



# Great Tew School Newsletter

## Issue 227

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> June 2015



### Hats!!

Please make sure that, come rain or shine, children have their hat in school with them every day. That way we know that when it is really needed, it is here. The children are now expected to wear a hat whenever they are outside at work or at play. Please support the staff in this and help us to keep the children safe in the sun.

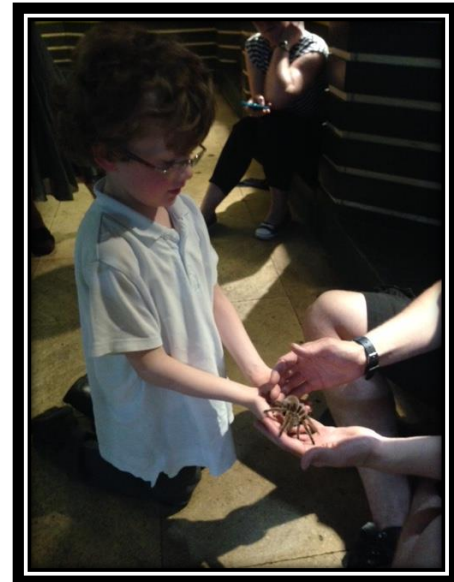
Don't forget it's the Summer Fete tomorrow! Please come along to join in the fun and support the school. 11am to 1pm. BBQ, cakes, teas & coffees, Pimms, raffle, tombola, ice-lollies, children's tombola, lots of stalls for all the family.

**URGENT!!!!** We are very short of volunteers to help out at Cornbury. Please email Sharn **THIS WEEKEND** if you are able to help, telling her the time/s that you are available (from Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> to Monday 13<sup>th</sup> July). [sharn@woodgate-home.com](mailto:sharn@woodgate-home.com) A small group of people are working very hard to raise a lot of money which benefits all the children. Everyone's support is needed!

Sports Day on Monday! Letter went home in book bags today.

### Reception

Wow what a day we had on Monday! Beautiful butterflies galore! We had to watch our step as we explored the butterfly farm flight area as there were creatures all around us, from the scurrying quails on the ground to the iguana in the bougainvillea above our heads! Our guide Mark put us through our paces and tested the children's knowledge at every step and was suitably impressed when they were able to say that butterflies create a chrysalis and not a cocoon and they even remembered that it is moths that make a cocoon around themselves as they change. Later Mark introduced us to several of the more creepy crawly residents and lots of children were brave enough to hold a giant stick insect, a millipede and even a tarantula. I think that the adults surprised themselves as they faced their fears and all stepped up for their turn to hold Rosie the tarantula too! The children were beautifully behaved throughout, they listened well to instructions and remembered to use fantastic manners at every opportunity. Well done Reception Class, Mrs. Platt was extremely proud of you!



When we returned to school the sun was shining and it seemed to be the perfect time to release our own butterflies. We sat together in the garden and watched as each one made their way to pastures new. So watch out for butterflies in your gardens, who knows... it could be one of ours!

**Another reminder please that the children need to have a drink bottle filled with fresh water in school every day.**

## Years 1 & 2

Year 1 children have worked so hard practising their phonics this week and all children showed confidence and, believe it or not, enthusiasm when taking the year 1 phonics test. I was very impressed and proud of their work.

Our English work has focused on non-fiction texts with the end aim of writing our own non-fiction book about wild birds and plants of Great Tew School. We've started to look at how the books are laid out, the type of formal language used and the organisational features such as contents, glossary and index pages.

On a sunny Tuesday afternoon we had a most enjoyable time completing a field survey of Great Tew, counting traffic and litter and recording the beautiful buildings in photos and drawings.

Friday was a very happy time but also quite sad. We had a lovely day of exciting activities, dancing and games with Miss Jackson and Mr Syrett but we then had to say goodbye to them as they finished their teaching practice in our class. The children and adults will miss them and their enthusiasm and passion for teaching. We wish them continuing success in their studies.

## Years 3 & 4

The School play is starting to take up a fair bit of the school week. I trust that all parents and carers have learned the songs by now! The children are extremely enthusiastic and you may have noticed, very particular about their costumes and props. We have completed our twenty foot mobile of three-dimensional shapes and it hangs in a similar fashion to the 'Sword of Damocles' over the teacher's head. We have found time to spend outside studying light and dark. The children are finding all manner of interesting things to draw, paint, ink or whatever to show the contrast given by shadow and light. One pupil was particularly taken with the number of different shades of green in a bush. This all adding to the children looking at things from a different viewpoint and once again they inspire me with their ideas; smashing!

## Years 5 & 6

*This morning we were very lucky to have Mr Waller visiting Year 5&6. He came to teach us science. First we learnt about bats and their senses and how they don't bang into walls at night. Then we learnt all about how the continents separated over 100 million years. It was so interesting and Mr Waller knows so much. My head is still buzzing!* Louie

The children just loved their visit from Mr Waller (Mrs Zibarras' brother) and when I went to chat to them while they were eating their lunch they were bursting with enthusiasm for all that he had taught them in just a short hour's lesson. The children wrote him some cards and letters to say thank you and here are some of the things they said....

*"Isaac Newton's theory was really interesting, about how he discovered that a prism separated light. Let me just leave you with a question....When does the universe end?!"* Alonso

*I couldn't choose my favourite part because it was all interesting and I enjoyed it all.* Victoria

*You made it so clear – we all understood it.* Jamie

*I think I'm persuaded to be a scientist!* Jennifer

A very big thank you to Mr Waller for giving up his time to talk the children. I know they all hope that he might come back and see them again next year!

## Celebrating Success Out of School

*Yesterday on the 14<sup>th</sup> June, Finlay and I went to Stowe School to do the Beachborough triathlon. We had to swim 6 lengths (150m), and then we had to run to transition and put our shoes and t-shirt on and our helmet. Then we did a 3k cycle around the cricket pitch. Then we ran back into transition and took our helmets off. After that we had to do 2 laps of the cricket pitch (1k) running and then we both sprinted to the finish. After all of that we got a medal each. Then we typed our numbers into a machine and that told us our time. I did it in 19 mins and 45 seconds and Finlay did it in 16 mins and 31 seconds. By Gethin*

*On Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> June, I took part in the Bicester Gymnastics Club Championships at Milton Keynes. The four pieces I competed in were floor, beam, bars and vault. I was mostly scared of floor because I had only just learnt one of the biggest moves the day before. Fortunately, all of my floor went really well, including the biggest move. I forgot some of my dance moves at the end so I made it up and no one noticed! Overall I came 3<sup>rd</sup> on bars, 2<sup>nd</sup> on vault and 1<sup>st</sup> on Floor!!! By Esme*



Weds 24th to Fri 26th June	Transition Days for Year 6 children moving to Chipping Norton School
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 1 & 2 trip to Heythrop Zoo
Friday 26th June	Violin Assembly – Year 3 and 4 children
Tuesday 30th June	Cycling Proficiency Test for Year 6 children
Tuesday 30th June	KS2 production – Dress Rehearsal
Wednesday 1st July	KS2 production at 2pm and 6pm
Thursday 2nd July	KS2 production at 6pm
Friday 3rd July	Whole School walk and picnic at Cow Hill
Tuesday 7th July	Open Afternoon
Fri 10th to Sun 12th July	“Tea for Tew” at the Cornbury Festival
Tuesday 14th July	Contingency date for Sports Day (pm)
Friday 17th July 9am	End of Term service at St Michael’s Church
	Term ends at 2pm

# Great Tew Primary School

## Term Dates for 2015-2016

### Autumn Term 1

Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September to **Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> October at 3.15pm** (*INSET days on 1<sup>st</sup> September, 22<sup>nd</sup> October & 23<sup>rd</sup> October*)

**HALF TERM** – Monday 26<sup>th</sup> October to Friday 30<sup>th</sup> October (*plus INSET on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> & Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October*)

### Autumn Term 2

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November to **Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December at 2pm**

**CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY** – Monday 21<sup>st</sup> December to Friday 1<sup>st</sup> January (*plus INSET day on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January*)

### Spring Term 1

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January to Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February at 3.15pm

**HALF TERM** – Monday 15<sup>th</sup> February to Friday 19<sup>th</sup> February

### Spring Term 2

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February to Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> March at 2pm (*Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> March is INSET day*)

**EASTER HOLIDAY** – Friday 25<sup>th</sup> March to Friday 8<sup>th</sup> April (*plus INSET day on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> March*)

### Summer Term 1

Monday 11<sup>th</sup> April to Friday 27<sup>th</sup> May at 3.15pm (with May Day Bank Holiday on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> May)

**HALF TERM** – Monday 30<sup>th</sup> May to Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> June

### Summer Term 2

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> June to Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> July at 2pm

### INSET (Staff Training) DAYS no school for children on these days:

Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> September

Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> and Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January

Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> March

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