



Great Tew School Newsletter

Issue 211

Friday 30th January 2015



Dear all

We have had a busy, chilly week and the children have been excelling themselves both in the classrooms and on the sporting field. We were delighted that the Year 5 and 6 netball team brought back another trophy for our cabinet on Wednesday – more of that below. Find out below a little more about what has been going on in the classes this week.

Reception

This week the children have been learning the sound /igh/ and practising the sound /ck/. They are working hard on reading and spelling their key words and tricky words. The children have been finding different ways to record scores, for example using a tally to count. They have been using books and computers to find out about the different homes people live in.

Interest Table

The theme of “My Home” continues until half-term. Please use this as an opportunity to do a little bit of writing at home with your child. Find something they would like to bring in to share with their teachers and friends and then support them to write their own label or caption to explain what it is. This time spent with your child is a really invaluable way to support their learning at home. Thank you.

Years 1 & 2

Letters and sounds this week for Year 1 has focused on the different spellings of the /oo/ (moon) phoneme – ‘ew’, ‘ue’ and ‘u-e’. The children have practised reading and spelling words containing the different letter combinations. Year 2 children have continued with their investigation of compound words, seeing how many compound words they can make which include the word ‘man’, ‘eye’ and ‘day’. They have searched various texts looking for interesting examples of compound words and practised spelling some of the frequently used ones. Science this week has been rather delicious as we investigated changing the shape of materials. I thought chocolate would be a popular choice so we changed its shape by making chocolate krispy cakes and used Mr Butler’s battleship moulds to make some chocolate ships as well! Both year groups devised their own investigations for changing the shape of other materials. Year 1s investigated which was the most stretchy elastic band, with year 2s using the classroom to investigate which part of our environment changed the shape of an ice-cube the quickest. We discussed the concept of ‘fair-testing’, took details measurements and made notes of our work.

Years 3 & 4

We have started the topic; ‘Where would you like to live?’ Based on an e-book, the children have been looking at life in Japan, USA, France, Brazil, Kenya, Australia and a strange place called the United Kingdom. Writing about their homes and surroundings I was interested to find that one of the class lives with lots of sheep and their family, in that order. Interesting lives we have! The Tew Centre has been the venue for the Year 3 & 4 ‘Gym Club’ for the past few weeks. The children have developed gymnastic displays set to music. Control, finesse and wonderful imagination have produced some great routines. It is our hope that we may invite parents to the final display when our panel of judges will adjudicate on the work. Please watch this space for more details.

Mrs Sam and I were very pleased to choose Lara as Star of the Week. It is not only that she tries hard, it is the fact that she is always striving to improve her work. Well done Lara!

Cardboard

We will be needing cereal-packet gauge cardboard for our Geography/DT&E project.

Please let us recycle your used cereal packets until we say; ‘ENOUGH!’ Thank you as always!

Years 5 & 6

This week children (and teachers) in Year 5 & 6 have been spotted head bopping, Egyptian dancing AKA `Walk Like an Egyptian` and occasional belly dancing (rumour has it Blythe's Grandfather lent them an Arabian CD with chill-out sounds and classical Arabian belly dancing tunes!) Instantly addicted to these beats they have been putting them on at every opportunity! When they haven't been dancing, Year 5 and 6 have been grappling with dividing fractions, logical reasoning questions (which didn't seem very logical to many) and Year 5s tried to work out the length of the side of the building – Toby, Max and Gethin demonstrated a very impressive grasp of Pythagoras (who?- you know the one with the theorem 3,4,5). Excellent lads!!!!

Homework Hero and all round hard working star is Millie; she is often heard saying, "Please can I have some more (work)?" to Mrs. Catling!!!

Stars of the Week

Well done to the following children, who are this week's stars. They have all been working hard and impressing their teachers.

Reception	Rose
Year 1 & 2	Thalia
Year 3 & 4	Lara
Year 5 & 6	Esme

Good Manners' Champion

This week's Good Manners' Champion is Scarlet Floyd in Year 5. Scarlet has lovely manners to both children and adults; she is a very good listener, someone who really shows people that she is listening, thinks about what other people say and responds appropriately. Scarlet is quiet and considerate with a quirky sense of humour and she always keeps an eye out for other children. The children told us: *she is polite and friendly to everyone; she has a very funny catching laugh and she makes other people laugh too; she is a really brilliant new addition to our class; she understands and listens to other people's points of view and doesn't mind if they don't think the same as she does.* Well done Scarlet – we are all glad to have you at Great Tew!

Morning Hockey Club - for children in Years 3 to 6

This will be starting again after Half Term, on Thursday 26th February. The club will be run by Carol Hicks and will run for 5 weeks, at a cost of £3 per week. Children should arrive at school at 8am, ready changed into their PE kit. Signing up sheet is now in the Year 3 /4 cloakroom if you would like your child/ren to attend.

Choir

Due to low numbers for an after school choir on Thursdays, I am now running a lunchtime choir for Year 3-6 children on a Thursday at 12.30. I know that there are a few Year 2 children keen to join too, so I will open the choir to Year 2 from after Half-Term. The cost is £1 per week, so that we can have Mr Nash accompanying us rather than Mrs Miles with her not-very-proficient one hand only! Children do need to be committed to coming every week. If your child would like to join the choir, please make sure they are signed up on the list. The cost will be £6 for this term (KS2 children) or £3 (Y2 children). There will be no choir on Thursday 5th March or Thursday 12th March.

Under 11 Netball

This week some children from Year 5 & 6 went to the Under 11's Netball Tournament at Chipping Norton School, with 5 schools taking part in the small schools tournament including us. We scored 4 goals in total. We drew the first match 0-0 against Chadlington, we won the second match 1-0 against Middle Barton and we beat the other two teams. We worked really well together and we won the tournament and came home with the cup! Millie from Year 5 said, "It was very cold, but we didn't give up and we won. It was really fun and we worked well as a team."

By Rhianna and Millie

The children played incredibly well as a team and were supportive of each other both on the pitch and on the sidelines when watching in the freezing cold; (they lent each other their sweatshirts and coats to keep warm!) Thank you to Mrs Sellars for training the children so well and to all the parents who helped with transport. Mrs Silvester made a point of coming to tell me how beautifully mannered her passengers were – well done boys! Sporting Champions were Rhianna and Alonso, for focused all round play and very good team skills. Well done to both of them.

Stop Press!

I mistakenly told you in last week's newsletter that Mrs Phillips was leaving us at Easter. She is in fact leaving us on Friday 6th February. My apologies for this error. I am pleased to tell you that Ms Furnivall has agreed to increase her hours on a temporary basis and will be working on Thursday and Friday mornings in Year 5 and 6 while other arrangements are made.

Breakfast Club

A sign up sheet for next term's Breakfast Club is attached to the newsletter.

Parents' Evenings – week beginning 9th March

This term's Parents' Evenings will take place on Tuesday 10th March (3.30-5.30) and Thursday 12th March (4.30-6.30).

With best wishes to everyone for a very happy weekend.

Mrs Lucy Miles

Dates for Your Diary

DATE	EVENT	NOTES
Monday 2 nd February	Y6 children to IMPS – Horton Hospital	
Tuesday 10 th February	Nurse measuring heights and weights for Reception and Year 6 children	
Wednesday 11 th February	“Play in a Day” project at Tudor Hall	16 year 5 and 6 children taking part. Letter has been sent home.
Wednesday 11 th February	Ball Skills Festival for Year 3 and 4 children – 3.00-4.45pm	At Chipping Norton School
Monday 16 th – Friday 20 th Feb	Half Term	
Thursday 26 th February	Bag2Schools Collection	Bags will go home in early February
Thursday 26 th February	Morning Hockey Club starts again	For children in Year 3-6. Please see sign-up sheet on noticeboard.
Friday 27 th February	Swimming starts for Year 3 & 4 children	Letter to follow
Monday 2 nd – Friday 6 th March	Y6 Residential Trip to Yenworthy Lodge	
Friday 13 th March	Science Day for Y5 children at Tudor Hall	Letter will be sent home – lunch will be provided
Wednesday 18 th March	Netball Festival at Tudor Hall for Y5 girls	Letter will be sent home
Wednesday 18 th March	Schoolympics for Year 2&3 children – 1.15-3.30	Chipping Norton School Letter to follow
Wednesday 25 th March	Y5/6 trip to Ashmolean Museum and Central Oxford Mosque	Letter will be sent home
Friday 27 th March	End of Term at 2pm	Easter Arrangements to follow