



Great Tew School Newsletter

Issue 203

Friday 21st November 2014



Christmas Fair

Please remember that Tuesday is the second non uniform day for children who bring in an item for the tombola, raffle etc. Today's donations were excellent, thank you. Please bring in any items you wish to donate to the book stall, soft toy tombola, tombola, unwanted presents etc as soon as possible.

Thank you.

Sharing Assembly Year 5 & 6 children – Friday 28th November

On Friday next week in our Celebration Assembly the Year 5 and 6 children will be sharing some of what they have been doing as part of this term's topic on "Why and how do we remember WW1?" Everyone is welcome so please do come and find out what they have been doing.

News from Reception

This week's letter has been "b" so please hunt for words beginning with this sound over the weekend. The children have been reading the story "Can't You Sleep, Little Bear?" and have talked about the different characters and the setting. This book will form a link into the children's mini-topic about lights/darkness/night/day/animals next week. They have been reading and writing speech bubbles, thinking about what people say. The children have been learning o'clock times in maths – please do encourage them to tell the time at home. Time is always a tricky concept with children (older ones too) and needs lots and lots of practice!

Interest Table: Torches and lights – please help your child to write a label telling us what they have brought in.

News from Years 1 & 2

This week has seen our play practice really taking off at a pace. Many narrators have learnt their lines by heart and others are well on their way. If your child is a narrator could you please spend some time helping them to read/recite slowly, clearly and with an element of expression. Each child has a letter in their reading bag with details of the play performances, the part they play and some costume ideas. Please take note of the dates as those published originally in the school newsletter were not correct. Dress rehearsal is Monday December 8th with the performances on Tuesday December 9th at 2pm and 6pm.

Maths this week has focused on doubling numbers 1-10 for year 1 and halving numbers up to 100 for year 2; any practice you can do at home helping your child to recall these number facts would be appreciated.

News from Years 3 & 4

We are finishing our Literacy theme of War Horse and have been concentrating on writing War Poems. Honestly, every time we raise the bar our children leap. The thought and feeling being given to this work has led to a very high standard of writing. We shall be creating a wall display of the poems, so pop in and have a read; it will fill you with pride.

We have been working on telling the time in mathematics. Most understand a nice round clock, but quite a few are struggling with working out bus times! If you have the opportunity, chat through digital, twenty four hour time and its conversion to analogue time. It is a life skill that the children need more and more.

Hey! We have gone online! You should have seen a yellow laminated card by now. If you have not, ask where it is. It is the key to Active Learning, a maths and literacy education platform. Homework will be found on the site and children gain rewards to enter virtual stores, garages and a sticker factory. The platform works best with Google Chrome. Chrome is free to download and is becoming the standard platform. So get with it, I have!!

Please make sure that your child has their wellington boots in school. This is a very wet place as springs burst out all over the place and, well it's autumn!

An apology for stating the obvious, but as we move toward winter it gets colder. Please make sure that the children have outdoor coats, scarves, gloves. We like the children to take in some fresh air during the day, they need outside apparel.

News from Years 5 & 6

This week the children have worked hard on fine-tuning their methods for short and long multiplication and they all seem to have cracked it! Science has been hands-on, with friction investigations using Newton Meters, trying to find out what sort of shoes or boots would have given the best grip for soldiers in the mud of the battlefields in WW1. I enjoyed being able to watch the children's gymnastics lesson at the Tew Centre on Wednesday – they are working in pairs to create gymnastic sequences which they will put to music and it is evident how much they are enjoying it and how much they are improving. The children will be performing their sequences to parents in their lesson on Wednesday 10th December at 2.30pm at the Tew Centre.

On Thursday morning the girls are going to take part in a hockey festival at Tudor Hall. Transport is arranged but girls will need to be at school promptly ready changed into their full school PE kit with shin pads and mouth guards.

Stars of the Week

Well done to the following children who are this week's stars. They have all been working hard, in the classrooms or on the sporting field.

Reception	William
Year 1 & 2	Zac
Year 3 & 4	Adam
Year 5 & 6	Finlay

Good Manners' Champion

Our Good Manners' Champion this week is Jemima Scott in Year 5. Jemima has a cheerful, sunny disposition and is someone whose manners can always be relied on. She is kind to all those around her, polite to both children and adults and is someone who is quick to apologise or make amends if she gets something wrong. The children told us: *she is a good peacemaker and helps people to make friends again if they have fallen out; she is always fun to play with; she always helps to find Gethin for his buddy Rose; she isn't mean or spiteful and she makes people feel happy; every once in a while she plays football on the astro turf (and she's quite good too!)* Well done Jemima – keep up those lovely manners!

School Council

The following children have been chosen to represent their classes on the School Council. We will be working this year on raising the profile of the School Council, developing the "pupil voice" and helping them to understand that they have the power to effect change. Well done to all of them; we know that they will do a good job representing the other children's views and we wish them well in this important role.

Year 1	Oscar Evans Pollard & Lucy Holmes
Year 2	Lily Colville & Monty Tosh
Year 3	Bella Evans Pollard & Hector Harvey
Year 4	Archie Grant & Isabella Blundell
Year 5	Gethin Collins & Jemima Scott
Year 6	Esme Jefferson & Louie Silvester

Christmas Feast

Could we please ask that you return your reply slip as to whether your child/children will be taking part in the Christmas Feast by Tuesday next week along with the £4 per child requested. **Please return your slip even if your child/children are not taking part as we need final numbers.** Thank you.

Road Safety Week – 17th – 20th November

Assemblies this week have focused, amongst other things, on teaching the children about road safety, in particular how and where to cross the road safely. Please do talk to your children about the responsibility they have for their own safety when out and about and how to keep themselves safe when crossing even the smallest roads. A road safety leaflet will come home next week. This website has useful information for parents and fun activities for children:

<http://think.direct.gov.uk/education/early-years-and-primary/>

Thank you to everyone for parking responsibly and helping to make it so much safer for the children to cross the roads to school.

Coats and Wellies – Every Day Please

Please make sure that children have a good waterproof/windproof coat and wellington boots for play in school every day.

PE Kit

All children must have the correct, compulsory PE kit: PE shirt, shorts, jogging bottoms, PE sweatshirt and white sports socks. Further details are on the website. The children will get wet over the winter and will need dry clothes to return to. A special request is that all PE kit is taken home **at least once a week** for washing. Year 3 & 4 are playing hockey at the moment. They need shin pads and if possible mouth guards.

Thank You for Making a Difference

I am delighted to share with you the results of last week's fundraising as follows:

Poppy Appeal	£154.29
Macmillan Cancer Support	£285.00
Be a Type Onesie for Type-1 diabetes	£169.92
<u>Total</u>	<u>£609.21</u>

Some of you may also have seen a letter to the school received from Banbury Foodbank, to thank us for our record-breaking harvest collection. It is displayed on the main school noticeboard.

Thank you to everyone in the school community for supporting these valuable causes and making a real difference to others.

I wish you all a happy weekend and look forward to seeing you next week.

Mrs Lucy Miles

Dates for Your Diary

DATE	EVENT	NOTES
Tuesday 25 th November	Non uniform day	This is for children who bring in an item for the tombola or raffle for the Christmas Fair.
Thursday 27 th November	Year 5&6 girls to hockey festival at Tudor Hall	9-12, transport provided. Girls need full PE kit, shin pads and mouth guards.
Thursday 27 th November	Year 1&2 children to Blists Hill Museum	Details have been sent home
Friday 28 th November	Year 5&6 class assembly	9am in our Celebration Assembly – all welcome
Saturday 29 th November	Christmas Fair 11am-2pm	Letter has been sent home
Monday 8 th December	Reception/KS1 Dress Rehearsal	
Tuesday 9 th December	Reception/KS1 Christmas Production at 2 pm and 6pm	Further details to follow
Wednesday 10 th December	Year 5&6 to perform their gymnastics sequences	2.30pm at the Tew Centre
Saturday 13 th December – 5pm	Great Tew Village Carol Service	
Wednesday 17 th December	Whole School Trip to Pantomime	Beauty and the Beast Letter has been sent home.
Thursday 18 th December	Christmas Lunch & Children's Party	
Friday 19 th December – 9am	End of Term Christmas Service	St Michael's Church
Friday 19 th December – 2pm	End of Term – 2pm	