



Great Tew School Newsletter

Issue 179

Friday 28th March 2014



Dear parents,

News from the Classrooms....

Reception

Our sounds this week have been /oi/ as in “coin” or “soil” and /ear/ as in “dear” and “clear”. Please do look out for these words when you are reading with your child. This week the children have enjoyed making their Easter eggs. They started by making a design and plan for their egg and then they constructed them using papier maché. The next job was to decorate them (much glitter involved!) and the final stage will be to check their finished egg against their design sheet and evaluate how well it turned out. The children have been learning all about three-dimensional shape this week; they have learnt cube, cuboid, sphere (not Sophia!), cone, cylinder and pyramid. With the help of Mr Miles (junior!) the children used the shapes to build a castle that they can all play with. Yesterday involved the children investigating which shapes would roll and which would slide, making a prediction first. Happy Mother’s Day from all of Reception Class – we hope you enjoy your day!

Years 1 & 2

In letters & sounds, Year 1 have been revising the different spellings of /ee/ and learning the new grapheme “le” – eg “table”, “puddle” and “eagle”. Year 2 have also been looking at the different spellings of the /ee/ phoneme; try testing them on some words at home as this is quite a tricky skill to master, it takes time and lots of practice! I wonder how many you can think of? In English, we have been continuing with our traditional tales and have started writing our own version of The Three Bears and Goldilocks - lots of different exciting ideas are coming from the children. In maths, both year groups have practised adding and subtracting multiples of 10, with some children starting from another multiple of 10 (eg $50 + 20$ or $80 - 60$) and some of the children moving on to start with any 2 or 3 digit number (eg $45 + 30$ or $376 - 50$). Please practise this at home as it is fundamental to mental maths skills.

Topic – Do you know what the special book for Muslims is and how they look after it? If you don’t know ask the children, they will be able to tell you (I hope!)

Years 3 & 4

To finish off their work on poetry the children have been working on performance poetry, thinking about how to bring a poem to life and give it meaning through the way it is said. They have learnt about a range of different techniques that can be used to add interest and dimension, such as rhythm, beat, tone, tempo, expression, dynamics and form. It has been lovely to see them working so well as a class, with every child playing a key part in the performance.

Years 5 & 6 - Chipping Norton’s Horrible History

On Tuesday, the Year 5 and 6 children went on a Horrible History tour of Chipping Norton. They found out all about some of the more ghoulish history of Chipping Norton. I am sure they will enjoy telling you about the Stowfair Spook, who is said to haunt Chipping Norton, particularly during the months of May and October. The children thoroughly enjoyed their afternoon which finished with a guided visit to the Chipping Norton Museum. A very big thank you to Mrs Veale and Mrs Silvester, who came along to help and made the trip possible.

This morning was the children's final swimming lesson of the year; they had fun practising their life-saving skills and just enjoying some free time in the water with their friends.

Stars of the Week

A very well done to all of them:

Reception: Ben
Years 1 & 2: Maude
Years 3 & 4: Finlay
Years 5 & 6: Charlotte

Christmas Card Competition for Katherine House Hospice – last chance to enter!

Katherine House Hospice are running a competition to design their 2014 Christmas Card. The winning design will be turned into a professional Christmas Card and go on sale in September 2014. The design should be on a square piece of paper, and will be printed on a card 126 x 126mm. Any medium can be used. All of the top competition designs will be exhibited at the café at Bloxham Mill Business Centre during April and May, for the general public to view. If your child would like to take part, they need to complete their design over the weekend and bring it to the school office on Monday morning, with their name clearly written on the back.

Cotswold Wildlife Park – Family Fun Book Day

A day of family fun has been planned at the Cotswold Wildlife Park tomorrow, as part of the Chipping Norton Literary Festival. Please see attached flyer.

Chipping Norton Literary Festival – 24th to 27th April 2014

To give you a little bit of warning, the Chipping Norton Literary Festival is due to take place from 24th to 27th April, just after our return from the holidays. All sorts of fun activities are taking place, for children, adults and families. Please have a look on the website or pick up a flyer from lots of places around Chipping Norton, and book early to avoid disappointment. <http://www.chiplitfest.com/index.asp>

PE Uniform

As you are aware we have a compulsory uniform for PE and the children are expected to change every time they do PE. Lots of the children always look smart and tidy in their PE kit but some of them have started to come in a range of rather interesting, and sometimes not very suitable, PE kit.

Please could I remind you that the compulsory PE uniform, as stated in our Prospectus, is as follows:

- White T-shirt with school crest (£5 from Angela in the school office)
- Blue shorts
- White socks (for both indoor and outdoor PE)
- Plimsolls for indoor PE
- Strong trainers for outdoor PE
- Blue tracksuit (*they can wear a school sweatshirt but it MUST be a different one to the one they wear all day.*)
- Drawstring bag for their kit

Staff will be monitoring this closely from now on and children without the appropriate kit to change into will come home with a letter informing you of this. Children should bring their PE kit to school every Monday morning and take it home to be washed every Friday. Thank you for your support.

Sports' Pitch Update

We are all looking forward to the long-anticipated sports' pitch being finished and ready for use and I am now in a position to give you an update on timings. The architect has today confirmed that the roof repairs have been successful and that there is no water now getting into the building. We are therefore now proceeding with fencing the pitch and hope to have it open and operational in early May.

Sports' Day – please note change of date

Unfortunately we have had to change the date of Sports' Day, which was advised last week. Sports' Day will now take place on Tuesday 15th July, with an alternative date of Wednesday 16th July.

Easter Arrangements

You should have received a letter in Book Bags about the arrangements for next week, and another copy is attached to the newsletter. As a reminder:

- On Thursday the children should bring in a decorated egg to school for our egg-rolling competition. The decorated eggs will be judged and then they will be rolled down the hill in a fierce contest!
- On Friday our Easter service will take place at St Michael's Church at 9am. The children will come back to school and then, after a short break, we will have our annual Easter Parade, when the children and staff will parade around the village in their Easter bonnets. Please make sure your child/ren bring their bonnets with them on Friday morning.
- School will close for the holidays at midday.

With best wishes to everyone for a very happy weekend and we hope that all you mummies get a chance to put your feet up on Sunday!

Mrs Lucy Miles

Dates Coming Up

Date	Event	Notes
Thursday 3rd April	Easter Egg hunt Egg rolling competition	Further details have been sent home.
Friday 4th April 9am	Easter Service followed by Easter Bonnet parade Term finishes at midday	St Michael's Church
Tuesday 22nd April	Summer Term starts	
Friday 9th May	Bag2Schools Collection	Further details to follow
Mon 12th to Thurs 15th May	KS2 SATs week	Year 6 children taking statutory tests all week.
Thursday 22nd May	Sponsored Cow Hill Walk	
Monday 26th - Fri 30th May	Half Term	
Thursday 5th June & Thursday 12th June	Non uniform days in exchange for items for the tombola for summer fete	Further details to follow
Mon 16th - Fri 20th June	Whole School Book Week	
Wednesday 18th June	Travelling Books Book Fair	Further details to follow
Saturday 21st June	Annual School Fete 11-1 pm	Further details to follow
Wednesday 25th June	Moving up Morning	Further details to follow
Tuesday 1st July 2pm & 6pm	KS2 production	
Wednesday 2nd July 6pm	KS2 production	
Friday 4th, Saturday 5th & Sunday 6th July	Cornbury Festival	Further details to follow
Thursday 10th July	Parents Evening - early	Further details to follow
Monday 14th July	Parents Evening - late	Further details to follow
Tuesday 15th July – pm	Sports' Day	
Wednesday 16th July - pm	Alternative Sports' Day	If weather bad on Tuesday
Friday 18th July	End of term service Term finishes at midday	St Michael's Church
Tuesday 2nd September	Inset Day	Children not in school
Wednesday 3rd September	School re-opens for Autumn term	