



Great Tew School Newsletter

Issue 216

Tuesday 17th March 2015



A delayed newsletter, due to me being away at the annual Oxfordshire Headteachers' Conference at the end of last week. However normal newsletter service should resume this week. I was sad to miss all the excitement of Red Nose Day- more of that below.

Years 1 & 2

This week's maths has covered different aspects of maths for the different year groups. Year 1 have been practising measuring objects and trends using non-standard measures (cubes). We have asked them to estimate before measuring, which caused quite a bit of frustration to start with. However, the more practice the children had, the better and more confident they became. We moved the measuring activity on to compare the difference between lengths and then amounts (number).

Year 2 have used a number square to help them add and subtract 2 digit numbers quickly and efficiently; they have amazed themselves by the speed at which they can do this.

The children have all now completed their non-fiction writing for how an electrical circuit can light up a bulb. I was so pleased by the positive comments made by parents about the standard of writing that they had seen in their children's books as the children had worked hard and were proud of their achievements.

We have started the art section of our topic this week by exploring and experimenting with tints and tones, different types of paper and thicknesses of brushes. More to be revealed next week!

Years 5 & 6

This week we had a fascinating afternoon led by Mrs Stewart (Sebastian's Mother) on the very topical and controversial issue of British Citizenship and immigration. First of all she asked whether it was okay for a non-British, non-European spouse of a British husband/wife to come and live in Britain permanently with all the benefits. The vast majority said NO! and gave reasons like, "Lots would come and we would be overcrowded." Then she asked the children what was good about living in Britain – they had plenty of ideas – the National Health Service, the history but not the weather! Mrs Stewart said Britain was very welcoming, tolerant and a calm society. Then she explained in a very funny way the long and complicated process she had to go through to get her visa.

Mrs Stewart then gave us the 'British Life' test. Here is one of the questions, see how you get on:

Big Ben is how many years old?- A) 150 B) 180 C) 200 D) 210 (answer below)

Finally Year 5s asked Mrs Stewart some questions they had created about Britishness. See how you get on:

Name 3 laws of England. (Jemima)

What was the name of the Bear at a London station? (Matilda)

In which County is the Jurassic coastline? (Finlay)

You will be pleased to know Mrs Stewart passed our test! *Answer: 150 yrs*

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	Florence
Year 1 & 2	Royce
Year 3 & 4	Sebastian Stewart
Year 5 & 6	Scarlet Floyd

Good Manners' Champion

Last week's Good Manners' Champion was Phyllida in Year Two. Phyllida loves to help out doing jobs at school and is particularly handy with a broom! We hear she is very helpful at home too, sorting ironing/cleaning up/bed-times and is polite at home. Phyllida's friends tell us: *Phyllida is really kind and nice to be around; she plays horse games; she always thinks of really good games to play; I always have fun when I play with Phyllida; she is really good at football; Phyllida is very helpful in class, especially at tidy-up time; she is great at remembering to say please and thank you.* Well done Phyllida – keep up those lovely manners.

“Solar Breakfast”

On Friday morning we are holding a Solar Breakfast, to mark the partial solar eclipse taking place between approximately 8.30 and 10.40am. A letter has been sent home with details – please make sure that slips are returned as **children will not be allowed to view the eclipse if we have not received the permission slip**. Ed Allen has very kindly agreed to help out with bacon rolls for breakfast – there will be a small charge for these to cover the cost. Even if the sun doesn't appear, (Florence in reception assures me that it will and she has been watching the weather forecast very carefully!) we hope to have a memorable morning, sitting in the playground wearing strange glasses and eating bacon rolls!

Red Nose Day

What a fantastic show there was on Friday of costumes, face painting, wigs etc. We think even Mrs Butler wasn't recognised in Assembly!! The cake sale at the end of the day sold out rapidly; well done to those cake bakers and decorators. We are very pleased to let you know that the fantastic total of £187.33 was raised on the day. This amount will now be matched by the Government giving a grand total for our school of £374.66, WOW!!! Well done everyone.

Red Noses in Blenheim Park

A very well done to Isabella and Lucia, who wanted to do something to raise money for Red Nose Day. They decided to put on their pyjamas and dressing gowns and walk five miles around Blenheim Park, adorned in deely-boppers, red noses and face paints. Lucia set a pace that even grandad found hard to keep up with, that was down to her "magic walking shoes, which just won't stop walking!" The girls completed their walk in 1 hour and 45 minutes – no mean feat for relatively little legs - and they have raised over £120 so far, with more still coming in. We are all very proud of them.



Easter Raffle

The Great Tew School Supporters' Club will be holding an Easter raffle on the last day of term after the Church service, when the children have walked back to school, to raise funds for the school. A letter was sent home to all on Friday; if you didn't receive yours please ask Angela for a copy.

To make this event a success we rely on your generosity and would be grateful for donations on an Easter theme for prizes. Easter eggs, Easter cakes, boxes chocolates, bottles of wine, plants etc. If you can donate a prize please could you bring it to the office by Friday 20th March as if not enough prizes are forthcoming we will have to cancel this fundraiser.

NITS!

Once again we have **NITS** in school. Anyone can catch them (however clean their hair). Scratching is usually a sign that lice have been present for some time, therefore please do not wait for this –check your child's hair now and if you find any sign, eggs or live lice treat the whole family. Children with long hair should have it tied back in a pony-tail or plait.

With best wishes,

Mrs Lucy Miles

Dates for Your Diary

DATE	EVENT	NOTES
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
Friday 20 th March	Solar Breakfast	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
Monday 13 th April	Summer Term begins	Children return to school