

THE TREEHOUSE SCHOOL UPDATE

Issue 94
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The Treehouse School



Thank You for Our Wonderful Gifts.

A Golden Surprise

Hello Lee, Shaz, The Treehouse Gang Trustees, parents, the Gaffer and whoever else, (phew what a list). What a wonderful surprise to see you all earlier today to share our 50th wedding celebrations with us. We had a lovely day and finally came up from the summerhouse about 5.30 - very full of food! Thank you for the lovely bay tree. We have never had one in the garden and now when I make casseroles etc., I shall no longer have to sneak into neighbour's gardens and take some leaves from their bushes. The cake was delicious and I have e-mailed Andrea to tell her so. One of our guests was a former teacher at St. Birinus school in Didcot who thought you were a great bunch. I know that you have lots of exciting things to do this week and I hope to pop in and see you all before term ends on Thursday. Gilly and Tony Xx

Beginning of New Year/Term List

- PE Kit: Tracksuit, jumper, trainers (could be worn to school every Monday for netball lessons)
- Judo Kit
- Waterproofs
- Reading journal
- Refashion outfit please

What a Generous Bunch You Are...

We have obviously been very good this year and so Father Christmas has spoilt us with the most amazing gifts! Our sewing machine has a multitude of fancy stitches we can use and The Treehouse now has an IPAD!! We are very excited as the children tell us that we can now download some APS... which we will attempt to incorporate into our daily work (with a little help from The Gang!!) We can already envisage lots of ways in which these gifts will enhance our curriculum and develop The Gangs' skills further. We can't tell you how much we appreciate receiving things that are going to be of benefit to the children - Thank you. We wish you all a very Happy Christmas.

The ACE Team Strike Again...

Thank you very much for another great evening, especially to you Jo, who threw open your house once again. Delicious food and great to meet up with so many of the people who support the Treehouse School. Have a lovely Christmas and here's looking forward to some exciting school developments in 2015. Gilly.

Good For You, Good For Us!

Thank you Cassie for co-ordinating the Abel and Cole Farmers choice fruit and veg boxes for schools. You have raised £1210.42 for The Treehouse since the scheme began less than 2 years ago. If you would like more information about the box scheme, please contact Cassie.

Dates for Your Diaries

Tuesday 6 th January	New Term Begins
Monday 12 th January	Netball in Crowmarsh. Home drop off between 3.15 – 3.45 pm
Wednesday 7 th January	Nature Walk with Tony Rayner
Friday 9 th January	Friday Forest Lollingdon (Let us know drop off requirements please)
Monday 12 th January	pm Netball - Crowmarsh Village Hall (Home drop off)
Thursday 15 th January	Judo Lessons start
Friday 16 th January	Friday Forest Wittenham Clumps (Let us know drop off requirements please)
Monday 9 th Feb	Netball Match Children versus parents

Home Drop Off: From Monday 12th January - 9th February inclusive, The Gang will be dropped off at home following their netball lessons in Crowmarsh.



Going for Gold!

Trees

Ideas for consolidating basic skills over the holidays: Reading - read Christmas cards and tags, games instructions, recipes. Writing - thank you letters, lists, notes to Father Christmas, place names. Maths - cooking, counting cards, advent calendars, telling the time.

Houses

Ideas for consolidating basic skills over the holidays: Follow a recipe and bake something independently; Create and write your own thank you cards;

Keeping You and Your Child in the Loop...

Giving children a taster of the different genres of music through Families weekly choices has certainly paid off over the last year or so. The Gang are developing an understanding of the different reasons musicians compose and range of responses a piece of music can evoke. Following our fantastic Classical Music Experience at The Royal Festival Hall earlier this month, we will be giving families a break and focusing on a different classical music composer every week during the spring term. The BBC have produced a great resource, 'Take Ten Pieces' which will support this project. There are (no surprise!) ten pieces of music, which are varied. They are put together with a storyline which we hope will help the children to engage with classical music at a different level. If you wish to find out more about the series or to download the pieces to listen to at home, please see <http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p01vs08w>

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

- Starting and completing a jigsaw puzzle during the festive period.
- Reading a fiction, non-fiction or poetry book and thinking about what you likes/dislikes/puzzles/patterns;
- Training for our triathlon (swimming, running, cycling);
- Taking on the Two Day Challenge (having two days with no screens during the holidays);
- Planning and rehearsing a little show (magic tricks, songs, musical instruments) for your family and friends to enjoy over the Christmas Holidays;
- Making name places and laying the table for your Christmas dinner;
- Finding an outfit (skirt/trousers/top or jacket) that fits but you no longer wear for the Refashion Event;
- Going on a Family Forest Day session in the woods.

This week, a golden mention to The Casey Family for buying us some net balls and bibs, and to JC for cooking shortbread as and when requested throughout the year!

