



Great Tew School Newsletter
Issue 241
Friday 20th November 2015



**DATE FOR YOUR DIARY: ONLY 2 WEEKS TO GO UNTIL
THE CHRISTMAS FAIR!!! SATURDAY 5TH DECEMBER.**

WE HAVE AN EXCITING RANGE OF STALLS THIS YEAR INCLUDING A CHOCOLATE FOUNTAIN, HOME-MADE CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS, CUDDLY TOMBOLA, FLOWER BASKETS, POCKET MONEY TOYS, LUCKY DIP, CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTS GAME, LUXURY LADIES' GIFTS, NOT ONE BUT TWO LUXURY HAMPERS, CHRISTMAS GIFTS HAND MADE BY THE CHILDREN IN SCHOOL AS WELL AS FATHER CHRISTMAS!



ALSO CHILDREN BRING YOUR FAVOURITE TOY OR TEDDY TO THE FAIR AND GET A PORTRAIT PAINTED ON CANVAS.

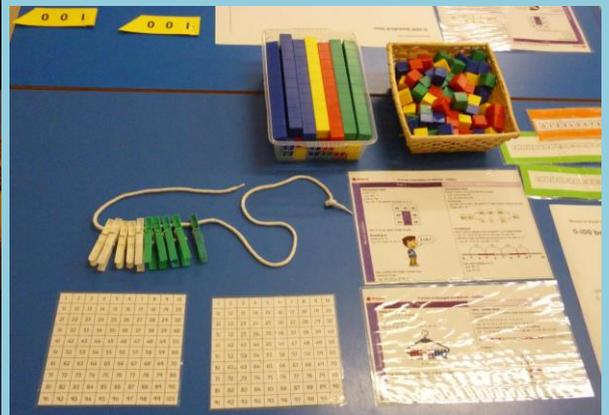
HOWEVER, WE STILL NEED LOTS OF STALL HELPERS AND OFFERS OF CAKES FOR THE FAIR - PLEASE LOOK AT THE LISTS ON THE YR. 3/4 NOTICEBOARD AND PLEASE PUT YOUR NAME DOWN.

THE AMAZING 'BIDDING WALL' HAS GOT OFF TO A FLYING START. THIS WALL IS AUCTIONING HIGH PRICE ITEMS SUCH AS 1:1 PILATES SESSION, LARGE CANVAS PRINT BY CELEBRITY PHOTOGRAPHER, MASSIVE TOBLERONE, GUIDED TOUR ROUND HEYTHROP ZOOLOGICAL PARK AND BEAUTY TREATMENTS AT SOHO FARMHOUSE AMONGST OTHERS. BIDS ARE STARTING LOW...THE TOBLERONE IS ONLY £20 AT THE MOMENT AND THE BEAUTY TREATMENT IS ONLY £25...SO SEARCH OUT THE LARGE BOARD (KEPT IN THE ART ROOM IN THE DAY) WRITE YOUR BID DOWN AND YOU MIGHT BAG YOURSELF A BARGAIN!

IF YOU ARE FREE, PLEASE COME ALONG TO A MEETING ON FRIDAY 27TH NOVEMBER AFTER ASSEMBLY TO FIND OUT HOW YOU CAN HELP.

SATURDAY 5TH DECEMBER 11.00am TO 2.00pm

MATHS WORKSHOP FOR PARENTS



Thank you to those that came along on Tuesday to our maths workshop for parents, organised as a result of parental feedback. Parents (and grandparents) had the opportunity to see, and use, the resources used by the children in school and teachers demonstrated calculation methods and answered questions. Feedback from those that came along was very positive:

"Thank you very much - I learnt a lot."

"It makes me realise we need to use more practical ideas at home."

"I wouldn't have known that if I hadn't been here."

"Very informative. My child won't let me show her a different method to that used by her teacher - so now I can help her with her homework."

If you were unable to come along, the information handed out will be (or already has been) sent home in book bags. Further information will also soon be put on the school website.



Good Manners' Champion

This week's Good Manners' Champion is Willa in Year 1. Willa has shown us all that she has lovely manners and that she wants to do as well as she can, both at work and at play. She has been listening very carefully to the advice she is given and is working exceptionally hard and becoming more and more grown up by the day. The children told us: *"Willa is a very nice sister (!) – she doesn't like leaving people out so she really thinks about what other people like; it's always fun when I play with Willa; Willa used to talk a lot but she has gone up a level and stopped talking and listens to the teachers really well; she is always a good friend to play with – she doesn't make an argument; Willa is very funny (in a sensible way!); Willa makes other people feel special – she doesn't leave them out; Willa is good at having fun but she knows when she should sit down and learn. Well done Willa – we are all very proud of you.*

Stars of the Week

Well done to the following children, our hard-working and enthusiastic Stars of the Week.

Reception: Peter
Year 1 & 2: Ludo
Year 3 & 4: Isabelle
Year 5 & 6: Millie

News from Pre-School

This week the children have been thinking about how their actions and words make others feel; they have worked together to make sure that everyone is feeling happy, resolving any issues themselves. This is a really big step forward in their development and the adults are all very proud of them. They have also worked really hard with numbers to begin some early colour by number work.

If any parents have old/unwanted Christmas decorations/tinsel we could use for our sensory tray, please could you bring them in next week?

News from Years 3 & 4

The Year 3 and 4 children have explored Anti-Bullying Week by acting out playground situations in drama sessions. We looked in particular at the role of a 'bystander' and discussed how vital their intervention is. We produced some eye catching Anti-bullying posters and learnt the Beatles classic 'I Get by with a Little Help from My Friends'. Learning such a rousing song came in very handy during our PE lesson on Wednesday afternoon. After battling through Storm Barney during our hockey lesson, we eventually took cover and had an impromptu music lesson. Despite being absolutely soaked through, the children never stopped smiling and sang their little hearts out and I didn't hear one complaint about the adverse weather conditions. A proud moment!

Sports Hero: James -who showed great defensive skills in hockey. He also shared chocolate 'birthday' brownies with us and raised our spirits on Wednesday afternoon.

Home Learning Hero: Florence -who shared a wonderful example from her diary home learning task.

Star of the Week: Isabelle -who despite feeling under the weather this week still gave 100% and kept on smiling!

News from Reception

This week we have been looking again at the 'Dark, Dark Tale' from last week and have used it as a pattern to write our own book. It's called 'A Colourful, Colourful Tale' and we have all added a page with our own ideas on. Do come and have a look at it.

In Maths we have been partitioning. Just ask us how many ways we can make a total of 5 or 6 – we know plenty! We have even been recording our results in number sentences [5+1=6, 4+2=6, etc.]

The Interest Table is covered in lots of different 'sources of light' and looks really pretty on the dark afternoons when we turn on all the little candles. Thank you for sending them in to brighten our days. Some of the children have written their own labels for their offering which is really fantastic. We LOVE to see the children writing for themselves. We have developed our light topic by making a light survey around our building. You would not believe just how many little green bulbs there are hiding away on EXIT signs and photocopiers. Finally, the diva lamps have all been decorated and look great. We really are 'light-tastic' in Reception Class!

Head Girl and Head Boy

I have been talking to the Year 6 children recently about whether they think we should have a Head Girl and a Head Boy and they have decided, unanimously, that we should. So the process has begun of selecting the children to fill these much coveted positions. The children have drawn up a Person Specification, identifying the qualities they would look for in a Head Boy and Head Girl of Great Tew and I thought you'd be interested to see what they thought....



Person Specification for post of Head Boy /Head Girl

What sort of person do you need to be? What qualities and skills will you have?

aged 10+ and in Year Six
a good role model – good example to the smaller children
confident and assertive – can take charge without taking over and being a control freak!
kind and patient
mature
good boundaries – know when to have fun and when to be sensible
wise
good at thinking on their feet – quick thinker
modest, humble – not arrogant
a good leader – *know that people trust you & have faith in you, can accept criticism, honest, consistent, have faith in yourself*
communicator -a good listener and good at talking to people
lets other people speak – listens to everyone's ideas and lets them contribute
flexible
thoughtful
generous – a 'net giver' not a 'net taker'
trustworthy and reliable
a good negotiator
encouraging and understanding
helpful
fair and respectful of everybody
organised
enthusiastic
persuasive
friendly – good with younger children
polite
reliable
proactive
smart – makes good choices and decisions
focused
independent
energetic
knows what to say at the right time
sense of humour
happy
positive
self-belief
a team-worker
genuine
punctual
responsible
calm
can avoid distractions

**'Person Specification' drawn up by
Year Six members with Mrs Miles**

Thursday 19th November 2015

They certainly know what's important to them – and are setting the standards very high. Watch this space!!

News from Years 1 & 2

Does anyone know any pirate jokes? Please give me some light relief as currently I can't get our pirate song out of my head! Shouldn't really complain as by this time next week it will be the songs from the Christmas play that I hum all day and hopefully your children will too. Rehearsals are well under way, although at the time of writing this newsletter article we haven't allocated roles; I'll firm up details early next week.

We have evaluated our pirate puppets, thinking about what we did well, what we could improve, what we like about our work and what we enjoyed about the project. The children thought long and hard about these questions and gave some insightful reflections. The planning and evaluation sheets will form part of our class display so you will have an opportunity to see how much thought the children put into their learning.

The children have been talking about the internet with Mrs Tibbetts and today we heard the story of Smartie the Penguin, who was given a new laptop for his birthday and learnt how to be safe online. To hear this story, visit <http://kidsmart.org.uk/teachers/ks1> and try some of the activities at home.

News from Years 5 & 6

We had a very animated and interesting debate on the motion 'The internet has made the world a better place'; children researched and provided convincing and persuasive evidence both for and against and we thought about our body language, eye contact and voice expression and projection when we presented. Eventually the against side won by 14 votes to 7, with 2 abstentions.

The inter-house gymnastics competition is hotting-up, with pairs and groups practising and perfecting some amazing paired balances.

The children's homework this week was amazing - page after page of division sums and some wonderful arguments on the best invention ever - paper, the wheel, the phone and penicillin were amongst those that the children wrote about. Jennifer and Archie G were home-learning heroes - Jennifer wrote a brilliant argument for anaesthetic and Archie G wrote an equally convincing and persuasive argument on the toilet! Did you know it was International Toilet Day on Thursday?...the children quickly realised however that this was no laughing matter. Amber was horrified to learn that over 40% of the world's population does not even have a toilet and that a child dies every 10 seconds from a disease due to a lack of clean sanitation. Amber thought that there is so much we take for granted!

Make a **NOISE** about bullying

National Anti-Bullying Week

This week has been national Anti-Bullying Week and assemblies have focused on this theme. I had a fascinating talk to the children on Monday. I used a picture as a stimulus and asked the children to tell me what it would be feel like to be a victim of bullying. The ideas the children came out with (from Year 6 right down to Reception) were thoughtful, mature and wise, showing a real understanding of why bullying is wrong and why we must do all that we can to make sure it doesn't happen.

The children know that there is a difference between bullying and having an argument – this is what they told me:

- Bullying is done on purpose, to make someone else feel bad
- Bullying happens over a period of time
- Bullying can be done by one person or by a group of people
- Bullying can be done face-to-face or online

The theme for this year's Anti-Bullying Week is "Make a Noise About Bullying" and the children know that this means if someone is being unkind to them or if they see someone being unkind to someone else (even if it is their best friend), they should speak out to stop it happening. Please do have a chat to your child/ren about this important subject. The school's Anti-Bullying Policy (which is part of the Pupil Behaviour Policy) can be found on the website.

Best wishes, Mrs Lucy Miles

Christmas Dates

Please see dates below, but can I draw your attention to the following Christmas dates and events:

Sat 5 th Dec	Christmas Fair 11-2pm
Tues 8 th Dec	KS1 & Reception Production 2pm and 6pm
Sat 12 th Dec 5pm	Village Carol Service – all children are invited to sing in the service – St Michael and All Angels
Weds 16 th Dec	Whole school trip to the pantomime – Aladdin at the Oxford Playhouse – letter to follow.
Thurs 17 th Dec	Christmas Feast – for all children – further details to follow
Friday 18 th Dec 9am	End of Term Church Service- St Michael and All Angels - all parents and families invited

CHRISTMAS PRODUCTION FOR PARENTS OF CHILDREN IN RECEPTION, YEAR 1 & YEAR 2

The Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children will be performing their Christmas production on Tuesday 8th December. There will be two performances for their parents/families/friends, one at 2pm and one at 6pm. Please note that due to overcrowding last year (it was a sell-out show!!) we will be issuing tickets this year. We will have to restrict tickets (initially) to two tickets per family per performance, with the possibility of requesting additional tickets if there are some spare seats. A letter will go out early next week with further information. The older children will all see the dress rehearsal on Monday afternoon.

Dates for Your Diary

Tuesday 1 st December	Year 1/2 Trip to Sea Life Centre
Wednesday 2 nd December	Year 3/4 Ball Skills Festival, 3-4.45pm
Saturday 5 th December	Christmas Fair 11-2pm
Tuesday 8 th December	KS1 and Reception Production 2pm
Tuesday 8 th December	KS1 and Reception Production 6.00pm
Saturday 12 th December 5pm	Village Carol Service
Wednesday 16 th December	Pantomime
Friday 18 th December at 9am	End of Term Service at St Michael & All Angels, Great Tew. Term ends, 2pm
11 th -15 th January	Year Six Residential visit to Yenworthy
Wednesday 20 th January	U11 Swimming Gala - 1-3.30pm

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