



Great Tew School Newsletter

Issue 218

Friday 27th March 2015



This term seems to have whizzed past and it doesn't seem long since we came back after Christmas. Every classroom has been a hive of industry, and the children's experiences have been varied and engaging, with Arabic lessons, bird-watching, drama and science workshops, dance and gymnastics displays, choral performance and 3D relief modelling to name but a (very) few of the things that the children have particularly enjoyed this term. When I asked the children in Year 5 and 6 to tell me some of the things they had most enjoyed this term, Millie surprised me with the maturity of her answer by saying: "I have really enjoyed knowing that I am making progress!" What a great attitude to her learning Millie has!

It was lovely to see so many parents at the end of term Easter service this morning. I know you will agree that the children performed beautifully, reminding us why it is that we celebrate Easter with songs, poems, drama, music and readings. Well done to all of them and thanks to all of you for helping to create the magnificent array of bonnets that paraded down the hill back to school!

Reception

The Reception children have been thoroughly enjoying spending more time outside this week. When I dropped in to see them one day, every single child was in the sandpit! They were all busy, working beautifully together, developing so many important skills: measuring, pouring, building, sharing, designing, planning, communicating, reflecting..... the list goes on and I think they could have spent the entire morning there! The children have been learning the Easter story and they designed some very imaginative Easter gardens. They have also just planted up their wellies with pansies – do take a look at the beginning of term ; they look wonderful!

Years 1 & 2

This week, amidst all the excitement of the Easter bunny, the children have been working very hard, finishing off their underwater stories. They have really developed their descriptive writing, learning how to help the reader imagine a picture in their minds. The children have thoroughly enjoyed their art work this term on the theme of water and sea. They have been learning about colour mixing, light and dark, texture and collage and have produced some very effective artwork now displayed in their classroom.

Years 3 & 4

The children have been talking about the things that they have enjoyed this term. Top of the list seems to be their three dimensional models. Many want to visit the Rollright Stones with a new eye on the landscape around it. In particular they would like to see the two valleys to the south. When the weather is better ...

We have been writing our Spring Poems. Ask your child about their personal experience of planning and writing their poem. It has been so rewarding helping them. Some of the words, phrases and imagery are stunning.

The class has been rehearsing for their part in the Easter service. Hopefully you will have seen it by the time of publication but just to say to the children; well done, it was fantastic preparing for this and we were all very proud of you. Have a good Easter break. We are swimming on the first Friday of next term. We will also be doing P.E and games on the first Monday and Wednesday back. Can your children please come to school prepared for these lessons.

Years 5 & 6

Stamping, whooping, clapping and vocal acrobats were the order of the afternoon last Tuesday at Chipping Norton School. The Year 5 & 6 children were lucky enough to be invited to the Chipping Norton Music Festival school singing workshop with about 150 other children, led by musical director Peter Hunt. The whole afternoon was a master class in choral and part singing. The children loved belting out popular tunes like 'Let it go' from 'Frozen' and the soulful 'Summertime'. They made a fantastic sound for the evening performance in front of parents and everyone said it was a unanimous "Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious!"

Our Trip to Oxford

On Wednesday 25th March, Years 5 & 6 went on a great trip to a Mosque in Oxford and also to the Ashmolean Museum. Firstly (at the Mosque), we went into the main prayer room, where there were over 500 arrows on prayer rugs pointing towards Mecca (capital of Saudi Arabia). This is where they pray five times a day except on Friday when they pray upstairs under a big dome. Everyone thought the building was amazing!

Next we went on the bus to the Ashmolean, we split up into different groups and saw many amazing things, such as: bowls from over a thousand years ago and plates from AD900. We had to fill out questionnaires on what we saw and read.

Soon we were on the bus back to Great Tew, entertaining the teachers with songs from last week's Music Festival and having had a great day.

By Jamie Levene (Year 5)

Limes Farm

Parents of children in Years 3 to 6 will need to order lunch using an order form. It is essential that forms and cheques are returned to Limes Farm by Thursday 2nd April.

Affordable Art Fair

If you are about this weekend you might like to go to the Affordable Art Fair at the Tew Centre. Everyone is welcome. Saturday and Sunday, times on both days are 11.00 am – 4.30 pm.

Chipping Norton Literary Festival

Chipping Norton Music Festival is coming up soon, from 23rd to 26th April. There are some wonderful events for both children and adults so book early to avoid disappointment. A flyer has been sent home this week, but one is attached in case it has gone missing!

Clubs for Next Term

| Day | Club | Open to | Run By | Time | Starting | Price/details |
|--------------|---------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------|---|--|
| Mon | Recorder | Y2 to Y6 | Mrs Platt | 3.15 to | Monday 20 th April | £2 per week to be paid in advance |
| | Cookery | All children (mixed age pairs) | Mrs Miles | 3.15 to 4.30 | Monday 20 th April to Monday 1 st June | £15 for a five week block Limited to 12 children |
| Tues | Hockey | Y1 to Y6 | Carol Hicks & Mrs Butler | 3.15 to 4.30 | Tuesday 14 th April | £18 for half a term. Sign up list on board |
| | Booster | Year 6 | Mrs Catling | 3.15 to 4.15 | Tuesday 14 th April | No cost |
| Thurs | Choir | Y2-Y6 | Mrs Miles | Lunchtime 12.30-1.00 | Thursday 16 th April | £1 per week to be paid in advance Sign up list on board |
| | Football | Rec to Y2 | Arsenal Academy | 3.30-4.30 | Thursday 16 th April | To be paid in advance |
| | Football | Y3 to Y6 | Mark Andrews | 3.30-4.30 | Thursday 16 th April | £42 per twelve week term |
| Fri | Art Explorers | All children | Jane Zibarras & Katie Aspinall | 3.15-4.30 | Friday 17 th April | £2 per week Sign up list on board |
| | Dance | Rec to Y2 | Madeleine Headley-Ford | 3.15-4.00 | Friday 17 th April | Booked direct with Madeleine Headley Ford |

Breakfast Club

Please find attached next term's Breakfast Club signing up form.

Pi Day

Saturday 14th March was Pi Day (that was a new one to me too!) and the boys in Year 5 spent a very enjoyable morning with Ms Furnivall doing a range of activities learning a little more about this very special number.

- They learnt about the relationship between Pi, diameter and circumference
- They made a colour coded paper-chain, using 10 colours to represent the 10 digits. They had to see how far they could get in 3.14 minutes, working as a team! Their paper-chain was 52 digits long, representing the number 3.141592653589793238462643383279502884197169399375105! Not a bad effort.
- They created sentences using the digits of Pi to determine how long each word should be. Their examples mostly involved the word “chocolate” for their 9-letter word! Eg:
Hey, I love, I adore chocolate. It always melts tho’.....3.141592653
Now I have a yummy chocolate to nibble today. The taste inspires.....3.14159265358

Sponsored Walkers

A very well done to Oscar Evans-Pollard and Toby and Seb Kitchen, who completed a walk on Saturday in aid of the Red Cross Ebola appeal. Oscar did very well to walk 5 miles and he was very keen to tell me all about it on Monday morning. Toby and Seb walked with the Middle Barton Cub Pack; they started at Lower Heyford and walked all the way to Banbury Castle Quay along the Canal Tow Path, raising £80 for the appeal. Well done to all the boys for making a difference.

Easter Raffle

Thank you to all those who donated prizes and bought raffle tickets and to Angela and Mim Clubb who organised the raffle. We were very pleased to raise £173 for the Supporters’ Club.

Bag2School

A big thank you to everyone for collecting such a mountain of bags for us, particularly those who hassled friends, family and neighbours to support us too. We were very pleased to have collected 540kg, thereby raising £216.00 for NBAT. Thank you to Michelle Adams for arranging the collection for us.

Farewell

The children and staff were all very sad to say goodbye to George Allen yesterday. With his cheeky sense of humour and wry grin, George is popular with everyone and an asset to his class and we will all miss him. We wish George the very best in his new school. We know he is not too far away and expect to see him peering over the fence at us!

Wishing you all a very happy Easter; enjoy those longer days and the sunshine we are promised!

Mrs Lucy Miles

Dates for Your Diary

| DATE | EVENT | NOTES |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|
| Monday 13 th April 8.55am | Summer Term begins | Children return to school |

2015-2016 TERM DATES

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| Autumn Term 1 begins | Wednesday 2 nd September |
| Autumn Term 1 ends | Wednesday 21 st October at 3.15pm |
| Autumn Term 2 starts | Monday 2 nd November |
| Autumn Term 2 ends | Friday 18 th December at 2.00pm |
| Spring Term 3 starts | Tuesday 5 th January |
| Spring Term 3 ends | Friday 12 th February at 3.15pm |
| Spring Term 4 starts | Monday 22 nd February |
| Spring Term 4 ends | Wednesday 23 rd March at 2pm |
| Summer Term 5 starts | Monday 11 th April |
| Summer Term 5 ends | Friday 27 th May at 3.15pm |
| Summer Term 6 starts | Monday 6 th June |
| Summer Term 6 ends | Wednesday 20 th July at 2pm |