



Great Tew School Newsletter

Issue 212

Friday 6th February 2015



Reception

This week the children have been using the iPads to practise their letter formation, sight reading and spelling, using the 'Twinkl' Letters and Sounds apps. Look out for them if you would like to have a go at home as they link directly to our sessions in class.

The children have been having fun learning the months of the year and we have made you a colourful calendar to hang up at home! We have also revisited time this week, recognising o'clock and half past times.

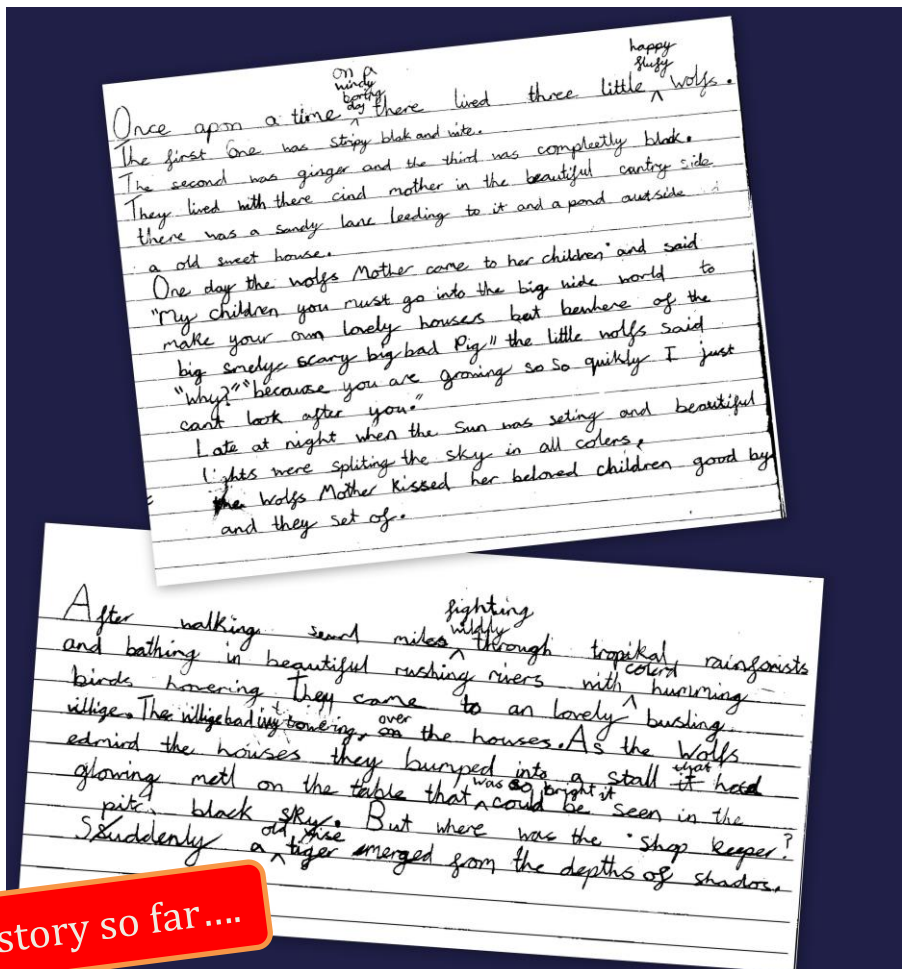
Our Homes topic has continued and we have been exploring the **insides** of our homes, talking about the different names that we all have for the various areas in our houses and what we use them for. The children have drawn their own bedrooms and told us all about their special things. Many thanks to Rose and her Mummy for the super caravan that she brought in for the interest table along with a detailed letter all about Albert who lives in it, the children loved to hear Rose telling us all about it.

Interest Table: Many thanks for all of your contributions; they have really added to our topic and the children have taken pride in showing us their photos, collages and writing. This topic will run until the half term break.

Years 1 & 2

Year 1 children have been trying to read nonsense words this week; they have used their knowledge of phonics to blend words and then decide whether the word is a real word or a nonsense word. All real words are placed in the treasure chest, with nonsense words going in the bin! Our English lessons this week have continued with the exploration of traditional tales and we have started to write our own adventure version of the Three Little Wolves and the Big Bad Pig. The children have amazed me with their creative ideas and fantastic writing.

I am sure you will all enjoy reading the beginning of Sophie's story.



Three Little Pigs Dance Display
 This term in PE the Year 1 & 2 children have been doing dance at the Tew Centre. They have been working hard choreographing and rehearsing their Three Little Pigs dance routines and they would love parents to come to watch them on Tuesday 19th February. If you would like to come along to see what they have been up to please be at the Tew Centre ready for a 2.15pm start. You may take your children from there if you wish but otherwise Mrs Butler and Mrs Woodward will walk the children back to school as usual.

Mrs Butler will not be here at the end of next week- the children will be taught by Miss Read on Wednesday morning and Mrs Platt on Wednesday afternoon, Thursday and Friday.

Sophie's story so far....

Years 3 & 4

Our focus has centred on the lives of others in other parts of the world. The children have researched and written about France and Alaska so far. They may also have regaled you with the Fijian rendition Bula, Bula, Quo and/or 'kua ni lega' meaning; 'Welcome Quo,' and 'Don't worry!'

Maths presentation has improved across the board and has led to some clearer perceptions of what we are doing. This week we have concentrated on addition and subtraction of decimals as well as manipulation of two digit numbers. We have also been reinforcing multiplication tables. Please encourage your children to learn their tables! 'Oh can't you hear your teachers and parents in this?'

Our topic work spans Geography and Design, Technology and Engineering. The cereal boxes! We are making 2.5 inch to the mile scale models of the Cotswold ridge where the Rollright Stones are situated. This work requires thought and accuracy. The children are really progressing their work and the boxes keep on coming in. 'Eat the cereal kids,' we implore. When the boxes come in they have to be disassembled and re-engineered to suit their new purpose. This was a mystery to the class in the first instance but now they understand, they just love doing it. They will explain!

Our Star of the Week is Walter. His kind manners and thoughtfulness endear him to us, coupled with his increased efforts to do well in all he tries to do. Well done and keep up the good work.

Years 5 & 6

*On Monday, the Year 6 children went to the Horton Hospital to learn about what goes on in a hospital and to be able to be safe, in our everyday activities. First we learnt about DRS ABC and CPR. We used our dummies (or Mrs Greens as the teachers called them). Also they showed us an AED machine and how to use it. Then we watched a DVD all about everyday problems and how to deal with them. Next we looked at some x-rays of broken bones. After that we were told all about plastercast and we were all given our very own moulded finger cast! After that we went to the A&E (Accident and Emergency) department to look at all the equipment that they use every day, such as bright lights for eyes and ears, anaesthetics and syringes, oxygen pumps and neck collars. We saw some heart monitoring equipment as well as an x-ray machine which was being repaired. We also learnt how to do the recovery position and we did it on each other. We all really enjoyed the trip and we are very thankful to IMPS (the **Injury Minimization Programme for Schools**) and the people who organised our morning, especially Hazel and Christine who taught us vital skills and also taught us how to save lives.*

By Tilly and Polly

A big thank you to Blythe's grandfather, who came in this week to teach the children a little Arabic and tell them all about his life in the Middle East. I am not sure they are yet quite fluent, but they learnt some important phrases and have learnt to count to ten!

Here we are on Tuesday enjoying our playtime on the green in the snow.

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	William
Year 1 & 2	Sophie
Year 3 & 4	Walter
Year 5 & 6	Omer
Staff	Mrs Phillips!!



Farewell to Mrs Phillips

In this morning's assembly we said farewell to Mrs Phillips, who leaves us today for a new venture. Mrs Phillips has been a wonderful, and very talented, Teaching Assistant in our school, making a huge difference to the many children that she has worked with over the years. We made Mrs Phillips Star of the Week and she sat on her golden throne while we told her what we valued about her: *Mrs Phillips makes delicious tea (!); She makes our learning fun; Mrs Phillips helps me to understand things; everything about her is good; she helped Mr Wadham settle in and learn how things were done when he started at Great Tew; she didn't mind being our video star; she joins in our fun with our class and groups – she enjoys our jokes and games.* We will all miss Mrs Phillips enormously and know that you will join me in thanking her for all that she has done for the school over her time here and to wish her and her husband Gareth the very best in their new venture.

Good Manners' Champion

This week's Good Manners' Champion is Rhianna in Year 6. Rhianna is someone who enjoys her friends and her playtimes and I have never known her involved in a playground argument or a falling-out. She is known for being a particularly good friend to all of the children; she has a great sense of fun and a sunny outlook on life and she is happy playing with all of the children, boys and girls, younger and older. The children told us: *Rhianna is always cheerful when we walk up to the pitches for PE; she is fun to talk to; she suggests really good games and that makes her fun to play with; she is very generous – she lets me borrow her books; she sits down nicely and talks to us on the plank in the playground; she has good jokes and makes us laugh.* Well done Rhianna – you are really valued by your friends and you make a very good Good Manners' Champion.

A Request from the School Council

The School Council have been thinking about painting our Percy the Peacock playground friendship stop. We would like to ask if anyone would like to volunteer to help us paint it. It would look even nicer and it would stand out better and we want to make sure that children always have someone to play with at playtimes. Thank you from the School Council.

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).

I hope you all have a fun-filled weekend.

With best wishes,

Mrs Lucy Miles

Dates for Your Diary

DATE	EVENT	NOTES
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