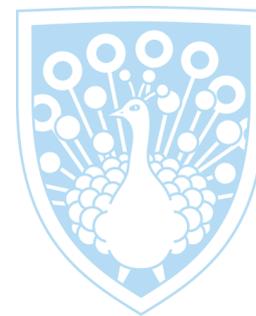


Great Tew School Newsletter
Issue 186
Friday 6th June 2014



Dear parents,

It's been a packed week in school and the sports pitch is coming in to its own. The older children have been busy rehearsing for their production of *Wind in the Willows* – how nice it is to be able to rehearse outside in the playground.

Tea for Tew at the Cornbury Festival

Thank you to everyone who responded so rapidly to my request for ingredients for Cornbury. A letter has come home in Book Bags today.

Tennis Coaching

There are still some spaces for our six-weeks of tennis coaching, starting this Sunday. The taster sessions were really popular and received very good feedback. Another flyer is attached – it would be lovely to see a few more children there.

Reception

This week the children have been working hard on their writing; they have retold the story of Jack and the Beanstalk in their own mini books. Come and see our beanstalk complete with the children's favourite parts of the story displayed on the leaves. Please also pop in to have a look at the children's maypole collages!
In maths this week we explored patterns and shapes, looking for repeating patterns in shapes and colours and trying to follow them on. We also looked at how some shapes fit together without any gaps.
We began a science investigation to test the things that we know about growing plants. We have set up cress seeds with no water, no light and no tissue paper to grow on, we will be watching them this week to see how they do and to see if our predictions are correct! We have also made a growing number line from cress!

Please remember PE kits every Tuesday.

Years 1 & 2

Letters & Sounds – Year 1's have investigated the different ways of spelling the 'e' sound and compared the sound the grapheme 'ea' makes. As it is healthy eating week we used bread and beans to remind us of the two different sounds! Year 2's have continued their investigations of the prefixes 'un' and 'dis'.

English – We've used our dinosaur topic to plunge into the genre of non-fiction information books, looking especially at what makes an easy to use eye catching and exciting book.

Maths – Both year groups enthusiastically attacked number bonds this week with year 1's starting at 5 and progressing through to 10. Year 2's have continued to 20 and then investigated bonds to 100 of multiples of 5, e.g 35+65. Instant recall of number bonds is an essential mathematical skill so any practice you can do at home would be so beneficial for your child. As it was Sebastian's birthday today, we worked out how many candles we would need on a cake for the whole class – Phyllida's estimate was closest at 99 but she was still quite a long way off!

Topic – Continuing our links with Mary Anning we used Lyme Regis as the basis for our geographical work looking at the physical and human geography of the area. The children have produced posters promoting Lyme Regis as a great place to have a holiday – so much to see and do. You are welcome to come and have a look at them, they are currently on our patio windows.

Years 5 & 6

This week Year 5 & 6's have started to learn about some of the pros and cons of the fascinating but controversial area of animal, crop and human 'cloning'. We have watched some interesting videos made by farmers and biologists and already we have some strong views in the class: 'It's not natural', 'I wouldn't like to eat genetically modified meat' and 'Ahhh isn't Dolly the sheep cute!'. The children are quickly learning that this issue is not straightforward! As an aside we then discussed how we are similar and different to our parents, grandparents and siblings, and how that is a good thing. We are forming our own views on cloning based on justifiable reasons in order to write a persuasive argument, which we will present in a whole class debate. We hope to invite parents in very soon to hear our final speeches and ask them to vote and decide who had the most persuasive argument!

In Maths we have been learning to accurately draw reflected shapes in one and two lines of axis, and in the four quadrants, using mirrors and tracing paper. Then we moved onto rotating shapes and calculating the order of rotation (i.e. how many times the shape will make itself in a 360 degree turn whilst rotated about a point).

We have been using the all-weather pitch a lot this week (very handy in between the showers), practising for the cricket festival, which will be held at Tew Cricket club next Wednesday. We can now all overarm bowl with good accuracy; Emily even got three wickets in quick succession, whilst Isabella and Kitty made up a mean batting pair racking up 20 runs during their innings. We are also using the all-weather pitch at breaks and lunchtimes to avoid mowing down the younger children whilst we practise for the World Cup!

Stars of the Week:

Well done to all of our Stars of the Week. They have been working as hard as they can, showing positive attitudes towards their learning.

Reception:	Lucy
Years 1 & 2:	Loic
Years 3 & 4:	Jamie
Years 5 & 6:	Daniella

Good Manners' Champion

This week our Good Manners' Champion is Eliza in Year 4. Eliza always bounces into school with a cheerful, positive attitude. She can be relied on to be polite, both to the other children and to the adults in school. The children told us: *she is always very smiley; she always lets the younger children play her games; she makes sure people don't get left out; when I was coming through the door once in the cloakroom, there was a big muddle of people and she held the door open for everyone with a big smile on her face!* Well done Eliza – you do have lovely manners and you should be very proud.

“Celebrating Books” Week – Monday 16th to Friday 20th June

A reminder that our “Celebrating Books” week is the week after next (week beginning 16th June). We have all sorts of exciting things going on as outlined in the attached letter. Please don't forget that Wednesday is our Book Character Day, when children are asked to come in as a character from one of their favourite books. Also, a reminder that we are hoping to make a huge “Extreme Reading” display, of children reading in the most unusual places they can dream up. We have only had four photos of extreme reading so far, including Eva in her goggles and snorkel and Jamie L in the dentist's chair!! Please remember to send these in before the start of Book Week.

Children's author and storyteller Adam Guillain will be working alongside us all and teaching us all the art of storytelling! Adam is co-founder of Storytelling Schools, an international organisation set up to show how storytelling can be used elevate language and teach right across the curriculum. Adam will be offering an after-school book-signing featuring his latest book *Marshmallows for Martians*, the sequel to *Spaghetti With The Yeti* (shortlisted for the Roald Dahl Funny Prize). Both these books are £6.99. He'll also have his Bella Balistica novels for older children for £5.99.

For more information on Adam's writing: www.tinnedspaghetti.co.uk

For storytelling - www.storytellingschools.com

You can also hear Adam along with many other storytellers and writers telling stories on a great free resource - www.storymuseum.org.uk/1001stories

Healthy Eating Week

This week has been Healthy Eating Week, and all the children have been thinking about healthy food and making healthy choices. All the children know that they should be eating 7 (or even 10) portions of fruit and vegetables a day and they have agreed that to help them on their way, they should all be eating fruit or vegetables at break time. The older children have looked at an extract from our Nutritional Standards Policy in an assembly:

Break-time snacks

A raw, unprocessed fruit or vegetable snack is provided free of charge for all Key Stage 1 children. If children wish to bring a break-time snack, this should be in line with that provided in Key Stage 1, i.e. a raw, unprocessed fruit or vegetable snack.

All of them understand what we mean by a “raw unprocessed fruit or vegetable snack” and agreed between them that there was a pretty good selection of things to choose from. We must have come up with about 50 delicious options in our 2 assemblies, and there were still children with different ideas. Please could you support us in encouraging your children to make healthy food choices by ensuring that you adhere to this policy. Thank you.

Bag2Schools

The collection on 9th May weighed 218kg, which made £109 for the school. Thank you and well done to everyone.

Whole School Photograph

The whole school photograph takes place on Tuesday 10th June. Please see attached letter for further information.

Change of Date

Please note the change of date for one of our Parent Evenings in July.

6th June 2014 – 70 Year Anniversary of the D-Day Landings

Thank you to Mr Wadham and some of the Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 children for reminding us in our assembly what an important historical day it is today and for helping us to remember those brave soldiers who landed on the Normandy beaches 70 years ago.

Year 3 and 4 Violin Concert – Friday 4th July

During our 9am assembly on Friday 4th July the Year 3 and 4 children will be playing their violins to show you what they have been learning and how good they are. Please do come along and listen!

Yoga Classes

Mrs Page-Croft is hoping to start up yoga classes for parents on Thursday mornings from 9.15 – 10.30 on the new pitch. This will be a 6 week course and will cost £10 per session. A signing up sheet is in the cloakroom next to Year 3 & 4 classroom; she will require a minimum of 5 people.

Sports Day

In preparation for sports day we would like to ask for some parent volunteers to lead teams on the day. If you can help please let Angela in the office know. Many thanks.

With best wishes,
Mrs Lucy Miles

Dates Coming Up

Date	Event	Notes
Monday 9th June	Year 5 and 6 trip to Bloxham School – Forensic Science Day	
Tuesday 10th June	Whole School Photograph	Letter has been emailed
Wednesday 11th June	Cycling Proficiency for Y6	
Wednesday 12th June	Cricket Festival at Tew Cricket Club	1pm – 5pm, all welcome to watch
Thursday 12th June	Cycling Proficiency Test for Y6	
Thursday 12th June	2 nd Non uniform day in exchange for items for the tombola for summer fete	
Mon 16th - Fri 20th June	Whole School Book Week	Letter has been sent home
Wednesday 18th June	Travelling Books Book Fair	Further details to follow
Saturday 21st June	Annual School Fete 11-1 pm	Letter has been sent home
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 July	Y3/4 violins playing in our Friday assembly	All welcome
Friday 4th, Saturday 5th & Sunday 6th July	Cornbury Festival	Further details to follow
Tuesday 8th July	Parents Evening - late	Further details to follow
Thursday 10th July	Parents Evening - early	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	