

Great Tew School Newsletter

Issue 231

Friday 4th September 2015



Dear Parents

Welcome back to another school year. Not quite the balmy start that we often have in September but nevertheless the children have loved being outside in the playground with their friends and it has been so nice to see them playing together, sharing their news and having fun. The classrooms have been a busy buzz of learning, with all the children getting settled into new routines. The children all look so smart in their uniform this week and the caps certainly add that finishing touch! If you haven't already done so please do make sure you come to buy a hat for your child from the office.

Welcome!

We were all delighted to welcome our 15 new reception children into our school. They are Elena Aylott-Phillips, Meredith Blee, Fran Burles, William Clarke, Arthur Colville, Molly Clark, Theo De Jong, Sophie Edginton, Evelyn Fuoco, Peter Fyfe, Cecily Hudson, Lilly Hockley, Arthur Milloini, Amica Moore and Henry Webster-Edge. The children have been busy getting used to the routines of school and judging by the way they are cleaning their plates at lunch times, it's making them pretty hungry! Also joining our school this term are India Edwards in Year 3, Emily Rowe and Stanley Rance in Year 4 and Hattie Souch in Year 6. All four of them have made a very positive start to school and we are delighted that they have come to join us. A particular welcome goes to the 14 families new to the school; we hope that you, and your children, will be very happy at Great Tew.

Reception news:

What a great first week we've had! We've been very busy getting to know each other and becoming familiar with our surroundings, both inside and outside. We have amazed our teachers with talking about and drawing our holiday memories, writing our names, counting up as far as we can go (31), not to mention learning the new routines and what the tambourine and complicated hand claps all mean! Take it easy on us this weekend, we're really tired but our teachers are very proud of us!

There are some additional notes for reception parents attached to the newsletter.

Year 1 & 2 news:

The new Year One children have settled in very well to their new class and have picked up the new routines very quickly. They have been thinking about their new topic, based around coasts and the seaside, and spent a lot of time thinking about all the things they would like to learn about: holidays, shells, birds, ships, rivers, oceans, swimming..... and of course pirates! The children have enjoyed learning about their senses, with feely bags, taste tests and a lot of sniffing.

Year 3 & 4 news:

The year 3 and 4 children have made me feel so welcome this week, as we have all been developing our routines together. I was really proud of the children's efforts to produce fantastic holiday homework. It was brimming with facts, images and even quizzes related to their chosen World Cup country. We can't wait for the tournament to start! Keep up this hard work Years 3 and 4 – well done!

Year 5 & 6 news:

We kicked off the year with a big effort from everyone to read every night, record it in our yellow books, ask our parents to sign it and then hand it in every morning. Regular reading does wonders for our language and English skills and we also discussed some fantastic new books we have read through the summer! We have also been thinking about rules: who makes them, why we have them and where they exist. Then we made up some rules for our own classroom,

thinking of the sort of classroom environment that we wanted; they included “Always act safe” and “Always do your best!”

In maths we have been using really large numbers in the tens, hundreds and thousands of thousands (millions)!! We have warmly welcomed Mrs Reid and Hattie, who is new into Year 6, into our class and they have quickly settled in, made lots of new friends and are both working hard already!!

Shin Pads for KS2

Children in Years 3 – 6 will be doing hockey with Carol this term, starting this Wednesday, and all of them will need shin pads and gum shields.

Clubs

The clubs currently running this term are:

Day	Club	Time	Run By	Open To	Further Details	Starts
Monday	Creative Writing	3.15-4.30	Miss Butler	Years 3 - 6	£2 per week, to be paid half-termly in advance (7 weeks)	Monday 7 th Sept
Monday	Funky Monkeys	3.15 – 4.30	Miss Mannion	Years 2, 3 and 4	£2 per week, to be paid half-termly in advance. Get funky, strut your stuff – fitness training and circuits to music (6 weeks)	Monday 14 th Sept
Monday	Recorder Club	3.15-4.30	Mrs Platt	Years 3 to 6	£2 per week to be paid half-termly in advance (5 weeks)	Monday 21 st Sept
Tuesday	Chillin’ Club	3.15-4.30pm	Mrs Butler	Children from Reception to Y6	£2 per week, to be paid half-termly in advance. (7 weeks)	Tues 8 th Sept
Thursday	Hockey Club	8am–8.50am	Carol Hicks	Children from Y4 to Y6	£3 per week to be paid half-termly in advance. (6 weeks)	Thurs 10th Sept
Thursday	Choir	12.30 – 1pm	Mrs Miles	Years 3 to 6	£2 per week to be paid half-termly in advance. (6 weeks – cash please)	Thurs 10th Sept
Thursday	Arsenal Soccer Schools	3.15-4.30pm	Arsenal Soccer Schools	Reception to Year2	To be paid termly in advance. See booking form	Thurs 10th Sept On the sports pitch
Thursday	Football Club	3.15–4.20pm	Mark Andrews Football Academy	Children from Y3 to Y6	To be paid termly in advance. See booking form	Thurs 10th Sept On the green
Thursday	Home Learning Club	3.15 – 4.30	Mrs Miles	Y3 to Y6	£2 per week to be paid half-termly in advance. (6 weeks)	Thursday 10 th Sept

Please sign up in the office. We are asking for payment half-termly in advance, by cheque made payable to Oxfordshire County Council (apart from the two football clubs and choir).

Stars of the Week

A very big well done to our very first stars of this year. They have all made very good first impressions to their teachers and long may that last.

- Year 1 & 2 – Zac
- Year 3 & 4 – Adam
- Year 5 & 6 – Hattie

Star of the Show!

We are all so proud of Jemima, who has been starring in Shrek the Musical over the Summer holidays. She told us all about it in assembly this morning and I think the children are secretly hoping she may turn up dressed as the young Shrek on Monday morning!

New Staff!

We were very pleased this week to welcome some new members of staff to our school. Miss Michele Mannion is class teacher in our Year 3 & 4 class, Mrs Samantha Reid is Teaching Assistant in our Year 5 & 6 class and Miss Eleanor Butler is Teaching Assistant in both Year 3&4 and Year 1&2.

Midday Supervisor Required

We would very much like to recruit another midday supervisor to support us in serving/clearing lunches and supervising the children. If you or anybody you know would be interested and available to work between the hours of 11.45 and 1.15 every day please contact the office.



A Reminder about drop-off and pick-up times

	Time	Notes	
Drop off	after 8.40 and before 8.55 when the register is taken	Children not in the classroom by 9am are marked as late	
Collection	3.15	Children not collected promptly will be taken to the office or the staffroom to await collection	Please make sure that you let us know if you are going to be late or if your child is going home with someone else

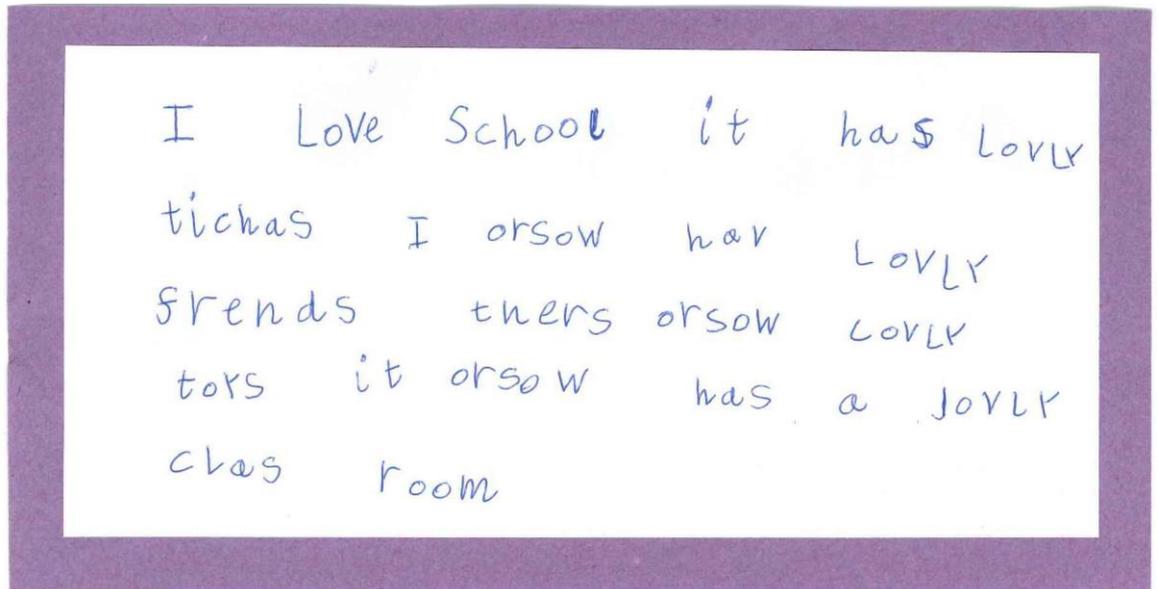
Open Days at Heythrop Zoological Gardens (this Sunday and next weekend)

Please do try to go along to one of Heythrop Zoological Gardens' annual public open weekends. We are so lucky to have this private zoo on our doorstep and it will be opening its doors to the public on Sunday 6th, Saturday 12th and Sunday 13th September. This really is a day not to be missed, full of fun and thrills and I know that Jamie and Mim Clubb and Thalia and would love to welcome as many of you as possible. For further information go to:

<http://www.amazinganimals.co.uk/open-days-local-community/open-days/>

And finally....

This is what Aliena, who has just moved into Year 1, thinks of school. **WE** think she should be very proud of her beautiful writing!



With best wishes to everyone for what we hope will be a happy, hard-working and successful term. Do remember, a positive partnership with parents is vital to the success of your children's education, so please do talk to your child's class teacher or come to see me if you have any questions or concerns or wish to talk something through.

Mrs Lucy Miles

Great Tew Primary School

Term Dates for 2015-2016

Autumn Term 1

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

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

Autumn Term 2

Monday 2nd November to **Friday 18th December at 2pm**

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

Spring Term 1

Tuesday 5th January to Friday 12th February at 3.15pm

HALF TERM – Monday 15th February to Friday 19th February

Spring Term 2

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

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

Summer Term 1

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

HALF TERM – Monday 30th May to Friday 3rd June

Summer Term 2

Monday 6th June to Wednesday 20th July at 2pm

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

Tuesday 1st September

Thursday 22nd and Friday 23rd October

Monday 4th January

Thursday 24th March

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