

THE TREEHOUSE SCHOOL UPDATE

Issue 92
December 2014



The Treehouse School



A Day to Remember...

It was my good luck and privilege to be one of the adults accompanying the children on the trip to London this week, to the Messiah rehearsal at the Festival Hall and the surprise treat which gave us a bird's eye view of London on the London Eye. What a day we had - we are an incredibly lucky bunch. The complicated timetable went like clockwork. The children behaved well and responsibly, learned a huge amount, and were good fun to be with - and I think that applied to the adults too! We had a fantastic musical experience which had been preceded last week by a preparatory visit to Rob Howarth's, the conductor's, house, to look at the instruments, and by listening and talking about some of the music in school. And we enjoyed a gourmet Treehouse-style picnic lunch on the banks of The River Thames. It all made me appreciate even more than before the amount of time and effort Lee, Shaz, Jo and others dedicate to making such events happen, and happen well. Thank you everyone - it was a day to remember. Alison

Ho! Ho! Ho!

As well as being an enjoyable event, the Santa Collection raised £309.55. Thanks!

Final Bench Ball Session of the Year
Parents are invited to watch the children play their last game of bench ball on Monday afternoon from 2.15 - 3.15 pm in the Scout Hall. It promises to be action packed and tense!

Good News!

This week's edition of the Update is full of good news following a particularly busy and positive week at The Treehouse. I do hope that you enjoy reading all about our adventures.

We also have the good fortune to be hosting a visitor from Kenya. Austyn, aged eight, has joined The Treehouse for a week. What a great way for The Gang to learn more about a different continent. Country and culture, as well of course, as having the opportunity to socialise and interact with another child.

Many of these memorable experiences will remain with the children for the rest of their lives. What a legacy.

Treehouse Has Got Talent...

Please can you pass on our thanks to your staff, helpers and children for their wonderful performances last Sunday. The true spirit of Christmas, wonderfully done! Everyone loved the Nativity, the hand bells and all the extras. We are really grateful to you all. Also, I thought the standard of the craft at your sale was wonderful and I was thrilled with every one of my purchases. What a talented school you are. Keep up the fantastic work you all do and enjoy a very well deserved Christmas. Many thanks. Paula - Down to Earth

Dates for Your Diaries

Monday 15 th December	Gilly's Music choice 9.00 am Short Story Competition being judged by Ali the proprietor of the local book shop.
Tuesday 16 th December	Wind in the Willows Theatre Trip, Oxford. 5.00 - 6.00 pm Home drop off, depending on traffic.
Wednesday 17 th Dec	9.30 am Start for those that need it. am - Carol singing around the village. Please bring secret Santa gifts in.
Thursday 18 th Dec	12.00 Christmas Lunch at The Red Lion Children to wear party clothes to school please. End of term
Friday 19 th December	7.00 pm End of Term drinks and supper at 10 The Forty.
Tuesday 6 th January	New Term Begins

Advanced Notice - A Date for your Diaries
Monday 9th March - The Treehouse Trust's Annual General Meeting



Going for Gold!

Trees

The Trees handwriting and reading are really improving. Please exploit any reading or writing opportunities that arise at home e.g. writing lists, messages, reading signs and notes, so that they are constantly honing their skills.

Houses

Reading a wide range of material will really help the Houses to hone their reading and writing skills. Please encourage and promote this at home, discussing likes/dislikes/puzzles and patterns with them afterwards.

Keeping You and Your Child in the Loop...

You may recall that we participated in a Fashion Show a couple of years ago, at The Town Hall in Oxford, wearing upcycled clothing at the annual Refashion Event. We have decided to take part in this year's show which takes place on **Tuesday 3rd March 2015**, which you are all more than welcome to attend too.

During the Christmas holidays, please could your child find an outfit that still fits but is rarely worn, that we could upcycle at school? With an adult's help, the children will have the opportunity to redesign and transform their clothes into something that can be worn on the catwalk! Clothing should be brought in to school at the start of term. Furthermore, some of the children have expressed an interest in choreographing their own dance. Andrea has kindly agreed to hold a dance workshop during half term for members of the Gang to attend to work on a dance that will be performed at the Refashion Event. This will take place at Crowmarsh Village hall on **Tuesday 17th February** from 12.00 - 1.00 pm.

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

Practically Smart:

- Making a wreath for your front door, either from recycled fabrics or some foliage that you collect on a walk.
- Cooking something for your family, a relative or neighbour to enjoy.
- Starting a jigsaw puzzle off - can you complete a 500 word puzzle?

Word Smart:

- Using an atlas or the Internet to find out more about Kenya, Austyn's home country.
- Reading a Christmas story to a younger sibling or to yourself!
- Reading or watching 'The Wind in the Willows' so that you are prepared for our theatre visit on Tuesday.

This week, a special 'golden' mention to Gracie, James, Martha, Paige and Samuel who did their Charity Christmas Shopping in Wallingford without adult supervision. Self Smarties!

