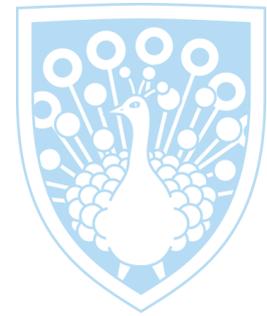




Great Tew School Newsletter

Issue 164

Friday 15th November 2013



Dear parents,

With Remembrance Day, parents' evenings, flapjack making, Children in Need Day, street dancing, photographs and more, this week seems to have been a busy one.

Reception

We all had a lot of fun with our nursery rhymes this week, the children had some great ideas on Monday with their costumes and we loved trying to guess their rhymes! Ludo's pie really got us thinking and we were all fooled by Laura's spider until we spotted the curds and whey. Thalia had spent a long time making her beautiful maids in a row and Lucia's 'bells on her toes' meant that we knew where she was all day long! Sorry that I can't mention you all but thank you for taking part. We made our own Hickory Dickory Dock clocks, ordering the numbers, talking about time and making a finger mouse to run up and down. On Wednesday we had a great time making spider webs in the garden for Incy to explore, we learnt all about spiders and how they spin their webs.

In Letters and Sounds we looked closely at the formation of b and f and learnt to play 'Sound Buttons' to help with blending the sounds in words to read them (each sound in a simple word has a button under it, pretend to press it while your child says the sounds, repeat quicker and quicker until the sounds blend together to make the word, eg, in, at, run, pip.)

Interest Table: The nursery rhyme theme continues for another week.

Don't forget to fill in your Wow Moments and hand them in for us to celebrate with the class! Thank you.

Year 1 & 2

The children have been working on subtraction in their maths lessons and next week they will be moving on to doubling and halving. In English they have been writing some really fantastic "We're going on a dragon hunt..." stories, using their lively imaginations and developing vocabularies to make their stories engaging for the reader. In science the children have been sorting materials, deciding which are natural and which are man-made. They looked at a range of different materials, investigating how you can change the shapes of some materials by stretching, twisting, snapping etc. The children have produced some very good posters based on this science work. In gymnastics at the Tew Centre the children transferred their partner floor sequences onto apparatus, producing some impressive results.

Year 3 & 4

In Years 3 and 4 the children have been practising multiplication and division, learning the division facts from the tables that they know. They have started a unit on Indian myths and legends, and have enjoyed reading some of the stories of Krishna and Rama.

Year 5 & 6

The children have been planning their historical fiction stories set in Victorian England. The children's writing skills are coming on really well and I have been impressed by their enthusiasm for using a thesaurus to improve their descriptive vocabulary. They have also been learning more about life and work in Victorian times, focusing on the lives of the poor and researching the Victorian laws around child labour. On Thursday afternoon the children had a visit from Cyrus Brandon, who came to teach the children Street Jazz. The children absolutely loved their afternoon, as is evident from the fantastic cards and letters they wrote him to say thank you. The lesson was arranged through the Chipping Norton Partnership of Schools and we hope to be able to welcome him back to our school again next year.

Stars of the Week

Well done to all of the following children who have been working hard and impressing their teachers.

Reception:	Zac
Year 1 & 2:	Hugo
Year 3 & 4:	Millie
Year 5 & 6:	Alonso

Good Manners' Champion

This week our Good Manners' Champion was Hector in Year 2. Hector is always friendly and smiley and he makes a point of looking people in the eye when he speaks to them. Hector has a cheerful hello for everyone in the morning and his friendly nature makes him popular with children throughout the school. The children told Mrs Butler: *he smiles a lot; he is responsible; he makes up good games like Ninja Puppies (!); he is kind and doesn't snatch; he is cheerful and friendly; he doesn't get angry when he loses at sport; he doesn't talk with his mouth full; he knows when to draw the line.* Well done Hector – keep up the good work!

School Photos

Proofs of the school photos were sent home in Book Bags today. If you would like to order copies of the photographs, orders and cheques need to be with Angela by Friday 22nd November so that you have them in time for Christmas. Cheques should be made out to Tempest Photography with your name on the back please.

Cyrus is in the House!

On Thursday 14th November Year 5 and 6 took part in some street dance. All the pupils thoroughly enjoyed Cyrus' lesson. We all tried "The Rock" and "The Wave" and in the end we produced a dance routine that we will all remember! We are making posters and cards to show how much we appreciated it. It was a great experience for everyone! By Clara

Yesterday Year 5 and 6 had a visit from a street dance teacher called Cyrus. He taught us lots of different moves and it was so much fun that even the teachers enjoyed it! Cyrus was so cool; he taught us the hand wave, body wave and body popping. By Eva

I had a go with the children (very definitely at the BACK of the hall!) and will freely admit that there is considerable room for improvement. Here are Gus and Omer's top tips for teachers with aspirations towards Street Jazz!

HOW TO TEACH A TEACHER STREET JAZZ!

STEP ONE - THE ROCK!

1. Firstly nod your head for ten seconds.
2. Then rock back and forth for twenty seconds.
3. Once you've done that rock at an angle from the left to the right for twenty seconds.
4. Next we add the arms: cross your arms so your hands are almost touching your waist. Then turn to the left and open your arms, cross them in the middle and then do the same for the right and repeat for ten seconds.

By Gus

STREET JAZZ! THE ROCK!

1. Put your first foot out then in, then do it again but with the other foot.
2. After that lean left and pull your hands together so they're crossing and then spread your arms out and leave them out for five seconds.
3. Then push and slide to the left, then the right, then do it again.
4. Then step, clap, step, clap.
5. Jump up for four beats.
6. Then do the arm wave.
7. Then after that you do four of your own poses.

By Omer

National Type 1 Diabetes Awareness Day

On Thursday the Pre-School children came into school in onesies to raise awareness for National Type 1 Diabetes. Jubie Wigan, mother of Aliena in Pre-School, spoke to the children from Pre-School through to Year 4 in their assembly. She outlined the condition and explained in simple terms how they deal with it, how it is treated and how it affects Aliena's life. The children listened very well and asked some sensible questions.

Bag2School

Thank you to everyone who cleared out cupboards, nagged neighbours and brought in bags and bags of clothes and shoes for our Bag2School collection before Half-Term. Your efforts and your tidying have brought 487 kilos donated items, which raised a very impressive £243.50 for the school.

Head Lice

Head lice are still rife in Year 3 and 4, with many children scratching their heads this week. To help us get rid of them, please could you make sure that you check your child's hair very carefully, treat if necessary and then re-treat after seven days. Further information can be found at <http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/Head-lice/Pages/Introduction.aspx>

Christmas Fair

Thank you for all the goodies sent in today for the tombola. Please don't forget next Friday is also a non-uniform day for children who bring something in for the raffle or tombola. Thank you to those who have signed up already to help out at the Christmas Fair on Saturday 30th November. We really need more volunteer helpers though for the day. Please sign up if you can spare an hour or two. An addition to our fundraising for the Fair is...

Where did the pirate hide his treasure ?

*In Angela's office next week you will find a painting of a harbour scene where some pirates hid their treasure. Squares can be bought for £1 each, the draw will take place at the Christmas Fair on Saturday 30th November and the winner will receive the **treasure**. So please pop in and have a go...happy guessing!!*

Easy Fundraising

If you are planning on doing your Christmas shopping on the internet, (or any other shopping for that matter) you may like to consider using an affiliated shopping website, www.easyfundraising.org.uk to help us raise funds for the school. Further details are attached.

Flapjacks

The School Council enjoyed making flapjacks this week in our new Activity Room, with the help of Mrs Taylor. Many of the ingredients were very generously donated by Claire Silvester, Eva's mummy, who also provided the recipe for us. The flapjacks were delicious, with no batch turning out quite the same, so there was a flapjack to suit all tastes, from the slightly burnt and crunchy (my preferred) to the soft and squidgy! They flew off the table, both at break time and at the end of the day and the children will be delighted to know that they have raised £130.76 for Children in Need. I hope some of you will have seen Pudsey in the playground after school!

Enjoy the weekend everyone, and look forward to seeing you next week. Mrs Lucy Miles

Dates for your Diary

Date	Event	Notes
Sat 16 th November	Dance Party for parents, staff and friends	<i>Tickets cost £20 and are available in the office</i>
Weds 27 th November	CEOP Internet Safety Advice for children and parents Delivered by Al Kitchen	<i>3 workshops for children during the day 1 workshop for parents – 7pm Further details to follow</i>
Sat 30 th November	Christmas Fayre 11am-2pm	
Mon 9 th December	Reception & KS1 Christmas production Dress Rehearsal	
Tues 10 th December	Reception & KS1 Christmas production Performances at 2.30 and 6pm	<i>Further details to follow</i>
Sat 14 th December	5pm Carol Service at St Michael's Church	
Tues 17 th December	Whole school trip to Oxford Playhouse	<i>Christmas Pantomime - Robin Hood</i>
Weds 18 th December	Christmas Feast	<i>Christmas lunch for whole school in hall</i>
Thurs 19 th December	9am - Christmas Service at St Michael's Church	
Thurs 19 th December	End of term	<i>Children should be collected at midday.</i>
Mon 6 th January	Term Starts	