

THE TREEHOUSE SCHOOL UPDATE

Issue 90
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The Treehouse School



John and Ben, still filming and smiling at the end of a very long day!

Lights...Camera...Action!

It was such a pleasure meeting film makers John and Ben who spent the day with us on Thursday capturing all that we do at The Treehouse. The film that they create, which has been generously sponsored by a local company, will be a useful tool in promoting our cause to a range of different audiences. Longer term, we have always hoped that we may be able to influence the Education System in some way, demonstrating the benefits of an alternative educational approach. Let's hope that the film attracts some interest, and possibly some funding, that will help us to achieve this goal. My thanks to all of you who were involved.

Putting Their Best Feet Forward...

Well done to our sensible year six children who all demonstrated that they were able to walk safely to various destinations within the village. Our thanks also to Lorraine for spending time with the children over the last couple of weeks.

Any Old Rags?

Have you seen the Kennedy's beautiful, recycled fabric wreaths? Orders are coming in thick and fast, so if you have any surplus fabric, any colour, and plain or patterned, that you would be willing to donate, they would be most grateful.

100 Word Story Competition

We hope that all children will take part in the Young Writers' Competition, 'Once Upon a Time...' Children are asked to write a mini saga, which is a complete story in 100 words. They may add a title which is not included in the 100 word limit. The deadline for the competition is Monday 15th December. Please encourage your child to enter this competition. Their story will need a beginning, middle and end, some carefully chosen vocabulary and a good story line.

Dates for Your Diary

Saturday 22 nd Nov	Nearly New Sale – 2 – 5 pm The Regal
Sunday 23 rd November	11.00 – 4.00 pm Have-a-go Craft Day
Monday 24 th November	Endean Music
Tuesday 25 th November	Swimming
Wednesday 26 th Nov	2pm Christmas sale at The Day Centre
Thursday 27 th Nov	2pm Christmas sale at The Scout Hall (tbc)
Friday 28 th November	Friday Forest Shotover Woods tbc
Friday 28 th November	Decorations up at The Treehouse – volunteers please.
Saturday 29 th November	2.00 – 3.00 pm Michael Rosen
Monday 1 st December	Bob's Music Choice
Tuesday 2 nd December	Swimming
Thursday 4 th December	Ollie's birthday
Friday 5 th December	Fix-it-Friday am Pantaloons performance pm
Sunday 7 th December	Nativity at Wallingford Christmas Festival 12.30 pm and 2.30 pm
Tuesday 9 th December	Trip to London to see Handel's Messiah (late back)
Thursdays 11 th Dec	Charity Christmas Shopping in Wallingford
Friday 12 th December	Friday Forest Wittenham Clumps
Monday 15 th December	Gilly's Music choice tbc Deadline for Story Competition
Tuesday 16 th December	Wind in the Willows Theatre Trip (late back)
Wednesday 17 th Dec	Carol singing at The Day Centre
Thursday 18 th Dec	Christmas Lunch at The Red Lion End of term
Tuesday 6 th January	New Term Begins



Going for Gold!

Trees

The Tree's understanding and ability to be able to work with money is really developing. Encourage them to set up a shop at home so that they can practise a host of mathematical skills e.g. adding totals, giving change.

Houses

When testing your child on their times tables, ask them for the inverse operation (we call it a back flip) too, for example:

$$8 \times 7 = 56, \quad 56 \div 7 = 8$$

$$7 \times 6 = 42, \quad 42 \div 6 = 7$$

Keeping You and Your Child in the Loop...

Our Christmas Enterprise Project will draw to a close within the next week or so, after the children have had the chance to sell their products at our Sales. As with all of our most recent projects, they will then have the opportunity to evaluate their learning, identifying smart areas that they feel that they have excelled in, as well as any areas for further development.

When the children first joined us, they were unable to do this in any depth, often being either over generous or unrealistic in their assessments of themselves. This is no longer the case. Now all of the children are able to articulate their achievements, often accompanied by specific examples. The ability to self-assess with accuracy, is a really useful skill and something that the children will be able to apply to all areas of their learning both now, and in the future, ultimately helping them to become even more 'Learner Smart'.

If you are looking for something to do, how about:

Word Smart

- **Try Graham's sales tips out on an adult at home. Can you persuade them to buy your product?**

Practically Smart

- **Making some more products to sell, but remember that they must pass quality control (Shaz)!**

Learner Smart

- **Find out about the musician Handel. Who was he? Where and when was he born? Listen to some of The Messiah. What do you think about the piece?**

This week Cassie has nominated Martha:

"Lucky me! Martha was a pleasure to cook with today... organised, competent, flexible and at all times calm yet hard working. Converting our Abel and Cole combi bag into vegetable crumble, beetroot tabbouleh and fruit fool for pud. Good news-we also picked spinach, rocket and radishes from the school garden.

Lunch for 27....aged 10. What a girl?!"

