



Great Tew School Newsletter

Issue 213

Friday 13th February 2015



Reception

A little premature but this week we prepared for pancake day! The children all read their own pancake recipe and then later worked together to make the batter for Mrs Platt to cook; we all had a pancake (or two!) sprinkled with lemon and sugar. The next day the children wrote about their perfect pancakes and created shopping lists for all of the things that you would need to make them. Look out for the display of this fantastic writing next term.

The class created Valentine's Day cards and talked about their families and saying 'I love you'. They explored the different types of messages that we might write in a range of cards and greetings and they also found new ways to greet each other in a variety of different languages.

Years 1&2

In Science this week the children investigated the changing states of different materials such as water, jelly, egg, and chocolate in terms of liquids, solids and gasses. We talked about how temperature has an effect on them and whether this change can be reversed. We then used clay to model pots and observed the change as they dried. We tried adding water back to Mrs Platt's pot after it had dried and saw that the clay did indeed become malleable once more but then dried out again!

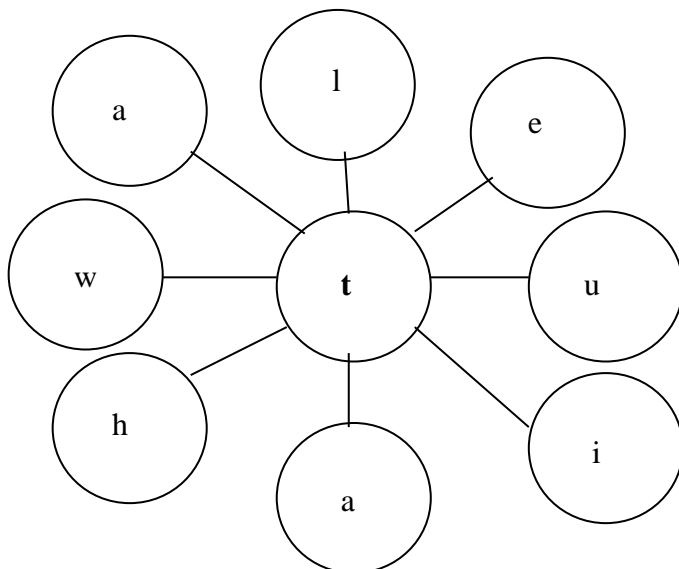
Everyone worked hard on the concept of 'time' in their maths work this week; we have reminded ourselves of half past and o'clock times, counted the seconds in a full minute/half/quarter of a minute and investigated what we can do in a minute. The Year Two children had several tasks to complete within a minute; they had to estimate how many times they thought they could complete it and then test their ideas.

We spent a lovely hour on Friday afternoon exploring the story of Moses; the children worked in groups to dramatise the various events and we brought it all together in a fantastic final performance.

A big thank you to all of the children in Mrs Butler's Class, I had a lovely few days! Mrs Platt

Years 3 & 4

A week of mixed fortunes but we are hopefully smiling at this end of the week! The children have worked hard throughout and have enjoyed an introduction to 'Polyflower,' our version of the word puzzle published in the papers. You may make as many words as you can using the central letter. Each word must be over three letters long and you must not use any capitalised words.



There you are an instant half-term holiday activity, enjoy!

The children took part in the CNPS ball skills afternoon at Chipping Norton School. Our class was divided into two, joined with similar groups from other schools and were named Denmark and Italy. They worked their socks off, in one case, literally! Great enjoyment all round. The noise in the sports hall was deafening, it reminded me of Status Quo's performance at the Portsmouth Guildhall in 1974. Now that was loud!

The downside of the week was undoubtedly James sliding and twisting his leg. *Nee Nahs* came and took him gently to hospital where a fracture was discovered. He is plastered up to the hip and will be six weeks in recovery. The children have sent a fantastic get well card to James entitled, 'You Slipped out of School.' Get well soon our mate, we miss you.

We shall be swimming on Friday mornings when we return. A letter has been sent to all parents. Can you please read, digest, then return the attached slip.

Our Star of the Week is Hugo. He works hard and is a good friend to all in his class. His work on 'The tree on the green,' is very good. Well done Hugo. Have a wonderful rest at half term and we shall see you back on Monday 23rd February.

Years 5 & 6

On Wednesday 11th February nine Year 5 and 6s did a bit of videoing for the school website using the iPads. Mrs Miles helped us by telling us when to start and end. It was a very exciting time videoing around our wonderful school. We have done a camera roll all about it. I was in a group with Max and we did as well as we could but it was harder than we thought it would be. Alonso was in a group with Omer and Louie; they made a lot of interesting rolls which were quite funny. Maddie and Esme did an amazing roll with the school and what it's like. We have quite a lot of work still to do and then we will need to edit the clips to put them into a short video.

By Finlay

On Wednesday 11th February 2015 15 of the children from Year 5 & 6 went to Tudor Hall for a drama day and had great fun. They made a "Play in a Day" about a girl named Jo in 2019 and all the bees were dying out and she was the only girl left alive. She was given a diary by her parents and she found that it was written by her Great, Great Grandmother in the Victorian times. Jo found out that her Great, Great Grandmother saved the world and that now it was her turn to do the same.

They had a very delicious lunch, and were very impressed with the vegetables! Tudor Hall had just built an amazing new drama hall which they will have lots of fun with. We were the very first people to use it!

By Victoria & Eliza

I was very pleased to go along and watch the children's final performance. They did incredibly well, performing with great enthusiasm and confidence in front of a large audience. I was struck by how well the children worked as a unit; their production was slick, with every child playing a key role in the overall effect. Well done to all of them – I was very proud and received a huge number of compliments about the children's behaviour, attitude and theatrical prowess!

P4C – Philosophy for Children

I enjoyed a Friday afternoon of philosophy with the children in Year 5 and 6. A large red heart was displayed on the board as a stimulus for discussion and the children threw themselves enthusiastically into exploring this image and what it meant to them. Someone was a little over eager to wipe the board clean, so I can't tell you all of their ideas, but here are just a few of the philosophical questions that the children came up with after talking about the image for a few minutes with their friends.

- What is love?
- Is love always good?
- Can **everyone** love and be loved?
- Do we take love for granted?
- If red is the colour of danger, how come red is also associated with love?
- Why is the heart a symbol of love?
- Do we need love to live?
- How was love first discovered?
- Is love a thought or a feeling?



The children elected to base their philosophical enquiry around the question "Is love always good?" All of the children were involved in the discussion, building on the ideas of their friends and the enquiry was of a very high calibre.

Medical Needs – a reminder to keep the school up-dated with any changes

Please see separate letter attached updating you on our policy for children with medical needs. Could I remind you that it is essential we know about all children who have inhalers. If your child has recently been prescribed an inhaler by the Doctor or has other medical needs that we should be aware of, please see Angela for the relevant medical forms to be filled in. The attached letter also contains a chart of various infectious diseases and the recommended time that children should be kept away from school.

The School Day – a reminder about drop off and collection times

Please could I remind parents and carers that children should be dropped off at school in the mornings **between 8.40am and 8.55am, ready in class to start the day at 8.55am**. The teachers are busy in the mornings, photocopying and preparing lessons for the day so please make sure that the children are not brought to the classrooms until 8.40am at the earliest. Whilst it is lovely that the children are keen to get to school there is no-one in the classroom to supervise them until 8.40am. If you need to bring your child to school before 8.40am for any reason, please speak to the office and arrange for them to be brought to Breakfast Club where they can be supervised. A reminder, too, that **children should be collected promptly at 3.15pm**. If you are going to be late for any reason, please make sure that the office knows. Children not collected by 3.25pm will be taken to the office to wait.

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	Lila
Year 1 & 2	Laura
Year 3 & 4	Hugo
Year 5 & 6	Blythe

Ball Skills Festival

On Wednesday, the Year 3 and 4 children went, with Mrs Sellars, Mr Wadham and Mrs Sam, to Chipping Norton School to take part in the Ball Skills Festival. They thoroughly enjoyed themselves, teamed up with children from Middle Barton, Kingham and Enstone Schools. Well done to all of them for representing their school so well, and particularly to the Sporting Champions who were chosen by the Year 11 Sports' Leaders for particularly good sporting attitudes and team work. They were Archie L-W, Bertie, George, Holly, Lara and Silvia.

Bag2Schools

Please remember our Bag2Schools collection is on Thursday 26th February. Do try to support us by filling as many bags as you can – perhaps you could even ask your friends, family and neighbours to do the same! Please letter attached. Bags should be brought to the school gate on Thursday morning as the collection will be soon after 9am.

Bad Weather – Information re School Closure

In the case of bad weather, we will of course endeavour to keep the school open if at all possible. However, in the event that we do have to close the school, we will let you know via a text message and will put information on the school website at <http://www.greattewschool.co.uk/>. We will also inform BBC Radio Oxford VHF/FM 95.2 and will contact the county council, who will post information on their website <http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/schoolclosures>.

Welcome

We were very pleased to welcome Sarah-Louise Thomas into Year 6 on Tuesday. Sarah has settled in quickly, making lots of friends already and we are very glad she has come to join us at Great Tew. We hope that she will be very happy here.

I hope that all of you enjoy a wonderful half-term holiday.

With best wishes,

Mrs Lucy Miles

Dates for Your Diary

DATE	EVENT	NOTES
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