

THE TREEHOUSE SCHOOL UPDATE

Issue 84
October 2014



The Treehouse School



Harry, accompanied by his Grandad, visits Pitt Rivers Museum to gather information for his 'The Story of a Blacksmith' Project.

Life Long Learners

The heat is on at The Treehouse, as children beaver away on their individual projects, ready for our exhibition in just over two weeks' time.

It is heartening to see members of The Gang working with increasing levels of independence, to produce work of a higher standard than before. There is no doubt that they are developing a useful set of tools and strategies to become effective, lifelong learners.

Increasingly, I believe that the context, i.e. what the children learn about, is almost irrelevant. If we can teach them to learn, and develop their self-confidence, we will have done a good job.

So as the Government continues to modify the curriculum, spending vast sums of money in the process, I can't help but think how lucky (and clever) we are!

Admissions for September 2015

We will shortly be opening for admissions to The Treehouse in September 2015. As you already know, we have six children who will be moving on to the next phase of their education and so will be looking to fill their places.

Bring it On!

Today I got much more body and self-smart by listening when there's something important, and when others are being silly, I ignore them. Also when my friends talk about something else, I tell them to tell me later. I learned this at Wallingford School during their PE morning so it encouraged me more to go there next year.

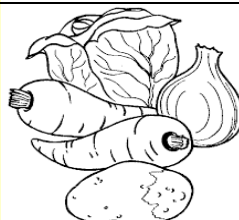
Whilst there, I got much better at being body smart like: during rock climbing I had to use different strategies; in trampolining I had to use my head to remember how to do the moves; in rowing I needed stamina; in athletics I had to be fast; and finally, dancing made me much more brave.

Next year I'm actually looking forward to P F I

Congratulations to Lucy for passing the next stage of her Teaching Assistant's Course. The tutor was very impressed!

Dates for Your Diary

Sunday 5 th October	Car Boot Sale – 7.30 am Set up, 8.00 am Sale commences.
Monday 6 th October	Kennedy Music Choice Day Centre Harvest Lunch No rounders – collect from school please.
Tuesday 7 th October	Swimming pm – home drop off 6.30-9.00pm Langtree School Open Evening
Friday 10 th October	Friday Forest at Holmwood Nursery, Boars Hill 9.00 or 11.15 am Langtree Open Morning (by appointment only) 01491 680514
Monday 13 th October	Casey Music Choice
Tuesday 14 th October	Swimming pm – home drop off
Thursday 16 th October	Haircuts at The Treehouse! 9.00 or 11.15 am Langtree Open Morning (by appointment only) 01491 680514
Friday 17 th October	Friday Forest at Wittenham – Foraging Focus!



If you have any seasonal root vegetables to spare, we would love to add them to the soup we are making on Monday.



Going for Gold!

Trees

Be a measurement detective and see how many different ways we use measuring.

For example, when telling the time, driving etc. Make a note of the units that we use too.

Houses

Keep practicing those times tables please Houses. 15 minutes every day should do it. Remember, we are aiming for 100% accuracy at speed.

Keeping You in the Loop

Thank you all for taking the time to complete our annual questionnaire. As usual, we were overwhelmed by the positive comments and grateful too for some very useful feedback which identified some areas for us to work on. The two main issues raised were clarity about what the children are learning, and opportunities to discuss children's progress.

We will try to be more specific about the main areas of learning on a weekly basis, so that you can support your child at home. As you will have noticed, the children are starting to bring tasks home to complete too. This will be another opportunity for you to become more involved in their learning.

As you may recall, originally we identified Tuesday after school as a slot when parents could make an appointment to meet us. In two years, only two parents took advantage of this. We would like to remind parents that they may make an appointment at a mutually convenient time to discuss their children's progress or enjoy their books, any time.

Looking for something to do? How about working on your Individual Project.

With the exhibition of our Individual Projects just under three weeks away, the Gang were asked to give some suggestions for small achievable goals that could be worked on at home...Here is the list that they came up with.

- Collect and note down three or more new facts that you found when you went on your trip;
- Contact an expert to visit the school, or answer your questions;
- Find some facts that relate to a picture linked to your project;
- Think about how you are going to present your information;
- Make a sign for your exhibition;
- Collect some resources to go with your exhibition.

This week's Golden Cushion goes to Gracie for working really hard at home to complete projects, some of which were voluntary, so that various deadlines were met. Also, for planning, shopping for, cooking and serving a delicious vegetarian feast. Well done Golden Gracie.



