achievements.

The Leg-It has become one of my favorite annual events as children and adults of all ages enjoy rising to the challenge, whilst raising funds for The Treehouse at the same time. I was staggered to learn that this year's total (including gift aid) is A STAGGERING £4683.75! Shaz and I would like to thank you all for your contribution to this event (once again the 'behind the scenes' team did a sterling job too). You are "simply the best".

Stackpole Meeting

A meeting has been arranged for adults re: Stackpole. The meeting will take place at The Treehouse on Wednesday 11th June from 2.30 – 3.15 pm.

The Sainsbury's Voucher Scheme has come to an end now. Please could you check your purses, wallets etc to see if you have any lurking around, and send them in to school by Friday 20th June.

Dates for Your Diary

- 9.6.14 Robson Family Music
Visit to St. Crispin's Farm, Bucklebury
- 10.6.14 Treehouse Wildlife Club (Gracie, Harry, Ollie)
- 11.6.14 Swimming
2.30 pm Stackpole Meeting at The Treehouse
3.15 pm Trees' Parents handwriting meeting
- 12.6.14 Half term homework due in.
- 13.6.14 Forest School session with South Stoke School at Wittenham Clumps.
6.00/8.00 pm Sports' Evening at the Scout Hall
- 16.6.14 Kennedy Family Music
- 17.6.14 World Wildlife Fund Rainforest Trip – Woking
- 27.6.14 Camp Treehouse
- 28.6.14 Camp Treehouse
- 30.6.14 INSET Day
- 10.7.14 School Project Exhibition Day
- 11.7.14 Celebration Assembly (All welcome)
- 15.7.14 Seaside trip tbc
- 18.7.14 End of term
- 21.7.14 Stackpole visit.
- 3.9.14 New School Year begins



Going for Gold!

Keeping You in the Loop

Although we have never been in favour of homework, from time to time, we recognise that children benefit from spending some additional time working on a specific area of learning at home, as well as at school. This term, the Trees and Houses will be given some regular homework (see below) which will help them to move forward in their English and/or their mathematics. Our overall goal is for quality and accuracy, as opposed to quantity and carelessness! Please support and encourage your child as and when you are able to; we realize that you are all busy people and have more than enough on your plates already.

Trees

This term, we are 'going for gold' with the Trees' handwriting. The challenge is to get them joining by the summer holidays. The benefits of this are threefold: it aids presentation; the speed at which they can write; and helps them to consolidate spelling patterns. Therefore we are encouraging the children to do a little bit of handwriting practise every day e.g. 5 – 10 minutes. We are looking for quality rather than quantity. Please could they bring their handwriting book to school every day.

Houses

The Houses spend alternate weeks practising their tables and italic handwriting at school. Our goal is for all of them to be able to recall their times tables (up to 10 x 10) instantly; and to have developed a fluid, joined, italic handwriting style, by the end of term. In order to achieve this, additional homework will be sent home on a weekly basis. Please encourage your child to set aside a short period daily to work on it. Little and often will make a tremendous difference.

Looking for something to do? How about...

Body Smart

- Cycle to the Donkey field and have a picnic (Gracie)
- Cycle to Abingdon and back (Samuel)
- Walk/cycle to Wallingford and have a picnic? (Ollie)
- Visit a swimming pool (Mags)
- Design your Sports' Evening outfit, flag and chant (for the opening ceremony)

People Smart

- Make your own geocache (Freya)
- Visit the water park in Abingdon (Owen)
- Camp in the garden (Freya)

Nature Smart

- Make some bunting...maybe out of natural materials? (Edith)
- Make an alphabet of things you spot on a walk e.g. Ant, Bramble, Cowslip...(James)
- Do some bird spotting in an area you haven't visited before (Alex)
- Make your own scrap book or log of the things you spot in your garden like Tony Rayner (Lucy)

To Celebrate...

Gracie who read two books over half term...an area she identified she needed to work on.
Ollie for swimming a whole width of the pool, unaided, for the first time!