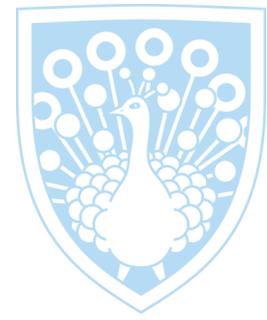




Great Tew School Newsletter
Issue 191
Friday 11th July 2014



Reception

We had a fabulous time at Thalia's zoo on Wednesday! The children stroked a penguin, fed the lemurs and the giraffe, tickled a wolf cub and gazed into the eyes of the lions! A few brave souls even held a snake. So many "thank yous" go out to Thalia's daddy for taking time out of his working day to show us round, making us feel welcome and answering our never-ending questions. Also, thank you to Thalia's mummy for feeding and watering us all so well; we enjoyed a beautiful picnic spread and lots of sunshine. A final thank you to the army of mums that transported us safely there and back and helped to keep the trip fun but safe throughout. I was very proud of all of the children; they behaved extremely well, asked many thoughtful questions and listened to all that was said to them. Well done Reception class!

Years 1 & 2

Our dinosaur non-fiction work is complete. The Year 2 work looks fantastic and is now in a class book and the Year 1 children are so proud of their individual books. This week we have been reading and dramatizing poems about dragons which we will use as a model for our own poems about dinosaurs!

This week's maths project has been to start to learn times tables with Year 1 children working on their 5x tables and Year 2 children consolidating their 2x, 5x and 10x tables. Some children have also moved on to tackle the 4x tables.

Sports Day practice was great fun this week; we completed the obstacle race with children laughing so much as their 'eggs' were bouncing off the spoons and wellies reached up to their thighs, which made running very tricky. We are all really looking forward to an exciting afternoon on Tuesday.

Year 3 & 4

We have focussed on English this week through the medium of advertising. Johnny Vegas and Monkey reappeared in advertising in 'The Return.' This one minute and fifty seconds of genius has inspired the children to write about and analyse what the advertisers do to get us to buy their products. Even at this stage of the term the children have been engaged and keen, they do us all proud.

Over this year the class have shown us their acting and presentation talents. **Parents are invited to a special performance of 'Matilda who told lies and was burned to death' by Hilaire Belloc in the playground at 2.55 pm on Thursday 17th May. Please come and enjoy your children's performance.**

Years 5 & 6

On Thursday Mr Waller (Theo's Uncle) from America came to talk to us, Year 5 & 6, about the natural selection and Darwin's Theory on life and adaptation. First we learnt about primates and how they are very similar in their skeletal structure. We had to circle the similarities in the skeleton. We were put into groups of primates and we had to draw our habitats and how our monkey had evolved to its habitat. After that we learned about animals; did you know whales had legs? I thought not! Or that moles used to have no eyes and we all evolved from bacteria? Overall we had a fascinating day and we loved it.

By Tilly Sears

On Thursday 10th July year 5 & 6 had a guest come in – Mr Waller (my Uncle) who taught us about adaptation, evolution, survival of the fittest and even about things called vestigial limbs! Mr Waller made the whole class super fun! We played a game called Cotswold Whispers, I am pretty sure it is Chinese Whispers but I think it was even more fun. Overall I think that was one of the best lessons ever, especially because I got to be an assistant!

By Theodore Zibarras

"Tea for Tew" at the Cornbury Festival

Last weekend was a fantastic success, a wonderful example of what can be achieved when people come together to work towards a common goal. Those of you that came along will know how fantastic the tent looked, how tantalizing the cakes, rolls, soup and scones were, how delicious was the tea and coffee and what a sense of community spirit there was! I know, too, how proud you will have been to be part of such an amazing event put on by such a small school. A HUGE thank you goes to everyone involved in making it happen, those who shopped, baked, ferried, set up, decorated, washed up, prepared, cleared, served, cashiered, guarded and dismantled. But most of all an enormous thank you to the small team who worked tirelessly behind the scenes to bring it all to fruition.

When I asked them in Monday's assembly, this is what the children wanted to say to everyone involved.

"Thank you for working all those long hours just to benefit us."

"You gave up lots of your time and we really appreciate it."

"The pitch is amazing - we have more space for PE & playtimes and we love having our clubs there too."

"Thank you for the amazing Year 1&2 classroom which has so much space for our learning."

"Cooking is great in our new kitchen."

"We love coming to Breakfast Club."

"We love the extra space we have - and we love all playing together and the family atmosphere."

"You planned it all and gave up all that time - just for US! "

"We'd like to help too if we can!"

Here are a few pictures - more will be displayed next week in school for you to see.



Celebrating Success - Wicked Young Writers' Awards 2014

A very well done to Tilly Sears in Year 5, who was selected as one of the finalists in the 8-10 age group for her entry, "Claud Devel's Sword." Tilly has been invited to an Awards' Ceremony in London in August, where the prizes will be presented by best-selling author and former Children's Laureate Michael Morpurgo.

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 and we are proud of them all.

Reception:	Ben
Years 1 & 2:	Lara
Years 3 & 4:	Oliver
Years 5 & 6:	Lucy

Good Manners' Champion

This week our Good Manners' Champion is James in Year 2. James really does have lovely manners; he has a real sense of fun and a genuine kindness, which he shows to all members of the school community. James is considerate towards everyone and keeps a real eye out for others. The children told us: *he is always smiling; he is really kind in the playground – if someone hurts themselves he goes up to them to make sure they are OK and he brings them to a teacher to help them; if he doesn't have anyone to play with he just comes up and asks if he can play, and people always say yes; he is good fun to play with because he is kind.* Well done to James – he hasn't been at Great Tew for very long but he has certainly shown us all what really lovely manners he has.

Great Tew School – Joint Overall Small Schools Sports' Champions

In this morning's assembly I gave out a huge pile of certificates to our Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 children who did so incredibly well in the "Virtual Athletics" competition. Very well done to all of them, who jumped, threw and bounced their hearts out and gathered an impressive array of Bronze, Silver and Gold certificates between them.

I am delighted to tell those of you that weren't there that we are delighted to have once again been awarded joint overall champions in the Chipping Norton Partnership Small Schools' Competition. Well done to all of the children who have represented their school so well this year, and also to Mrs Sellars, who has coached, trained and prepared the children so well.

Informal Photographs

Julia Fairrie, mother of Sophia in Year 1, came and took some informal photographs of the classes this week. These will be displayed outside the classrooms next week for you to place orders if you would like. Thank you to Julia for giving up her time to take these lovely pictures of the children.

Sports' Day

A reminder that Sports' Day takes place on Tuesday 15th July at 1pm at the Tew Centre. You should have received a letter in Book Bags today.

Mrs Lucy Miles

Dates Coming Up

Date	Event	Notes
Tuesday 15th July – pm	Sports' Day	
Wednesday 16th July - pm	Alternative Sports' Day	If weather bad on Tuesday
Thursday 17th July – 2.55pm	Year 3 and 4 performing 'Matilda Who Told Lies and was Burned to Death' by Hilaire Belloc	In the playground
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	