



Great Tew School Newsletter

Issue 237

Friday 16th October 2015



Individual School Photographs

These will be taking place on Tuesday 20th October. The photographer will be taking individual portraits and sibling groups for children in all classes plus pre-school. This year we are trying something different as well. The photographer will be in the hall from 8.30 to 9am so that you can bring your littlest children into school to be photographed with their older siblings. If you would like your children to be photographed with their baby brother or sister, you will need to bring the children to the hall at 8.30. In order to fit everyone in during the morning **we will need to start photographing the classes at 9am so please be prompt!**



Millie receiving her prize for her illustration of the BFG

A Message From Angela

Angela would like to thank the children, parents and governors for their cards, gifts and best wishes sent. Thinking of her during her on-going treatment has cheered her up enormously. Angela says she is really missing the children, staff, parents and believe it or not work! (but not the chilly office!) She would like Mr Collins to know that the brain isn't as sharp as it should be at the moment but she is working on the picture and will be in touch with him, hope there is a prize!! Finally Angela sends her best wishes to everyone and hopes that when it gets here, which won't be long now, you all enjoy your well-deserved half term.

Pre-school news:

This week we enjoyed joining the school for their harvest celebrations, we all sat very nicely during assembly and then got busy cutting vegetables for the soup. On Wednesday we went out onto the big playground to share a harvest feast with the school and really enjoyed spending time with our older friends.

Our new 'writing den' has been very popular and has encouraged mark making in many different forms. We have continued to think about Autumn and the changes it brings through various crafts and songs - the children were particularly keen on our Autumn leaf song.

Many of the children have enjoyed getting busy with the tools we have on offer and have shown great hand-eye coordination with the tap-a-shape today. Maybe we could venture onto real hammers and nails next week?!

Reception news:

On Tuesday the children chopped, peeled, sliced and diced in preparation for our harvest celebration. Everybody took part in a lovely assembly and had a great time singing our harvest song 'Paint Box' with the whole school. The children really enjoyed this experience and our friend Arthur M was later overheard talking to two small children from Pre-School in the cloakroom, 'Hello girls... I've just been to a big assembly!'

On Wednesday we met up with the rest of the school once more to share the food that had been prepared, everyone sampled the soup and dunked in the bread, then the apple flapjack was quickly polished off! A super way to encourage the children to think about sharing.

In other areas of our learning this week the children have looked at the letters /m/ and /o/ and they have explored the concept of heavy and light, using bucket scales to compare the weight of two objects. Please try to reinforce this language at home over the weekend if possible: heavy, heavier, heaviest, light, lighter, lightest.

Year 1 & 2 news:

Very many thanks to the mums and grandparents who have braved the classroom and helped us with our pirate glove puppets this week. All the children have now used a template and cut out their main fabric shape and started to decorate it using their original design plan for guidance. There has been a discernable buzz of excitement as they have been working away and many parents have told me that their children have actually talked about it at home! Wonders will never cease!

The pirate adventure stories have been completed today and what fantastic little writers these children are. They have been talking confidently about capital letters, full stops, time connectives and adjectives and have practised using them in their writing. Some of the children have even managed to take repeated language patterns from our original story, change them slightly and then use them in their own writing....'If you don't give me back my treasure I'll tell my Gran!' How we all laughed!

If anyone out there is feeling envious and wishes to join in the fun, there will be more pirate puppet antics next Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons, all parents welcome.

Year 3 & 4 news:

The new laptops have changed the whole learning environment in Yr 3/4! We talked about keeping safe on the internet at the beginning of term and looked again at the Cyber Café using the ThinkUKnow website:

https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/8_10/cybercafe/Cyber-Cafe-Base. We explored BBC Dance Mat

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/guides/z3c6tfr> and will use this on a regular basis to develop our touch typing skills. We could properly research about Robert Catesby and what life was like in Britain in 1605. We looked at the Coughton Court's Website to see what highlights we have to look forward when we visit next month. Our new laptops are GREAT!

Harvest: Thanks to all the parents who sent in apples, pears and food in abundance for the local food bank. Also a HUGE THANKS to Miss Butler whom I've renamed 'The Flapjack Queen!' Her recipe for fruity flapjacks was such a hit that Pre-School said it was the first year that "not a scrap of flapjack remained...the best batch ever!"

AND FINALLY...We have achieved 'Marble in the Jar' heaven! The target was **x6 Gun Powder Barrels** by the end of term (each needing x50 marbles) I'm delighted to say we have got x6 shiny yellow barrels. The reward will be an Art Day on Tuesday 20th October. The activities will be based around Fireworks as well as continuing to look at the work of David Hockney. If anyone has spare collage materials such as felt, wrapping paper, coloured magazine and empty kitchen rolls at home they could bring in; that would be appreciated. If the children have pencil cases full of felts or art materials they would like to use from home and share with others...that would be wonderful! Thank You.

Home Learning Hero is Seb Kitchen, for producing an outstanding second piece of Home Learning. He could see that his 1st pie chart showing what his family ate was untidy and stuck with the task until he had produced an amazing pie chart that he was really proud of.

This week's **Sporting Hero** was Ben Jefferson. He's so determined to improve his footballing skills, he's an excellent leader and is very good at motivating the other children in his team.

Star of the Week is Lily Colville. For just very quietly getting on with producing constantly good work. She's a very independent worker and is really trying with her handwriting at the moment. Lily is a kind and caring friend on the playground too.

Year 5 & 6 news:

My Year 5s and Year 6s were chatting this week about how fantastic reading was and what we all got out of it. I thought I would share with you their thoughts:

- It helps us to learn new, exciting, advanced words (Gethin)
- It can help to explain what words mean (Finlay)
- It helps your imagination because it doesn't show you what a character looks/acts like, (like in a TV programme), you have to imagine it yourself (Scarlet)
- It helps you to relax in the evening before bedtime (Jennifer)
- It can teach you new punctuation and how to use it (Max)
- It can transport you out of this world
- You can learn all sorts of new things (Archie L-W)

We could have gone on all day explaining how great it made us feel. I was really impressed with their understanding.

Football Tournament

On Wednesday 7th October, some year 5 and 6 children went to play in a football tournament at Chipping Norton School. All the children had so much fun and Great Tew School came 3rd out of the small schools! Lots of goals were scored, and they played against some pretty tough schools. Everyone is very proud of them, and we are all excited for the next tournament. (By Maddie Year 6)



School Council

These are our wonderful new School Councillors. All of these children took the selection process very seriously, thinking carefully about why they should represent their class on the School Council and the qualities they could bring to the role. I am very much looking forward to working with the School Council this year, listening to their views and how they would like to see their school develop. Well done to all of these children.

Year 1 – Jimmy and Holly

Year 2 – Laura and Louis

Year 3 – Royce and Rosie

Year 4 – Isabelle and Seb

Year 5 – Amber and Archie L-W

Year 6 – Jamie and Maddie

Christmas Fair – Saturday 5th December at 11am

Please make sure this date is in your diaries. Thanks to those who have already offered their help. If you would like to help organise or run the fantastic annual Tew Christmas Fair then please get in touch with Mrs. Catling. Santa and his elves are ready and Angela is waiting in the wings to give her support in very way she can – many hands make light work!!



Stars of the Week

A very big well done to our stars of the week. They have all excelled this week.

Reception – Ami

Year 1 & 2 – Bertie

Year 3 & 4 – Lily

Year 5 & 6 – Jamie

Good Manners' Champion

This week's Good Manners' Champion is Matilda in Year 6. Matilda is kind, responsible, reliable and funny and a fantastic role model to other children. Matilda knows how to avoid distractions, recognising the importance of hard work but knowing how to have fun too. She plays with everyone, different children every day, and never therefore becomes embroiled in disagreements. The children told us: *Matilda is always happy doing the milk duty(!); she doesn't make a fuss about things she doesn't really want to do; Matilda knows that I (Laura) miss my buddy (Isabella) so Matilda always looks out for me to check I'm OK; she is good at stopping arguments; Matilda always does the right thing!* Well done Matilda – you are a truly wonderful ambassador for our school!

Harvest Festival Collection

A very big thank you to everyone for the very generous contributions made to the Banbury Food Bank as part of our Harvest Festival celebrations. The tins, jars and packets poured in and we were able to send off an impressive van full of provisions yesterday. We have a representative from the Food Bank coming in after half term to talk to the older children about where their contributions go and the difference these food parcels can make to the lives of people in times of difficulty.



Half Term – Inset Days

Please note that the school will be closed for staff training on Thursday 22nd and Friday 23rd October and that the following week is Half Term. School finishes at 3.15pm on Wednesday 21st October and re-opens at 8.40am on Monday 2nd November.

Year Six Parents – Application for Secondary School Admissions

Please note that the deadline for applications is 2nd November. Applications should be made online at www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/secondaryadmissions

Enjoy the weekend everyone, 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 |