



Great Tew School Newsletter

Issue 248

Friday 29TH January 2016



School Council

Here is a picture of our very busy School Council after one of their meetings. They have some fundraising planned for later in the year and have been busy consulting with their classmates to decide which charity they would most like to support – watch this space!

News from Reception

What kind of home do you live in? That is the question that the children have been discussing this week. We have explored vocabulary such as bungalow, flat, detached, semi-detached, terrace, cottage... we have also considered the idea that people can live in alternative homes such as boats and caravans that can move around.

In maths this week we found out how many times we can do things in a minute, for example, writing our names or building a tower of bricks. The children counted the second hand as it tick-tocked around the clock and saw that there were sixty seconds in a minute. They have also practised the days and months and found out which season their birthday is in. It's been a busy maths week as we also found time to learn about some 3D shapes and their properties... lots to talk about at home this weekend!



In Letters and Sounds we looked at words with the 'igh' sound, eg, light, fight, night.

Interest Table: for home learning can the children please talk about and describe their home and find a photo to bring in or draw/paint/collage a picture for our display. Please encourage your child to write a sentence to go with their picture.

News from Years 1 & 2

Wow, what a lovely Thursday morning we spent with year 5 and 6 this week; they were very kind and came to our classroom to listen to our aural story telling of 'The Best of Friends'. Each child from Y1/2 retold the story to a partner from Y5/6, they then used our 'storyteller's checklist' to evaluate how well they had done. A big thank you to Mrs Catling and her class for such positive comments about our use of exciting and interesting vocabulary, our ability to vary the speed, volume and tone of our voices, our good eye contact with our audience and our confidence!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Year 2s are coming to the end of working on the spelling of verbs after the suffixes 'ed' and 'ing' have been added to change tense. They are so much better at remembering the complicated rules and also spotting those tricky irregular ones like 'ride' and 'sat' but if I ask them "what is a verb?" they often give me the startled rabbit look! Could you please try to find some time (car journeys to school maybe) to **practise** the definitions of verb, adjective and noun. Year 1 children are also exposed to these discussions so if you are a year 1 parent with time in the car, be my guest and give it a go too!

News from Years 3 & 4

In our Stone Age topic this week we have been looking in depth at **Skara Brae**. It's on the southern shore of Sandwick, Orkney, which was a late Neolithic settlement that was inhabited between 3200 and 2200 BC. It's been fascinating to see such clear evidence of how people really lived so many years ago.

Year 3/4 have become excellent measurers in Maths this week. The classroom has been a hive of activity finding how tall Miss Butler is, how much Miss Mannion weighs and accurately measuring many food items. This activity has been extended into Home Learning; so beware...your food cupboards could be disturbed! On Wednesday afternoon Yr 5/6 joined us in the Tew Centre for PE. Mrs Sellars provided some South American music and x6 different groups produced some amazing dance routines and moves in a very short space of time. KS2 were thinking ahead to the Olympic Games in Rio this summer.

Home Learning Hero: Emily - she has an amazing imagination and has produced some very creative writing as well as images for our Stone Age Adventures.

Stanley - excellent leadership skills are beginning to emerge from this quiet but determined young man.

News from Years 5 & 6

This week Year 5 and 6 have been reciting some of their favourite poems to their friends and thinking about injecting expression into their performance: through intonation, volume and gestures. I particularly loved Finlay's performance of 'Adlestrop' and he explained really carefully its significance to this area. We also enjoyed the exploits of 'Matilda' as told by Scarlet.

We have also completed our Scratch computer programming tasks, 'Whack a Witch' and 'Desert Racers', this week, We have worked very hard to add some complicated control actions, sounds and variables to make animated games; even Mrs. Catling learnt something! Jemima has taken on the role of our in-house ICT expert completing her own tasks in record time and flying around the room problem-solving for the others!

In Maths we have been carefully drawing polygons in grids and reflecting and translating in the four quadrants – the children picked this up really easily and were very proud of their work. In English we have been learning about figurative devices including similes, alliteration, metaphors, personification and onomatopoeia and finding examples from the Highwayman. A busy week one way and all!

Swimming Gala

On the 20th of January, eight children from Great Tew took part in the 2016 Chipping Norton Partnership Swimming Gala. We took part in five races: front crawl, back stroke, breast stroke, medley and the float race. We won some of our races and overall we came in fourth place. It was very competitive and exciting for everyone and some of the races were very close. Isabella, Matilda, Millie, Blythe, Gethin, Finlay, Bertie and Harry represented the school very well and we are very proud of them.

By Isabella and Blythe

Stars of the Week

Well done to the following children who have been working hard, displaying a "Growth Mindset" towards their learning. Well done to them all and keep up the good work.

Reception	Molly
Year 1&2	James
Years 3&4	Ioan
Years 5&6	Gethin

Good Manners Champion

This week's Good Manners Champion is Tom in Year 1. Tom is friendly and enthusiastic and he always looks like he is having fun, both in the classroom and the playground. Tom is very supportive of the other children and he hates to see other people sad or being unkind and he will always do something rather than standing by and letting it happen. The children told us: *Tom is thoughtful to the other children and very kind; he never frowns and he always says please and thank you; Tom is really funny and very friendly; he plays with children in different year groups, not just year one children.* Mrs Butler added: *"Tom is direct and honest and he is able to settle conflict through dialogue in a very mature way."* Well done Tom – you do indeed have lovely manners!

Bag2School

Just to let you know that we are planning another Bag2School collection in early March. The last one was a huge success – so please start tidying and sorting now before the Spring and help us raise vital funds for the school. Further details will follow.

Best wishes to everyone.

Mrs Lucy Miles

Dates for Your Diary

Wednesday 3 rd February	U11 Netball tournament
Monday 8 th February	Y6 children – IMPS at Horton Hospital
Tuesday 9 th February	Year 3 and 4 Stone Age Activity Day
Wednesday 10 th February, pm	Year 4 children to Carrdus School for drama workshop – parents invited to watch
Tuesday 23 rd February	Year 3 and 4 children to Creative Climbing Centre in Birmingham
Saturday 27 th February	Oxfordshire Primary Cross-Country championship
Friday 11 th March	Year 5 Science Day at Tudor Hall
Wednesday 16 th March	Schoolympics for Year 2 and 3 children at Chipping Norton Leisure Centre

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