



Great Tew School Newsletter

Issue 219

Friday 17th April 2015



What a lovely first week back we've had, with the sun shining all week. The children have had so much fun outside, both at play times and during lesson times. They have been rolling down the bank, "chilling" under the cherry tree, reading in the shade, playing football, stiling like crazy, planting and digging and even photographing the grounds for an interactive school tour.

Welcome

On Monday we were very pleased to welcome Amber Owen into Year 4. Amber has just moved here from Dudley and has settled in very well. A big welcome to Amber and her family - we hope that she will be very happy here.

Reception

This week we have had so much fun with our treasure boxes that the children created as their holiday homework. The idea is to create a speaking and listening opportunity for the children to manage themselves in our quiet 'Cushion Corner'. A few of the children have already presented their box to the class beautifully, answering questions thoughtfully while the rest of the class focus on thinking of interesting or different questions that they could ask. This will continue for the next couple of weeks.

We have begun working on our new topic for this term, 'Growing and Changing'. The children have been reading a book called 'My Bean Diary' and looking at diagrams which show in detail how a bean grows. They have quickly become very interested in this and we are looking forward to planting our own beans next week.

Our theme in Letters and Sounds this week has been matching upper and lower case letters and forming capital letters. In Maths we have been finding ways to solve problems, understanding that we may have to make several different attempts before we find a solution and in the end there may not be a way to solve it and we just have 'one left over'! We have been thinking about problems involving sharing and doubling.

Interest Table: The treasure boxes are our main focus for the next few weeks with the interest table and show and tell on hold.

Years 1 & 2

Our topic this term is 'What would Travelling Tiger find exciting about Great Tew village?' This will incorporate geography, science, ICT, art, DT and PE! The geography aspect will include making and using maps and field work, looking at local human and physical geography. Our science will be based on the study of local plants and trees and will of course involve us cultivating part of the school garden to grow our own fruit and vegetables.

We have made a cracking start already; this week we have made and mapped our own obstacle courses and marked on them the route we took through the course. We also looked closely at different seeds and sorted them according to different criteria such as size and colour.

Years 3 & 4

The children have been out and about in the school grounds, planning and preparing for the interactive tour of the school that they are writing in literacy. The playground and school has been a buzz of excitement as the children look at their surroundings through fresh eyes and a camera lens! The children have been so friendly and welcoming to Amber and I know how pleased the girls are to have improved their girl:boy ratio just a little bit!

Years 5 & 6

The sunshine has lured us outside a lot this week. We thoroughly enjoyed our cricket training ready for the Tew Cricket Tournament, with quite a few catches and wickets already!! And the Cricket pitches felt like the Caribbean on Wednesday afternoon for the start of our athletics practice. The children recorded their personal best at throwing, sprint, long distance, speed bounce and long jump, which we shall compare to our final attempt in a few weeks' time. Please remember to look out the class term newsletter which was handed out on Thursday if you haven't seen it yet. It includes lots of interesting information on our new topic, when SATs is and our Summer Reading challenge!!

Library

Many thanks to the Cardona and Leigh-Wood family for their kind donation of beautiful picture books and novels for our library. The library girls (Millie, Esme, Victoria and Tilly) have been working hard to stamp, sort and catalogue them all and the shelves are now fit to bursting with exciting stories, so please come and browse them.

Beavers, Cubs and Scouts – St George’s Day on Thursday 23rd April

St George is the Patron Saint of the Scouts and to mark this special occasion all children who are Beavers, Cubs or Scouts are invited to come to school next Thursday 23rd April (St George’s Day) in their scout uniform.

Stars of the Week

Well done to all of our hard-working stars of the week.

Reception	Bertie
Year 1 & 2	Rosie
Year 3 & 4	Adam
Year 5 & 6	Jemima

Good Manners’ Champion

This week’s Good Manners’ Champion is Lara in Year 3. Lara is someone who is just lovely to have around school, thanks to her positive attitude, her cheerful outlook and the way that she is so considerate of other people, all of the time. The children told us: *she always looks out for us in the playground; she is never mean; she always works hard but she is good fun with her friends too; she doesn’t try to boss other people; she always thinks of other people before herself; she is really, really nice, all of the time and, well, just..... perfect!* Well done Lara – we love having you in our school!

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 second flyer has been sent home this week or go to <http://www.chiplitfest.com/> to find out more.

Cornbury Festival Music Prize

Well done to Esme Jefferson, who has won herself and her family tickets for the Cornbury Festival in July. These tickets are arranged for us by Simon Duffy, headteacher at Chipping Norton School, to be awarded to a student showing particular talent or progress in music. Three Year 6 children, Louie, Sarah-Louise and Esme, auditioned today for these tickets and Mr Butler and I had the hard job of making a decision. All three children performed very well and impressed us with their confidence and natural talent but it was Esme’s beautiful performance of “When I Grow Up” from Matilda that won her those much sought-after tickets. Well done Esme.

Clubs for This Term – please go to the office to sign up

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 FULL	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 Cheque to OCC please.
Tues	Hockey	All children	Carol Hicks & Mrs Butler	3.15 to 4.30	Tuesday 14 th April	£18 for half a term to be paid in advance please. Cheque to OCC please.
	Booster	Year 6	Mrs Catling	3.15 to 4.15	Tues 14 th April	No cost
Thurs	Choir	Y2-Y6	Mrs Miles	Lunchtime 12.30-1.00	Thursday 16 th April	£12 per term, to be paid in advance – CASH PLEASE
	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 – CASH PLEASE 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
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With best wishes for a happy weekend,

Mrs Lucy Miles

Dates for Your Diary

Monday 20 th April	Eye tests for Reception children
Wednesday 22 nd April	Modern Foreign Language Festival for Year 4 children – Chipping Norton School
Thursday 23 rd April	St George's Day – Scouts, Cubs and Beavers can come to school in their Scout Uniform
Thursday 23 rd April	Ellen Caldicott, author, to visit Years 3 to 6
Wednesday 6 th May	Athletics Festival for selected Year 4 to 6 children

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