



Great Tew School Newsletter

Issue 253

Friday 11TH March 2016



News from School Council

Sport Relief Mile on Friday 18th March
On Friday we will be doing a Sport Relief Run. Please come to school wearing red. The event will be on the green at the beginning of the day (and there won't be a Friday assembly). We are asking the children to collect some sponsors, wear red and join in the fun to raise money for Sport Relief. Parents and families can take part too if they would like, and can skip, run, walk, hop or run round the green – but they have to wear red too and try to get some sponsors!
Let's see how much we can raise!



Second Hand Uniform Sale

Friday 18th March 2.45-3.30pm

Second-hand uniform sale, to recycle unwanted clothes, save money and raise money for the Great Tew School Supporters' Club at the same time. Please donate any grown-out-of but good quality "branded" uniform, together with school uniform items such as trousers & skirts, white shirts and PE kit. There is a labelled box in the office.

News from Reception

Biggest, smallest, more or less, greater than, less than... this week our maths sessions explored the order of numbers and how we know whether numbers are bigger or smaller when we compare them. The children have loved playing 'Biggest Number Wins' and it is a simple game to play at home using numbers within a range that is accessible for your child. Write some numbers and cut them out into small cards. Each pick a card and whoever has the biggest number wins. You could find different ways to keep score too.

In Literacy we have continued to find out about the birds that we see in our gardens; the children have used books and posters to find out more and they have considered whether a book is a story or an information book. They have also had a go at drawing and labelling diagrams with arrows pointing at the important bits!

On Monday we worked in pairs to make little clay birds which we then took up to the wild garden and built nests to keep them safe. We searched for the perfect spot and the children explained why they had made their choices. They collected and tested out different nest materials before settling their birds into their new homes.

Interest Table: A new theme for the last two weeks of term... Easter. Please try to think beyond chocolate here! A beautifully decorated egg, spring flowers, a cross or bible story would be the perfect way to think about this celebration with your child at home.

News from Years 1 & 2

Our maths this week has focused on learning to tell the time using analogue clocks. This is an area that can sometimes be tricky for the more able mathematicians, whereas those who find calculation problematic may find that time makes perfect sense! So the learning this week ranged from those children consolidating o'clock through half past, quarter past and quarter to. With confidence on the up, some children progressed to reading the time in 5 minute intervals (tricky when it's on the 'to' side) and some even managed to begin converting analogue to digital time. Whatever level your child is at they would benefit hugely from some 'time' conversations at home.

Continuing with our performance theme in English we have been learning to aurally retell the story of 'Handa's Hen' using a story map and gestures for support; the year 2 children are also learning a poem about the suffixes 'ful' and 'less'.

On Wednesday the Year 1 children attended a dance festival at Chipping Norton School where they created a sea creature dance with all the other year 1 children in the Chipping Norton Schools partnership - over 200 children in the sports hall all dancing at the same time! The children were enthusiastic, full of ideas, confident and very well-behaved - a pleasure to take out.

News from Years 3 & 4

The excitement from World Book week is still bubbling in Year 3/4 this week. We sneaked in two more highly enjoyable 10 minute 'Flash Reads'. We also had a bookmark competition with entries of a very high standard.

Year 4: 1st Place –Bella

Year 3: Joint 1st Place -India & Vivi...myself and Mrs Rumble just couldn't decide! Thanks to all who took part.

In Maths and Home Learning we have been 'clocking up' how much we travel in a day as well as a whole week...some of us lead very busy lives!

The presentation of the Home Learning was particularly good from Vivi Watt this week-**Our Homework Hero** for the week.

Our Sporting Hero was Florence Anthony for her excellent map reading skills and working so well as a team member.

News from Years 5 & 6

On the 27th February, Max (Yr 6), Finlay (Yr 6), Gethin (Yr 6), Jamie (Yr 6), Bertie (Yr 5), Archie Grant (Yr 5), Archie Leigh-Wood (Yr 5), Isabella (Yr 5), Royce (Yr 3), Monty (Yr 3), Lucia (Yr 2), Zac (Yr 2), Milo (Yr 2), Skye (Yr 1) and Archie Tosh (Yr 1) took part in a cross country run in Reading.

It started off with the younger children's races (girls, then boys) and they had to run 1200m (about 3 times round the cricket pitch), then the older children ran 1800m. The course was twice around a hilly track and then straight down a field and then into a forest, where you had to jump over logs.

When we finished we were given numbers to indicate our positions – these also acted as points. Whichever year group had the lowest score came first and was awarded with a trophy – and to our delight the Year 5 boys came second. Still better, the Year 6 boys won!

We have continued our `mock-up murder hunt` this week (we are investigating the `murder` of a supply teacher in Year 5/6 and have whittled it down to 5 very likely suspects Mrs. Miles, Miss. Butler, Mrs. Sam, Mrs. Reid and Mrs. Catling – all of whom had opportunity and motivation!) by inviting Harry's dad -Detective Inspector Mr. Holmes - to come in and explain to us modern methods of detection and forensic science. It was absolutely FASCINATING and you could hear a pin drop as Mr. Holmes held the room spellbound explaining how criminals are caught and providing us with some amazing anecdotes. He brought in lots of real life police equipment (sadly not a Taser!) such as evidence bags and white suits. Hattie looked very fetching dressed up like a forensic scientist! The children were fascinated and many now want to become a forensic scientist – including Blythe who asked lots of interesting questions. Then we all took each other's fingerprints with the actual police sheets. Mr. Holmes gave us actual witness statement sheets to complete with our accounts of the murder hunt so far. All of our gathered evidence will be shown at a special assembly next Tuesday afternoon at 2.30 p.m. where we hope to reveal the `killer`!!



The children's `chilli` style home learning was a great success. The children could choose their own topic and the `strength or difficulty` of the task – many went for a `red-hot chilli` and produced amazing videos of themselves teaching long and short division. Bertie produced a very professional session on long division (on his fridge!), Jennifer was then the teacher for 2 minutes and taught the class to short divide using minstrel chocolates (we ALL learnt!), Scarlet produced a very lively game-show on long division with samba music and Gethin's clear and advanced tutorial is actually available on you tube if you would like to see the quality of these mini-teachers. Please go to www.youtube.com/watch?v=HkXLyKFhnQc. These mini -tutorials really helped Mrs. Catling since her voice was failing!

Science Day at Tudor Hall

On Friday the Year 5 children took part in a fun-filled and very educational day of science at Tudor Hall School. They loved their day which was action packed from start to finish, with a marble run engineering challenge, exploding gases, chemical concoctions, a space dome and some very interesting animals to meet. The children were fantastic, so enthusiastic and appreciative and we ALL had a fun day!



Stars of the Week

Well done to the following children, who have been showing a Growth Mindset towards their learning, both in and out of the classrooms.

Reception	Evelyn
Year 1&2	Aliena
Years 3&4	Bella
Years 5&6	Maddie

Good Manners Champion

This week's Good Manners' Champion is Eliza in Year 6. Eliza is bubbly and enthusiastic with a great sense of fun and that makes her a very good friend to the other children. Eliza has a bright and happy attitude, and she is friendly to everyone, always saying hello with a big smile on her face. The children told us: *Eliza is really kind and so much fun to have around; she always has an idea about something good to play; Eliza always plays with a mixture of different ages; in the playground she's not normally grumpy! Eliza has a positive attitude when things get tough; she asks if you're OK if you've fallen over or had an accident; Eliza reminds me of the sunshine; she always picks people up from the friendship stop – and makes them feel like it's all right; Eliza thinks of other people – she's such a good friend.* With comments like this, Eliza should be feeling very proud of herself – well done Eliza!

TIME TO CLEAR OUT THOSE CUPBOARDS!!

Second Hand Uniform Sale

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Bag2School

Our Bag2School collection will take place on Wednesday 20th April. Bags will be sent home on around 14th March. Please start tidying out those cupboards and let's try to make this our biggest collection yet.



The following 'good quality' items are accepted:

- Men's, Ladies and Children's clothing
- Paired shoes (tied together or elastic band around)
- Handbags
- Hats
- Bags
- Scarves and ties
- Jewellery
- Lingerie
- Belts
- Soft toys

The following are not accepted:

- Duvets, bedding, blankets and household linen
- Pillows and cushions
- Carpets, rugs and mats
- Curtains
- Towels
- Soiled, painted, ripped or wet clothing
- School uniforms
- Corporate clothing and workwear
- Textile off cuts, yarns or threaded material

Best wishes
Mrs Lucy Miles

Dates for Your Diary

Tuesday 15 th March	Parents' Evening – 4.30 to 6.30
Wednesday 16 th March	Schoolympics for Year 2 and 3 children at Chipping Norton Leisure Centre
Thursday 17 th March	Parents' Evening – 3.30 to 5.30

Easter Events

Tuesday 22 nd March	Egg rolling and egg hunt (children to bring a decorated egg to roll!)
Wednesday 23 rd March	Cake Sale in support of Helen & Douglas House Easter Service at St Michael's Church (9am)– everyone welcome Followed by: Easter Bonnet Parade – children walk back to school in their Easter bonnets
Wednesday 23 rd March	Term finishes at 2pm
Thursday 24 th March	INSET Day – no school for children
Monday 11 th April	Summer Term begins



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