



Gaddesden Row JMI School

Newsletter 17th January - 2025



Good afternoon, friends, and families,

I hope you are well and have had a good week. Two weeks down and we are well and truly back into the swing of things.

Swimming

Our first swimming session was very successful with the children being assessed to ensure they are grouped accurately to ensure they get the best out of the following lessons. The children's behaviour was excellent, as always, and we look forward to seeing them all make progress and build in confidence over the coming weeks.



Clubs and Tutoring

All after-school clubs and tutoring have begun this week and the children have enjoyed the new opportunities and activities on offer as well as some old favourites.

Team Points Reward

I will be meeting with Team Sapphire to discuss their chosen reward for being our Autumn Term winners. Get thinking over the weekend about what you might like this to be.



Chair of Governors

As you may have heard, we have new Co-Chair of Governors. You will find a letter from them with this newsletter. Congratulations to Miriam Barrow and Peter Hills on your appointments.

Dates for the diary

Wk. Beg. 3rd February – Children's Mental Health Week

Tuesday 11th February – Safer Internet Day

Friday 7th March – World Book Day

Thursday 20th March – Red Nose Day Celebrations

Friday 21st March – INSET Day

Monday 31st March – Parent's Evening



Our School Values – Generosity

Each week we will be focusing on one of our school values. We will share an assembly to help fully understand our value and then encourage the children to think about using the chosen value. This week our chosen value is **Generosity**. We have seen examples of; a child being generous with their time by helping another child to understand a question in maths and an older child giving up their lunchtime to support and help a younger child. Well done on your random acts of generosity!

Attendance



Class Rock 'N' Roll	Class Pop	Class Disco
99%	89%	99%

Attendance Matters



Well done to Classes **Rock 'N' Roll** and **Disco** for getting £5 each in your attendance funds!

Stars of the Week

Class Rock 'N' Roll: Theo
Class Pop: Oakley
Class Disco: Isabella

Curriculum News

Class Rock 'N' Roll

In English, the children have continued their learning sequence based on 'Supertato.' They have continued to explore the story and have focused on the characters, in particular the villain of the story - Evil Pea. **The children created their own evil vegetables including Evil Strawberry and Evil Cucumber.** In maths, the children in Reception finished their learning on mass and capacity and have moved onto 'Growing 6, 7 and 8. They have been exploring counting and representing the numbers 6, 7 and 8 and have explored finding 1 more. They have explored answering questions like 'How many are there altogether and How many are there now?' The children in Year 1 continuing their work on addition by exploring doubles and near double. **For example, if I know that double 5 is 10 then I know that 5 + 4 will be one less.** They then began to explore subtracting by counting back using a number line and by using their number bond knowledge. In art, the children have been learning about the artist Yayoi Kusama. They looked at different pieces of her work and had to identify similarities and differences and talk about their likes and dislikes. **The children then imitated Kusama's artwork using different mark-making skills.**

Class Pop

In English, the children have continued their learning sequence based upon 'A Lion in the Meadow' by Margaret Mahy. The children have been exploring descriptive tools with a particular focus on adverbs. They then used this learning to write descriptions of a meadow. **The children then had to create and describe their own new characters to replace the lion and the dragon from the story.** In maths, the children in Year 2 have continued to work on multiplication by learning about making arrays. The children then began to use their knowledge of equal groups to support them in developing their understanding of division. **The children explored making equal groups by grouping and sharing answering key questions; 'How many are you going to put into each group? How many groups are you going to share them between?'** The children in Year 3 have continued to build on their knowledge of multiplication and division by exploring multiples of 5 and 10 and dividing by grouping and sharing. **Children moved onto multiplying and dividing by 3, using counters and cubes to represent calculations.** In history, the children continued to learn about different intrepid explorers. This week they **learned about the first voyage of Christopher Columbus and order the events on a timeline.**

Class Disco

In English, the children have continued work on their class text - How to Train Your Dragon - within this, they have explored using nouns and accurate speech punctuation. **The children also had to write a set of instructions for 'How to Train a Dog'.** In maths this week, the children in Year 6 have continued their learning about ratio, exploring the differences between ratio and fractions. **They then moved onto learning how to draw to scale and why you might need to this.** The children in Year 5 are continued to develop their multiplication skills by multiplying 2-digit by 2-digit and 3-digit by 2-digit numbers. **They also answered key questions such as, What is the same and what is different about multiplying a 2-digit number by a 2-digit number and multiplying a 3-digit number by a 2-digit number** The children in Year 4 are building on their multiplication skills by learning to multiply by 10 and 100. They have used this knowledge to support them when moving onto dividing by 10. **Children noticed that in all the examples they see, they need to "remove the zero" to find the answer.** In art, the children have continued their learning about Frida Kahlo and explored why so much of her work was self-portraits. They learned about the concept of proportionality to ensure accuracy when drawing facial features. **The children had the opportunity to implement their learning by drawing the missing half of their face from a photograph self-portrait.**

Team Points for the end of this week are:

138



140



155



Golden Book

Well done to **Lillie-Mai and Annie** for their excellent work and understanding of fronted adverbials. Well done to **Harry** for being so brave when we went swimming. Well done to **Oakley** for his work on division, making groups by grouping and making groups by sharing and well done to **Louie** for his amazing new character drawing and description.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend and see you all next week.

Miss Smith

Generosity **A**spiration **D**iscovery **R**esponsibility **O**pen-mindedness **W**elcoming

At Gaddesden Row JMI School, we are fully committed to the safeguarding of pupils and take E-Safety very seriously. With the support of parents, we pro-actively teach our pupils how to keep themselves safe, including online.