



Great Tew School Newsletter
Issue 220
Friday 24th April 2015



SAVE THE DATE !!!!



Cornbury is fast approaching..... 10th, 11th, 12th July 2015

Tea for Tew shall be providing hot and cold beverages and delicious homemade cakes as well as savoury options for our 5th year at this local festival.

In previous years, we have asked parents and friends of Great Tew Primary and Pre-School to help provide our dedicated team of parent-bakers donated ingredients to make our signature cakes. This year however, for your convenience, popular demand and for a smoother running of this process, we are asking for voluntary monetary contribution. In this way, the bakers will have more control of quantities and shopping for the ingredients to bake at a time convenient to them.

Tea for Tew produce in excess of 5000 cups of tea, 4000 portions of cake and 1000 savoury options to very hungry festival goers!

The fundraising opportunity we have been given over the years at this event has been HUGE for the school and its success is only as good as its volunteers behind it! We do hope you can find some time to set aside to help (for many of you for your 5th year) over this fun and community spirited weekend.

We shall be in contact again very soon regarding arrangements for you to make your voluntary monetary contributions as well as our volunteers' rota over the three days!!

MANY THANKS Michelle, Sharn and team x

Reception

We planted our beans this week and are ready to watch them grow! We got creative with plastic bottle bottoms and pink & white paint to make beautiful blossom pictures just like the blossom that we have seen in our garden. We have been reading 'Jasper's Beanstalk' and next week this will lead us to talk about sequencing words, eg, first, next, then, later and finally. We will be using these words in our writing.

In Maths this week we have been exploring problems to do with capacity; we have considered which watering can is the best for a variety of different jobs. The children have spent lots of time playing in the tray, finding out which containers can fill others or which cause them to overflow. They have been finding out how many smaller containers can be filled from a large one and using this information to decide which container is largest/smallest. This week you should have received a topic plan for the term, please look out for it in your book bag.

Years 1 & 2

This week letters and sounds for Year 1 has focused on /ow/ as in 'town' and /ea/ as in 'bread'; we have also practised reading nonsense words to check that we are reading all our graphemes accurately. Year 2s have been looking at how the meanings of words change when the suffixes 'er' or 'est' are added, and the spelling rules which apply. Our English lessons have focused on the works of significant authors and how their writing style, illustrations, characters, settings etc are often reflected throughout their work. The children have been thinking about what they like or dislike about the authors' work and the age group the stories are targeted at.

Both year groups have tackled the skill of bridging tens numbers to make adding and subtracting easier especially when working mentally. A Year 1 example would be $27 + 6$ where we have added $27 + 3 = 30$ to use our knowledge of number bonds to 10 and have then added the remaining 3 to 30 to equal 33. Year 2 have used this skill to find the difference between two numbers rather than completing a more difficult subtraction for example $54 - 48$ can be turned around to count on from 48 to 54. They are encouraged to count on 2 first to make 50 and then count on the remaining 4 to give them a difference of 6

The children may have told you they have had great fun with Mr Butler starting to clear and dig two of the vegetable patches in the school garden. They also planted a selection of beans in pots which are being watched very closely as the packets say germination 7 – 14 days; woe betide them if they don't, expectations are high!

Years 3 & 4

To misquote Robert Browning; *"Oh to be in Great Tew, now that spring has sprung!"*

The pleasant weather has seen us out and about the school preparing 'The Grand Tour.' Each group have been planning a visual tour of the school with the eventual aim of producing a welcome film for the school web-site. It is very complicated work and requires a great deal of thought but the children are rising to the occasion and are gradually taming the many problems that this project presents.

To quote John Cleese; "Apart from education, roads, sanitation, rule of law and baths ... what have the Romans ever done for us!" Well we have started to find out, starting with the legend of Romulus and Remus.

The class were set a Teaser Hunt that has had them puzzling over cryptic clues leading to weird and wonderful things around the school. 'Sapere Aude!'

Years 5 & 6

And they're off!...the year 5 and 6 children have got off to a flying start with their Summer Term reading challenge. Toby is in the lead with 3 books read so far, Gethin is quickly catching him up with 2 books and a few are still yet to get off the blocks! (including Mrs Catling). (Jemima's 5 books she read over Easter doesn't count..boo!) So put down your ipads, get off your computer games, grab a book or kindle and get reading.

This week in maths we looked at the latest predictions for the General Election. We took the % share and converted it into a pie chart, then the children drew the pie chart and segments using protractors and compasses.

Mrs Tibbetts visited us this week on Thursday and she set the children a debate on 'Should all hunting be banned?' The children had strong points of view but could also see that there are often two sides to an argument.

Stars of the Week

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

Reception	Holly
Year 1 & 2	Lily
Year 3 & 4	Amber
Year 5 & 6	Victoria

Good Manners' Champion

This week's Good Manners' Champion is Sophie Wilson-Fry in Year 4. Sophie is helpful, thoughtful and witty. Always polite, to both adults and other children, Sophie is a great ambassador for our school. The children told us: *Sophie is really enthusiastic to everyone whatever she is doing and wherever she is; she has a great sense of fun and a great sense of humour; Sophie always asks people if they are okay. Sophie plays happily all the time and plays with different people every day; she shares and plays nice games; Sophie always looks out for her sister and will play with her if she needs to; Sophie includes people and she is a leader in the class.* Sophie has a great sense of humour and she keeps Mr Wadham in his place – hurrah! Well done Sophie – you really do have lovely manners.

Modern Languages Festival at Chipping Norton School

On Wednesday the Year 4 children took part in a Modern Foreign Languages Festival at Chipping Norton School, attended by every child in Year 4 in the Chipping Norton Partnership of Schools! The children loved their afternoon, trying their hand at French, German and Russian. I certainly learnt something too, though please don't ask me to write my name in Russian! Well done to all of the children for taking part so enthusiastically and for representing their school so well.

Chipping Norton Literary Festival

As part of the festival, the Key Stage Two children were very lucky to have a visit from Elen Caldecott, the author. She explained how she constructed her plots and how this develops with characters that spring out of her experience of life. The comments from the children ranged from 'interesting' through 'inspiring' to 'awesome!' Elen had the children gripped and bursting with ideas; it was lovely to see them so keen to create a story with her and I think all of us finished the afternoon itching to get out our pencils and notebooks and start writing!

Limerick Competition - ChipLitFest

Congratulations to Jennifer Aylett who won 2 tickets to Joe Craig's event, Jimmy Coates: Part boy, Part Deadly Weapon and to Lara Woodward who won 2 tickets to Tamsyn Murray's "Completely Cassidy's Big PJ Party".

Their limericks are below;

There was an old dog from Great Tew,
One day he fancied the zoo,
He went in the car,
To see the Ganoo,
And spotted his favourite nephew.

By Lara Woodward

There was a young girl called Jen,
Who had a big fat hen.
They both went to Chippy
and had a Mr Whippy
And then went home again.

By Jennifer Aylett

Save the Date – Summer Fete

The Great Tew School Supporters' Club will be holding the annual Summer Fete on Saturday June 20th from 11 – 1 pm. Further details will follow shortly.

Beachborough "Come and Tri" Triathlon Series 2015

We have some dedicated and talented "tri-ers" in school now; it would be lovely to see even more taking part this year.

- Beachborough Aquathon at Bloxham School on Sunday 26th April – to sign up go to www.stuweb.co.uk/event2052
- Beachborough Triathlon at Stowe School on Sunday 14th June – to sign up go to www.stuweb.co.uk/event2046
- Beachborough Duathlon at Beachborough School on Sunday 27th September – to sign up go to www.stuweb.co.uk/event/2053

Garden Working Party – Can You Help?!

You should have received a flyer in book bags this week asking for some help getting our garden back into shape again, so that the children can once more enjoy this wonderful space we are so lucky to have. If you have some time and energy to spare and would like to help out, please come along to one of the working parties that Mrs Platt has arranged: Saturday 2nd May from 10-12 and Wednesday 13th May from 1-3pm.

A sign-up sheet will go up on the main notice board next week.

With best wishes for a happy weekend,

Mrs Lucy Miles

Dates for Your Diary

Tuesday 28 th April	Year 3 and 4 children taking part in the BLOODHOUND SSC Education Experience
Saturday 2 nd May	Garden Working Party 10am to 12pm
Wednesday 6 th May	Athletics Festival for selected Year 4 to 6 children
Wednesday 13 th May	Garden Working Party 1pm to 3pm
Mon 11 th to Fri 15 th May	Key Stage Two SATs Tests

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