



# Great Tew School Newsletter

## Issue 221

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2015



### TEA FOR TEW - THE BAKING IS ABOUT TO BEGIN!

The ingredients are bought and it's time for our wonderful team of bakers to get **READY, STEADY, COOK!!** We will soon be asking for monetary contributions towards the ingredients – please be as generous as you can. This is a **HUGE** fundraiser for the school, from which every child benefits.



### GARDEN WORKING PARTY!

Are you free tomorrow morning from 10-12? Can you spare some time?

If so, please come along and join us to begin clearing the garden so that it can be used and enjoyed by the children. Bring along some tools and see you there!

The week has flown by – and, as usual, life in school has been busy.

## Reception

First, next, then, much later, finally... we have been using this language in most of our work and play this week to help us to sequence our thoughts, ideas and sentences. Next week our Literacy work takes us to the top of the beanstalk with Jack and his magic beans! If you have a copy of this story at home please bring it in next week as we would like to compare different versions with the children.

Please keep practising those 'best friend' sounds in your Letters and Sounds booklets and have a go at spelling words that contain them, grab a wipe off board, note book or bit of scrap paper and get writing!

Our maths work this week has focused on calculations and the children have been finding ways to solve addition and subtraction problems. They have used their fingers, number lines, objects and facts that they can recall to do this as efficiently as they can.

Everyone was very excited to see the roots and shoots of our beans doing exactly what we read about in our book and on the computer in our topic work! Next week we will be thinking about the things that **we** need to grow happy, healthy and strong just like we hope our beans will.



## Years 1 & 2

There has been great excitement this week as most of our beans have germinated and some are well on the way to reaching the classroom ceiling! Classroom conversations have focused on why one batch of beans hasn't germinated (Dwarf French Beans). The children want to do something about it but can't agree between them what it should be, "Shall we give them more water?", "No, they need to be outside!", "NO, they need to be in the dark!", "Well I think they need to be warmer." Patience I say, the packet said 7 to 14 days for germination and their time is not up yet!

The children have written some lovely stories this week based on 'The Tunnel' by Anthony Browne. Many of them really captured the writer's style, some remembered phrases from the book and used them in their writing and some managed to introduce suspense. Laura (year1) remembered how to use ellipses for suspense and had me turning the page desperately, to find out what happened next!

## Years 3 & 4

We travelled to the Banbury & Bicester College on Tuesday for the BLOODHOUND SSC Experience. I have never been on a trip with such well behaved, excited and engaged children as Year 3&4. They were a joy to be with. Congratulations to all parents for bringing them up that way! This was the very last presentation from BLOODHOUND SSC under an eighteen month arrangement with the DfE and I was personally very glad that amongst us was the 24,753rd pupil to have enjoyed the experience. There were films, explanations, experiments and racing, what a day. We have followed up with some writing and we will be returning to the Science in the next few weeks.

We continue to prepare our Grand Tour of the school. The initial films have begun to take shape and the children's work is very encouraging. In maths, confidence is rising and we have been looking at more addition, subtraction and multiplication.

## Years 5 & 6

After a lot of discussion we composed and typed out our 'Tew trading links' questionnaire this week in groups. The very professional, formal looking survey will be winging its way to every household in Great Tew to find out what commercial activity is going on in Great Tew and what countries in the world imports come from and exports go to. Look out for questionnaires if you live in Tew; we intend to collate and analyse the answers and publish our results for the village to share. We think we have a very international little village and want to find out exactly how many countries we link to. We have been scratching our heads this week (no, we don't have nits in class!) with a range of challenging angle questions in maths. Update on the reading challenge race: currently it's a two horse race - Toby and Emily are neck and neck at the moment on 5 books each, with many others chasing at their heels. Jennifer is feverishly reading two books at a time and Rhianna has nearly finished her 'War and Peace' sized novel!

## Stars of the Week

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

Reception	Rose
Year 1 & 2	Hugo
Year 3 & 4	Cosmo
Year 5 & 6	Louie

## Good Manners' Champion

This week's Good Manners' Champion is Maddie in Year 5. Maddie is quiet and thoughtful, with beautiful manners to both children and adults. Maddie listens particularly well, paying attention to whoever is speaking and showing that she is listening by looking at them. The children told us: *Maddie plays with me when I am on my own; I was working with her in maths this week – we got lots done and we had lots of fun too; Maddie tries to play with different people every day – she shares her friends really well; when I see Maddie in the playground she is always giving Florence a cuddle; I know I can trust her – I talk to her when I am worried about something; Maddie plays happily with others and doesn't argue; Maddie plays with children who aren't her own age as well as her friends; Maddie always looks after children who are looking lonely.* Well done Maddie – you do have lovely manners!

## BLOODHOUND SSC Experience

The Year 3 and 4 children were amazing on Tuesday and I was incredibly proud of them. They had the most wonderful day, and this picture captures the mood of the day perfectly. The children listened attentively to some difficult concepts being explained, as was evident from the really high quality of the questions they asked and the answers they gave. All of the children were gripped by the activities they took part in and every one of them felt they were playing their small part in the making of history. I wonder how many children have already asked for a 3D printer for Christmas?!



Here are some questions the children were asked – all these answers came from Year 3 children!

**Why wouldn't this (oxygen fuelled) rocket work in space?** *Because there's no oxygen in space*

**What's H<sub>2</sub>O?** *water*

**What's the difference between H<sub>2</sub>O and H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>?** *It's got more oxygen.*  
**How much more?** *1 more*

**What happens to mud and dirt in a cup of water?** *It settles, then goes flat, then the water evaporates so it dries flat. That's why the dried up lake bed is a flat place to test the BLOODHOUND.*

**Why do these air brakes have holes in them?** *Because otherwise the air hitting them would be too strong and the brake flaps would fall off.*

**How could we slow our car down quickly from 1000mph?** *By using a parachute.*

## Parachute Jump in Aid of Sunny Days Children's Fund

On the subject of parachutes, Jessica Aamaas, mother of Sophia in Reception is doing a parachute jump in aid of Sunny Days Children's Fund.

***Sunny Days Children's Fund is a national registered charity which raises funds to help children under the age of 18 years with a wide range of adverse medical conditions including Leukaemia, Cerebral Palsy, the Deaf and Blind, Terminal Illnesses, and all other life hindering conditions.***

If you would like to sponsor her to raise money for this valuable cause, please see the sponsorship forms in the office and on the Reception notice board. Thank you.

Wishing all of you a very happy long Bank Holiday weekend,

Mrs Lucy Miles

## Dates for Your Diary

Saturday 2 <sup>nd</sup> May	Garden Working Party 10am to 12pm
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> May	Athletics Festival for selected Year 4 to 6 children
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> May	Garden Working Party 1pm to 3pm
Mon 11 <sup>th</sup> to Fri 15 <sup>th</sup> May	Key Stage Two SATs Tests

## 2015-2016 TERM DATES

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