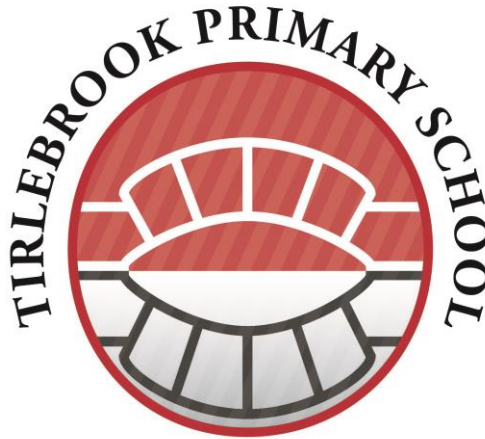


Tirlebrook Newsletter 7 (23-24)

Friday 27th October 2023



It's been a busy final week of the first half of the Autumn Term at Tirlebrook with a huge amount going on. Thank you for your kindness and positivity throughout the half term, but especially this week, with staff and children flagging and with so many things to remember. Thank you for supporting us on Thursday in particular with our **Dress Down to Donate day**; hundreds of bottles were handed over in exchange for the children not having to wear school uniform as we gathered items to support our upcoming Christmas Street Fair, taking place on Friday, 1st December. As well as looking great in their own clothes, the children were also very brave on Thursday as they participated in the Department of Health's **Children's Nasal Flu Vaccination programme** - something that I don't think many of us would be looking forward to. Well done children!

We have also really enjoyed welcoming families into school this week. The Reception classroom was as busy as ever throughout the week and Mrs. Reynolds, Mrs. Moysey and Mrs. Ramsay, as well as our fantastic Reception children, were all absolutely delighted to show off Oak Tree Class to visiting parents at two **Stay and Play sessions**, on Monday 23rd October and Friday 27th October. They were great times and we hope you can see just how well our youngest children have settled at the start of this new academic year. Our teachers also had great pleasure in meeting with parents during this week's two **Family Consultations** sessions, on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons and early evenings respectively. It was a great opportunity for parents to hear about the children's attitudes, behaviour and achievements during the term, as well as taking the chance to look at some of their work books. Thank you to everyone who came into school for either or both of these events.

As we head into a well-deserved half term break, take stock of everything that has been accomplished in the first 44 days of the school year. And there is so much more to come ...

Staff News

Farewell Mrs. Nash

On Friday, we said our final farewells to **Mrs. Rebecca Nash**. She joined us, with the rest of the Little Oaks staff and children, in Friday's Celebration Assembly so that we could thank her and wish her every success and happiness in the next stage of her career. What was absolutely fascinating was the number of children who had started their Tirlbrook journey at Little Oaks with Mrs. Nash central to their earliest education; at least half of the children in the school hall raised their hands to acknowledge that Mrs. Nash, along with the rest of the Little Oaks staff, had made a huge contribution to their development. And that does not include some children from last year's Year 6 class who have now left the school. Mrs. Nash has been with the Little Oaks team since its inception seven years ago and has played an important role in the nursery becoming what it is today. She has decided that it is time for her to explore new opportunities now that her children have moved on from Tirlbrook and we wish her every success as she begins a specific role with the Hospital Education Service. I am sure you will join me in wishing her this success and sending our very best wishes her way. Thank you Mrs. Nash - your contribution to the lives of so many of our children and young people will not be forgotten. Farewell and good luck!



Congratulations Mrs. Featonby

I am delighted to inform you that **Mrs. Abby Featonby**, our Y5 teacher, is expecting another baby and will be taking maternity leave later this academic year as she welcomes another little one into her family. At present, Mrs. Featonby is intending to work up until the February half term break after which her maternity leave will begin. As we know, we only have so much control over these things; baby will come when baby needs to and therefore this timescale may be interrupted.

Although this is wonderful news for Mrs. Featonby and her family, losing such a great teacher for a significant part of the academic year is a significant loss for Tirlbrook and more specifically, the

children of Rowan Class. We are currently in the final stages of arranging who will be teaching Year 5 once Mrs. Featonby's maternity leave begins. It is planned that our new teacher will begin with us immediately after Christmas, giving time for them to work alongside Mrs. Featonby so that they can get to know the children, the routines of the school and the curriculum arrangements for Rowan Class. The transition between teachers will be handled sensitively and appropriately. We will let you know who will be joining our staff team as soon as possible.

I am sure that you will join me in expressing huge congratulations to Mrs. Featonby and her husband and wish her every health and happiness throughout the duration of her pregnancy and beyond. Congratulations, Mrs. Featonby!



[Well Done, Miss. Moysey](#)

We are delighted to share with you that Miss. Moysey has been awarded an apprenticeship distinction. As you will be aware, Miss. Moysey completed her teacher training whilst in post at Tirlbrook last academic year, securing her Qualified Teacher Status (QTS) during the summer. This training was made possible through the DfE's Apprenticeship programme, which lasts for just over twelve months. That period has now come to an end and we are delighted to share with you that in her recent end-point meeting, she was informed that not only had she successfully completed her apprenticeship, but that due to the high quality of her work, she had been awarded a distinction. This is fantastic news and ratifies all of Miss. Moysey's hard work, dedication and commitment. We therefore wish to congratulate her, and I'm sure you will join me in doing so. Well done, Miss. Moysey!



Information for Families

The Poppy Appeal 2023

We are supporting the Royal British Legion's Poppy Appeal once more this year by selling poppies and other associated poppy 'merchandise'. We are 'selling' items via SCOPAY and asking families to make the minimum donation (listed below) to 'purchase' an item(s). You are very welcome to donate more than the minimum donation. We will begin selling items during the first week back after half term but purchases can be made via SCOPAY **from Friday 3rd November 2023** at the end of the half term break. Please be aware that there are a limited number of items and that they will be allocated on a first-come first-served basis. Our system will be checked daily so that items are distributed fairly. Some items come in specific colours, but we will not be able to guarantee a child's first choice of coloured item. Once items are sold out we will be unable to source any more.

Items available (minimum donation in brackets):

Poppy (20p); Poppy Zip Pull (£1); Poppy Reflector (£1); Poppy Wristband (£1); Poppy Snapband (£1.50)

Poppies are also available to the wider school community for a donation at the school gate. Thank you for your support.



KS2 P.E. - Tuesdays and Thursdays - Autumn Term 2

In a change to the arrangements that are currently in place, please be aware that children in Key Stage Two will be required to come to school wearing their P.E. kits on **Tuesdays** and **Thursdays** after half term. This means the following:

- Y3 - Y6 will all be required to wear their P.E. kit on a Tuesday
- Y3, Y4 & Y6 will be required to wear their P.E. kit on a Thursday (Y5 will come to school as normal in their school uniform)

The arrangements above are slightly different for the children in Y5 as they will be beginning their swimming lessons on a Friday. Y5 children are required to wear their school uniform on swimming days and therefore will only need to come to school on a Tuesday wearing their P.E. kit for the upcoming half term.

Thank you for your understanding of these arrangements.

Further to this, thank you to the vast majority of families who are sending their children to school wearing suitable P.E. kit. Please be reminded that this consists of a plain white t-shirt, black shorts/cycle shorts/leggings, a plain pair of trainers and a Tirlbrook school jumper or cardigan. Other sports sweatshirts are not permitted and we would like to remind families that only Tirlbrook jumpers or cardigans should be worn. As the weather is getting colder, plain black joggers may also form part of our P.E. kit, and whilst we don't encourage it, plain black 'skins' are also acceptable to be worn beneath.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Bag2School - Can You Help?

Bag2School is back and we need your help! We have yet to receive our Bag2School collection bags so in the meantime, please use **any bag** to generously fill with some of your good quality no longer wanted items. We would be very grateful if these could then be returned to school and, following collection by Bag2School, valuable additional funds for Tirlbrook will be generated. And to boot (pardon the pun!), your donations also go on to be used to support good causes. By getting involved in our Bag2School collection, you have an opportunity to sort through your cupboards and wardrobes over half term and donate unwanted textiles – this can include adults' and children's clothes, shoes (tied together please), hats, belts, handbags and soft toys (refer to www.bag2school.com for details). If you are able to fill more than one bag, that's great - the more donated, the clearer your wardrobes and the greater the financial reward returning to school. Please don't forget to ask grandparents, friends and neighbours to have a sort out as well! In a revision to last week's newsletter, due to a lack of space in school, please send in your bags from **Thursday 23rd November 2023** ahead of our collection. Many thanks for helping us with this fundraising opportunity.



REMINDER: Tirlebrookers After-School Club Closures - Fridays 1st and 8th December 2023

We would like to give advance notice that Tirlebrookers After-School Club will be **closed** on **Friday 1st December** and **Friday 8th December**. Please think ahead if you ordinarily use this service on Fridays and make alternative arrangements. Thanks again for your understanding.

Coming Up

Open Morning - Tuesday 7th November 2023

Our next Open Morning is on **Tuesday 7th November** (the first week back at school after the half term break) so please spread the word to anyone and everyone who has a Reception-starting child in September 2024 - we would love to welcome them to Tirlebrook to check out what we can offer.

Places will be available for this event at two time slots: 9:15 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. respectively. Bookings can be made by contacting Mrs. Claire Thomas, our School Administrator, by email at admin@tirlebrook.gloucs.sch.uk or by calling the School Office on 01684 293549. You may also book a visit by scanning the QR code and completing the online form. A further date has been planned for an Open Afternoon: Tuesday 21st November. Further details of this event will be available shortly. Please share this information with family, friends and beyond – we look forward to welcoming familiar faces and new ones alike to our wonderful school.

*We also have spaces in our current Reception class - if this is of interest to somebody you know, please make them aware as they too will be welcome to join us for a tour around the school.



Tirlebrook Primary School

Are you looking for a school where your child can
EXPLORE, ENJOY and EXCEL
in their learning?

Call, e-mail or scan the QR code to book a tour and find out why
Tirlebrook is the right school for your child!

Thursday 12th October
Tuesday 7th November
Tuesday 21st November

Brensham Road, Tewkesbury, GL20 8EW
01684 293549
admin@tirlebrook.gloucs.sch.uk
www.tirlebrook.co.uk



Looking Back

Reception Stay & Play - Monday 23rd and Friday 27th October 2023

Mrs. Reynolds writes,

'The children were so excited to have mummies, daddies and grandparents in their classroom on Monday and Friday this week. It was a special time during which we could share our playing and learning. Thank you to everyone who came along - without you it wouldn't have been the success that it was. Thank you!'

A big thank you to Mrs. Reynolds and the team for the fantastic work they are doing with our youngest Tirlbrook pupils and for opening up the classroom for visitors at the end of what has been a very long and tiring term. Thanks too to everyone who came along - we hope that you enjoyed yourselves and could see just how much progress the children have made since starting at school back in September.

















Y4 Greek Day - Friday 27th October 2023

Mr. Crouch writes,

'What a lovely day and a brilliant way to end the term - our Greek day was incredible!

The children started their morning by learning the Greek alphabet and practising their handwriting. This was quickly followed by stepping into a Greek courtroom for a mock trial that featured a dispute between Socrates and Plato - the children had the chance to hear the evidence for and against the crimes that Socrates had committed and the laws he had broken. In the end they voted that Socrates was indeed guilty and he was sentenced to a gruesome death.

After this, the children learned about Pythagoras and his (although not his) theorem. They found that the hypotenuse was always opposite the right angle in a triangle and were challenged to create their own structures in groups using this theory. Next, the children competed in the first ever Olympic Games. They participated to earn wreaths for their determination and self-belief, following our School Games values. The children competed in the long jump, javelin, archery and even some marathon running on our Tirlbrook 10 track.

Moving into the afternoon, the children tasted different foods from Greece. Tzatziki, feta, olives and pitta bread were given out to taste while the children completed their own Ancient Greece colourings whilst watching the Disney movie, 'Hercules'.

I really hope the children enjoyed the day as much as both Miss. Ward and myself did. It was very busy but we had the opportunity to learn a lot while having a huge amount of fun. Thank you to the Y4 families for the amazing Greek costumes and for allowing us to maximise the opportunity of sharing this experience with the children.'

Congratulations Silver Birch Class and a big thank you to Mr. Crouch and Miss. Ward for making the last day of this half term not only one that has significantly enhanced the children's understanding of this area of the curriculum, but one that was simply amazing and lots of fun. Well done everyone!







And finally...

We have finally made it to the October half term break after a long and tiring half term. Thank you, as always, for your consistent support and for your appreciation and recognition of the hard work and effort that every member of our staff makes on behalf of the children at Tirlbrook and Little Oaks. Whatever your plans involve for the next week, we wish you all a happy and restful break and look forward to seeing you on 6th November.

Have a wonderful half term break!

Mr. Lockley and the Tirlbrook Team

School Calendar

October

- Monday 30th October - Friday 3rd November - HALF TERM

November

- Monday 6th - Autumn Term 2 Begins
- Tuesday 7th - Open Morning for Prospective Reception Families
- Tuesday 7th - Y5 Robotics Workshop Day
- Tuesday 7th - ESFA Football Tournament
- Wednesday 8th - Y5 Into Film Festival - 'Asteroid Hunters'
- Friday 10th - Y6 Into Film Festival - 'The Railway Children Return'
- Friday 10th - Y5 Swimming Lessons begin
- w/c Monday 13th - Anti-Bullying Week
- Monday 13th & Tuesday 14th - Life Education Visit
- Tuesday 14th - ESFA Girls' Football Tournament
- Friday 17th - Children in Need
- Tuesday 21st - Y3 Into Film Festival - 'Early Man'
- Tuesday 21st - Open Afternoon for Prospective Reception Families
- Tuesday 21st - Y4 Football League Round 1
- from Thursday 23rd - Bag2School Collection
- Thursday 23rd - Y4 Into Film Festival - 'Epic Tales'
- Friday 24th - Dress Down to Donate for the Christmas Street Fair
- Tuesday 28th - Netball Festival

December

- Friday 1st - Tirlbrook Christmas Street Fair - 5 p.m. - 8 p.m.
- Monday 4th - Girls' Football League Competition
- Tuesday 5th & Wednesday 6th - Y2- Y6 Cookery Workshops with Chef Caldora
- Thursday 7th - Christmas Jumper Day
- Thursday 14th - Christmas Dinner Day
- Monday 18th & Tuesday 19th - Reception and Y1 Nativity Performances (times TBC)
- Tuesday 19th - Christmas Disco (TBC)
- Wednesday 20th - Christmas Party Day

- Thursday 21st - Core Values Cup Assembly @ 9 a.m.
- Thursday 21st - End of Autumn Term 2 @ 1:30 p.m.

January 2024

- Friday 5th - INSET training day; Tirlbrook Primary School and Little Oaks Nursery closed to pupils
- Monday 8th - Spring Term 1 Begins
- Wednesday 24th - Young Voices
- w/c Monday 29th - iSingPOP

February 2024

- Tuesday 6th - Thursday 8th - Spring Term Family Consultations
- Friday 9th - End of Spring Term 1
- Monday 19th - Spring Term 2 Begins

March 2024

- Wednesday 6th - Tuesday 12th - 'Books for Bugs' Virtual Book Fair
- Thursday 7th - World Book Day
- Wednesday 20th & Thursday 21st - Y2 - Y6 Cookery Workshops with Chef Caldora
- Friday 22nd - End of Spring Term 2 @ 1:30 p.m.

April

- Monday 8th - Summer Term 1 Begins
- Tuesday 9th - Reception and Y6 Heights & Weights
- Monday 29th to Wednesday 1st May - Y4 Residential @ The Pioneer Centre

May

- Tuesday 7th to Friday 10th - Y5 Residential @ Rockley Point
- Monday 13th to Thursday 16th - Y6 SATs Week
- Thursday 23rd - End of Summer Term 1

June

- Tuesday 4th - Summer Term 2 Begins

July

- Monday 8th - Friday 12th - Y6 Isle of Wight Residential
- Friday 19th - End of Summer Term 2 @ 1:30 p.m.

Getting in Touch



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Facebook: @tirlebrookprimaryschool