



Great Tew School Newsletter

Issue 215

Friday 6th March 2015



A belated newsletter for last week, with some news from the classrooms.

World Book Day

Wow, what fantastic costumes the children arrived in for World Book Day! Many thanks to all you parents for a great display. It was such a pleasure to hear the children being so very complimentary to each other about their costumes, I even received a few myself! After the costume excitement the children settled down to creating a design for a National Book Token competition and enjoyed the book swap event.

Years 1 & 2

This week's letters and sounds has continued with the /ur/sound; the year 1 children can now recognise it as 'ur' – hurt, 'ir' – bird, 'er' – person and 'ear' – earth! Year 2 children have started to learn the complicated rules for making plurals by adding the suffixes 's', 'es' and 'ies'. As this is such a tricky spelling topic we will be working on it for a few weeks. Any help you can give them at home would be appreciated by them and me!

We had fun this week in English playing with electricity circuit components trying to make a light bulb work. After figuring out how to do it we have started to write an explanation text using the present tense, causal connectives and technical vocabulary.

Our topic work has focused on the life and achievements of Christopher Columbus; the children have used both the internet and books to carry out their research. They are using all their interesting facts to produce a poster about his life like they did for their 'famous explorer/inventor' homework. If you would like to do further investigations at home, the children enjoyed looking at the BBC schools famous people site and we watched the YouTube video -Renaissance Explorer Christopher Columbus.

Years 5 & 6

This week the year 5s have been practising hard for their upcoming Rugby (or 'Argby' as Mrs. Catling prefers to call it...I wonder why...Very TRYing!) tournament. We are now experts on back passing, defensive lines, touch-ons and the famous off-side rule, thank you Max!! Jemima was our (Wo)Man of the match for her tactical thinking and speedy passing!

In Topic we drew out a plan of the Round city of Baghdad as designed by Abu Ja'far (no, I'm not making it up!) complete with moats, towers, defensive fields, mosques and palaces.

In English we have been learning the many rules and exceptions to 'ie/ei' spelt words...LOTS OF GRIEF AND ANXIETY, BELIEVE ME! We are also well on with our story and poem entries for the Deddington Writing Festival based on the themes of 'light'.

Year Six in Yenworthy

Last week's trip to Yenworthy was a huge success. The children thoroughly enjoyed themselves, throwing themselves enthusiastically into every activity – the wetter they became, the more they enjoyed themselves! They were kind to one another – I really didn't hear a cross word from anyone all week – and they were incredibly well organised and tidy (no word of a lie!) Beds were made, towels were rolled, toothbrushes were lined up like soldiers, floors were vacuumed – I was even treated to "entertainment" when I did room inspection every morning! Both Ms Furnivall and I were very proud of the children; they made many new friends with children from St Amand's Primary School and the Yenworthy staff showered them with compliments. Do have a look at the photo updates displayed around school.

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	Matthew
Year 1 & 2	Isabelle
Year 3 & 4	Archie Leigh-Wood
Year 5 & 6	Jemima

Good Manners' Champion

This week's Good Manners' Champion is Ben in Year 1. Ben always shows very good manners towards grown-ups; he is particularly good at waiting quietly when they are talking so as not to interrupt their conversations. Ben always remembers his pleases and thank yous and he is good at remembering to stop and say "good morning" every day. The children told us: *Ben is always having a good time with his friends, he has good games; he is gentle with others and always includes others; Ben is really calm - he tells a teacher if there is a problem and he doesn't get upset; when I play with him he is always very kind; he has a great imagination!! And he is nice to be with.* Well done Ben – keep up those lovely manners.

Coming Up

Friday 13th March - Make Your Face Funny for Red Nose Day

Friday 13th March – Science Day for Year 5 children at Tudor Hall

Friday 20th March – "Solar Breakfast" – further details to follow

With best wishes,

Mrs Lucy Miles

Dates for Your Diary

DATE	EVENT	NOTES
Friday 13 th March	Science Day for Y5 children at Tudor Hall	Letter sent home – lunch will be provided
Wednesday 18 th March	Netball Festival at Tudor Hall for Y5 girls	Letter sent home
Wednesday 18 th March	Schoolympics for Year 2&3 children – 1.15-3.30	Chipping Norton School Letter sent home
Wednesday 25 th March	Y5/6 trip to Ashmolean Museum and Central Oxford Mosque	Letter sent home
Friday 27 th March	End of Term at 2pm	Easter Arrangements to follow