

# THE TREEHOUSE SCHOOL UPDATE

Issue 86  
October 2014



The Treehouse School



**Grace, Eddie, Alice and Tess planting lettuce seedlings at the Community Allotment this week.**

## Keep Calm and Carry On (Learning)!

Is it me, or as you get older does time fly even faster? With half term nearly upon us, and just under nine months left before our oldest children leave us, it is really tempting to cram even more things in to our school week so that the children are “fully prepared” for the next phase of their education. Should we really be spending every Friday in the woods?

Yesterday, in the Autumn sunshine at Wittenham Clumps, some symmetrical artwork was created and shared; some problem solving took place (if it's Shaz's 33<sup>rd</sup> wedding anniversary today, what year did she get married?); and we learned about acids and alkalines from our foraging expert. What a rich and challenging curriculum!

Dear Treehouse folk,  
Thank you so much for the card supporting Edward in his Big Read for CHOKO. He is doing very well (14 books in 13 days!) and your card has made him smile lots. You are so very generous to sponsor him, so that together we can all help other children to learn. As I type he is coming to the end of “Tudor Tales: The actor, the rebel and the wrinkled Queen” which is a shorter book as it's Beavers tonight! He would love to know what books you enjoy reading. We will email you later in the month to let you know how he is getting on. Rebecca and EDWARD

### **Dirty Dancing**

It is only three weeks until we need to put our dancing shoes on!! But we need a bit of a push on ticket sales first. Tickets are only £10 each and include a free cocktail beforehand, plus the film. Saturday November 8th, 7.30pm. Could you get a group together to come?? Sally.

### **Roll up, Roll up!**

**We hope to see you all at our Exhibition on Thursday, between either 10.00 and 11.30 am or 2.30 - 4.30.**

#### **Dates for Your Diary**

Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> October	Heydon Music Choice
Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> October	Art competition ends Swimming with home drop off
Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> October	Individual Project Exhibition deadline for all tasks!
Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October	Harry's Birthday 10 – 11.30 am Exhibition at The Treehouse 2.30 – 4.30 pm Exhibition at The Treehouse
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> October	Friday Forest at the Millennium Woods 8.45 – 10.00 am Madeleine Tanner visiting to show us some of her crafts. End of term
27 <sup>th</sup> – 31 <sup>st</sup> October	Half Term (can you believe it!)
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November	New Term begins Lynn Music Choice
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> November	Swimming with home drop off Butterfly talk in the evening at Pangbourne
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> November	Friday Forest at The Patch tbc
Saturday 8 <sup>th</sup> November	Dirty Dancing at The Corn Exchange

Thank you all for your comments about the washing. We will trial sending the laundry home on a Thursday instead of a Friday to see if that works.



# Going for Gold!

## Trees

Be a number detective...how many numbers can you find in your house? What is the biggest/smallest/odd/even number that you can find? Can you find a number with more than three digits?

## Houses

40% of the Houses got full marks in our random tables' test last week so we will be repeating it next week! Please help your child to learn the 'tricky tables' using whatever means works best for them.

## Keeping You in the Loop

Thank you all for supporting The Gang so well with their projects, which we hope you will enjoy looking at next week. As the term and projects draw to an end, the children will spend some time evaluating them, before we move on to a new focus after half term.

Always keen to respond to the children's interests and ideas, some time ago they asked if they could set up and run their own small businesses. So after half term, each child will be asked to think of an idea or enterprise, either individually or with a partner, that they could make and sell. They will each be given a £5.00 budget and challenged to double their money (all proceeds to The Treehouse)! With Christmas on the horizon, we will recommend that the children select something with a 'Christmassy' theme.

We have invited a very talented local craftsperson in to The Treehouse for inspiration who 'upcycles' everyday items to create beautiful gifts. Madeline Tanner will be joining us on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October from 8.45 - 10.00 am (tbc). If you fancy doing a bit of very early Christmas shopping, you would be most welcome. In the meantime, please keep your eyes peeled for ideas that might appeal to the children. Christmas sales will take place on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> (Day Centre) and Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> of November.

## Update Ideas - With less than a week to go before our Exhibition...

- Lee: Look for a recipe and practise making something edible to go with your exhibition (Samuel has found a bird pellet truffle recipe, James has the recipe for a 'Greek God' drink that he hopes his visitors will enjoy);
- Herbie: Plan out how you are going to display the components of your exhibit, negotiating with other people where necessary.
- Samuel: Decide what you can do at home, and what needs to be done at school.
- Freya: Check your list of things to do and prioritise the things that are left.
- Paige: Work on your captions, labels and titles.
- Shaz: Gather all the resources you need to enhance your exhibit and think about what you will be wearing on the day. Invite some people to attend.

**Golden Cushion this week to our wonderful team of chefs. Thank you all for ensuring that we have a delicious, wholesome lunch every day.**

