

THE TREEHOUSE SCHOOL UPDATE

Issue 95
December 2014



The Treehouse School



Herbie admires Paige and Edith's stick man

Dear Lee,

I would like to thank you and especially the children for taking such an interest at our WW1 Centenary of Remembrance, and for behaving so well. They were a credit to the school.

When I first talked about doing this, I did have some comments from some of our more senior residents that interest was dropping away because you had to live through a war to be interested. As I was born in 1971, and all your children were (I would guess) born in this millennium, I am delighted we are proving them wrong!

Many thanks - the school is welcome at all the events,
James Butler

We are hoping to attend the next service which is being held at The Pavilion on Wednesday 21 January at 11.00 am. Do come along if you are able to.

Didn't We Do Well!

The Christmas Raffle, kindly organised by Cholsey Golf Society raised a tremendous £204.00. Furthermore and rather embarrassingly, The Treehouse also won the first prize of £100! Congratulations also to The Endeans who won the second prize of £50.00. What a great start to the year.

Cooking on Gas!

Happy New Year! 2015 has got off to a really positive start with children performing at levels far beyond anything we have seen at The Treehouse before. It has been so rewarding for us all to witness things falling in to place for The Gang, evident in their levels of thinking, engagement and their responses to the different things that we have done this week.

Our challenge of course is to consolidate and build on this, so that the children's learning is truly embedded. Over the coming weeks and months we will keep you fully informed and updated so that you are able to support us on our journey to provide the very best education for your child.

Stepping into a Soldier's Shoes...

Imagine a dark and dingy trench and rats scuttling about. Suddenly a shell dropped from the sky. Then a shock. Then nothing.

John Alder experienced this when he was 31 during World War One. It must have been terrible.

By Magnus.

Any Old Rags?

This term the children are 'upcycling' an outfit which they will model at Oxford's Refashion Event, to be held in March. The Gang are going to base their designs on an African theme so if you have any unwanted animal print or African style fabric or clothing knocking around, we would be delighted to take it off your hands!

Dates for Your Diaries

Monday 12 th January	pm Netball - Crowmarsh Village Hall (Home drop off between 3.14 and 3.45 pm)
Thursday 15 th January	Jessica Reid (on a Gap year) in for a taster day at The Treehouse.
Thursday 15 th January	Judo Lessons start (kit please)
Friday 16 th January	Friday Forest Wittenham Clumps (Let us know drop off requirements please)
Monday 19 th January	pm Netball - Crowmarsh Village Hall (Home drop off between 3.14 and 3.45)
Wednesday 21 st Jan	11.00 am Centenary Act of Remembrance at The Pavilion
Monday 9 th Feb	Netball Match Children versus parents

Please can your child bring their reading journal in to school every day (except Friday).



Going for Gold!

Trees

Please find time to share books with your children, and for them to read with and to you as well. Picture books, short novels, comics, annuals, poetry, recipes, information, jokes...the more they read, the more pleasure they will get from it and the easier they will find it to write.

Houses

The Houses did really well in the first tables test of the year and have challenged themselves to get 100% for five consecutive weeks. Please continue to find opportunities to practise with them at home.

Keeping You and Your Child in the Loop...

The recently published 'New rules for healthy school dinners', include one or more portions of vegetables or salad every day and no more than two portions of fried foods or pastry-based foods each week. The rules promote drinking water and limit fruit juice servings to 150ml. They stipulate:

- one or more portions of vegetables or salad as an accompaniment every day ✓
- at least three different fruits and three different vegetables each week ✓
- an emphasis on wholegrain foods in place of refined carbohydrates ✓
- an emphasis on making water the drink of choice ✓
- no more than two portions a week of food that has been deep-fried, batter-coated or breadcrumb-coated ✓
- no more than two portions of food that include pastry each week ✓
- a portion of milk (lower fat and lactose reduced) to be made available once a day ✓

Details of the new school food plan were unveiled by ministers in June, following a review of school meals by founders of the Leon food chain John Vincent and Henry Dimbleby. It's a shame that they didn't save themselves a great deal of time and money by simply spending a week eating at The Treehouse. Thank you Cassie, Jo, Kate, Lorraine, Lucy, Paul, Sally and Sue for ensuring that we are able to offer the children the very best school lunches, that far exceed the Government's requirements, in the country.

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

- **Planning your refashion outfit with an African theme;**
- **Going on a walk to see if you can spot and identify any more wild flowers, like the aconites that we saw on the way to Lollington;**
- **Finding out more about Amwell Springs, what is a spring? How long has it been there?**
- **Finding out if there are other ways to make 100 from the numbers 1 - 9, using six plus or minus signs.**
- **Finding out as much as you can about the word archaeologist (and explaining why to your parents);**
- **Starting to research your family tree to see if you have any relatives that were involved in either World War 1 or World War 2.**

This week, a golden mention to the children who have knocked us off our feet with their amazing attitudes and outcomes.

Also to Lucy for responding to our request at short notice to make a wreath for a visitor.