



Gaddesden Row JMI School

Newsletter 27th June - 2025



Good afternoon, friends, and families,

Another Friday is here, another week has gone by, and it's been another very busy week here at school. We are fast approaching the end of the summer term but there is still so much to fit in!

Summer Fayre

A reminder that our annual Summer Fayre will be taking place on Friday 4th July, between 15:15 and 16:30, with a range of different stalls and activities to be enjoyed by everyone. **Thank you to everyone for the wide range of bottles brought in today for the tombola.**

'Rags 2 Riches'

A reminder that our 'Rags 2 Riches' collection is in 2 weeks time, on **08/07/2025**. Please help us fundraise by donating your good quality unwanted, re-useable (clean, dry and wearable) clothes and accessories.

Woburn Trip

Thank you to those families who have already returned and paid for the Woburn Trip that takes place on Thursday 17th July. A reminder that the deadline to pay and return consent forms is **Wednesday 2nd of July**.



Secondary School 'Move-Up' Day

On Thursday 10th of July, our Year 6 children will spend the day at their chosen secondary schools, and the other year groups here at school will move into their new classes. I have written a separate letter to all families with details as to which adult are in what classes, and the names of our new classes for the next academic year. A paper copy will be coming home as well.

Clubs

The week beginning the 7th of July will be the final week of after-school clubs for this term. We will be sending out letters for clubs in September before we break up for families to sign-up.

Gaddesden Wish List Link - [Amazon.co.uk](https://www.amazon.co.uk)

This can also be found on the school website, in the top right-hand corner, quick links section.

Our School Values – Encourage

In our assembly this week, I introduced the next of our new, additional set of values. This week I have enjoyed seeing children following our chosen value of – **Encourage**. We have seen children encouraging each other, using positive affirmations like "You can do it!". We have seen children encouraging others by sharing resources. We have seen children encouraging others to join in with their games. Congratulations everyone on being so encouraging!



Attendance



Class Rock 'N' Roll	Class Pop	Class Disco
96%	86%	97%

Attendance Matters



Well done to Class Disco for getting £5 in your attendance fund!

Stars of the Week

Class Rock 'N' Roll: Henry
Class Pop: Tommy
Class Disco: Isabella

Curriculum News

Class Rock 'N' Roll

In English, the children have finished their work on fairy tales, by writing a new ending for 'There's No Dragon in This Story'. The children began by recapping the events of the story and plotting them onto a story map. They moved onto planning what they thought could happen next in the story as the dragon passes by the troll. **Finally, the children turned their plan into a new ending for the story, for example: The dragon meets the Gruffalo and helps him catch the mouse.**

In maths, the children in Reception have been exploring patterns. They began by identifying units of repeating patterns. **The children used a line of cubes, moving the cubes down from the pattern and see each section of the pattern as a unit.** They moved onto creating their own repeating pattern rules. Finally, they explored pattern rules and focused on being able to verbalise and describe their own patterns as well as other children's patterns.

The children in Year 1 have been exploring time. They began by exploring key vocabulary relating to time. **Children used "before", "after", "first", "next" and "finally" to describe, sort and order events. When talking about the day, they used "morning", "afternoon" and "evening".** They moved onto learning the names and order of the 7 days of the week and the 12 months of the year.

In Geography, the children have been identifying features and characteristics of the countries of the UK. The children learned the national flower and animal of England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, as well as the patron saint. **The children were amazed to learn that that national animal of Scotland is the unicorn.**

Class Pop

In English, the children have continued their unit of work on explanation texts by becoming more familiar with using the specific features. They began by identifying and using simple present tense. They learned that present tense means that something is happening now and they had a go at recognising the present tense verb in a sentence. They moved onto look at subheadings and how and why they are used. The children had to read a passage of explanation text and create a subheading for it before writing their own paragraph, including a subheading. **Some examples included 'How does a volcano work?', 'What do volcanoes look like?' and 'How hot does lava get?'** Finally, they explored explaining a process verbally in preparation for writing next week.

In maths, the children in Year 2 have continued their learning about statistics by looking at pictograms. They began by drawing and interpreting pictograms with a correspondence of 1-1. Children used or gathered information in a tally chart before transferring the information into a pictogram. The children then moved onto drawing and interpreting pictograms with correspondence of 2-1, 5-1 and 10-1. They learned that this becomes necessary when working with larger numbers, **for example, if your pictogram was representing how many children in a school had read their book each day and 25 children had read in one class, it is more efficient to use a correspondence of 5-1 than 1-1.**

The children in Year 3 have moved onto exploring statistics. They began by interpreting and drawing pictograms before moving onto bar charts and finally different tables. They learned how to read and recognise information being shared in different graphs and tables and used the information to answer a range of questions. **They recapped their understanding of how to use a key when using pictograms before moving onto extend their understanding of bar charts intervals and how they can increase in steps of more than one.**

In science, the children have been learning about magnets and different magnetic materials. This week, the children conducted an experiment exploring the magnetism of different metals. **They learned that any metal containing iron, for example, steel and nickel, are magnetic and those that don't contain iron, for example, gold and aluminium, are not magnetic.**

Class Disco

In English, the children have moved onto exploring diary entries using the text 'Escape from Pompeii' as inspiration. They began by identifying the features of a diary entry such as past tense, description of writer's thoughts and feelings, time conjunctions and opinions as well as facts. They then began to write their diary entry, recounted the day Mount Vesuvius erupted, doing so in three parts. For the first part of their diary, the children recounted the morning of the eruption, before anything had happened. **The children focused on using their feelings and emotions to describe their experiences, for example, 'I couldn't focus as the smell of the bakery hypnotized me.'** The children were challenged to add foreshadowing, **for example, 'Mount Vesuvius caught my eye, it was very chilling. Just standing there, I knew that something was going to happen.'** The diary entry will continue next week.

In maths, the children in Year 6 have continued their learning about angles. They began by calculating missing angles within a right angle, using mental or written strategies to subtract the given angle(s) from 90°. They then revisited angles on a straight line and angles around a point. They moved onto finding angles in a triangle. **Starting with equilateral triangles, as all the angles are equal, children learned that each angle must be $180^\circ \div 3 = 60^\circ$.** They then moved on to investigating isosceles triangles. They discovered that not only do isosceles triangles have two equal sides, but they also have two equal angles. They needed to identify which two angles are equal to find the sizes of unknown angles in the triangles.

The children in Year 5 concluded their learning on position and direction before moving onto decimals. They began by recapping the definition of a line of symmetry and then identified shapes on a grid that have a mirror line. Once they were confident at finding a single line in a shape (horizontal, vertical or diagonal), they moved on to identifying shapes that have more than one line of symmetry. They moved onto explore reflection in horizontal and vertical lines. Moving onto decimals, the children began by adding and subtracting decimals within 1 whole using known facts. **Through unitising, children made connections between whole numbers and decimals. For example, 7 ones + 9 ones = 16 ones, therefore 7 hundredths + 9 hundredths = 16 hundredths.**

The children in Year 4 have continued their work on shape. They began by exploring different types of triangles. Children began by looking at examples and non-examples of triangles to help them summarise the characteristics of a triangle before considering the properties of different types of triangles: if all three sides have different lengths, the triangle is scalene; if two sides are the same length, the triangle is isosceles; if all three sides are equal, the triangle is equilateral. They moved onto explore different types of quadrilaterals, identifying that this is any shape with 4 sides. They then looked at polygons. They revisited and extended their knowledge of the names of polygons. **They learned that "gon" means "angled" and the different prefixes relate to the number of angles; for example, "pent" means five, so a pentagon has five angles and therefore five sides.**

In DT, the children had to evaluate the success of their burger before designing the packaging for it and a poster to advertise it. Most children were happy with their burger and would not make any changes. **The children gave their burgers a name including 'The Amazing Cheesy Brioche Burger' and 'Burger De Yum Yum Von Eat Me'.**

Team Points for the end of this week are:

615



616



578



Golden Book

Well done to **Henry** for this fantastic story map about 'There's No Dragon in This Story' and for his hard work all morning. Well done to **Mia, Oakley and Rylee** for their excellent use of subheadings. Well done to **Daniel, Lillie-Mai and Raphy** for their super diary entries about the day of the eruption of Mount Vesuvius.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend.

Miss Smith

G enerous A spirational D iscovery R esponsible O pen-minded 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.