



Gaddesden Row JMI School

Newsletter 28th February - 2025



Good afternoon, friends, and families,

I hope this newsletter finds you well. Welcome back to a new half term and to the start of (hopefully) the nicer, warmer weather. The children have settled back into the new half term very well and have been working very hard.

World Book Day – Friday 7th March

A reminder that next Friday we will be celebrating World Book Day. The theme is 'Read Your Way' and the children are invited to come dressed as their favourite book or character from any book. We look forward to celebrating this special day with the children and promoting the love of reading.

GRAFT Events

Please find details of scheduled GRAFT events for the rest of the year. There will be further dates to be added.

Date	Event
Friday 28 th March	Easter Fayre and Bonnet Competition
Friday 9 th May	Film Club
Friday 20 th June	Refreshment stall at Sports Day
Friday 27 th June	Non-Uniform Day
Friday 4 th July	Summer Fayre
Friday 18 th July	Leavers Disco



Parent Consultations

Letters came home with all children today with details as to how to sign-up for a time for parent consultations, which take place on Monday 31st March. For ease, I have attached another copy of the letter to this parent mail. Please could all forms be returned to school office by Tuesday 11th March.

Our School Values – Responsibility

We are recognising children showing behaviours linked to our chosen value of **Responsibility** this week. We have seen examples of: Children taking responsibility for their Belongings and making sure everything is where it should be when it should be there, children checking-in with their friends to make sure they are happy and children taking responsibility for their work and making sure it is the best it can be. Well done on your responsible behaviours!



Well done to Nell, Henry, Sebby, Kobi, Callum, Demi, Bella-Rose and Lillie-Mai for achieving your silver badge for 20 full weeks in school!



Attendance

Class Rock 'N' Roll	Class Pop	Class Disco
97%	89%	92%

Attendance Matters



Well done to Class **Rock 'N' Roll** for getting £5 in your attendance funds!

Stars of the Week



Class Rock 'N' Roll: Joy
Class Pop: Eva-Mae
Class Disco: Evie-Rose



Curriculum News

Class Rock 'N' Roll

In English, the children have begun their learning sequence based on the book 'Superworm' by Julia Donaldson. They began by exploring the front cover of the book to make predictions and come up with ideas thinking what the book might be about, who the characters are, where it is set and what might happen. Having read the story together, the children then answered questions about the story to show what they remembered. **Finally, they identified all of Superworm's good deeds and thought about what each character could be saying and recording their ideas in a speech bubble.**

In maths, the children in Reception began to explore the numbers 9 and 10 by looking at different representations. **The children practiced counting to 10 using objects in different arrangements to recognise that the final number they say is the quantity in that set.** They moved onto comparing groups of objects to 10 using the language of more and fewer. Finally, they explored making their own representation of 9 and 10. The children in Year 1 have been learning about mass and volume. They began by holding objects to compare them using the language of "heavier" or "lighter". **They then used balance scales to check their comparisons, understanding that the heavier object is lower on the scale before exploring measuring and comparing mass using non-standard units.**

Children were then introduced to volume and capacity for the first time by exploring phrases such as "empty", "nearly empty", "nearly full" and "full".

In history, the children have been learning about an everyday superhero in Florence Nightingale. They learned about who she was, when she lived and why she was important. **They found out she was determined to become a nurse, even though it went against her parents' wishes and the expectations of the period of time she lived in.**

Class Pop

In English, the children have started a learning sequence about non-chronological reports. They began by identifying what a non-chronological is and what the term non-chronological mean - not in order before identifying the key features on an example text. **They moved onto learning the difference between facts and opinions and wrote their own examples such as: 'Inside Out is a film' and 'School is the best'.** Finally, they explored using questions by looking at a picture of an arctic animal and thinking what questions might they have about them?

In maths, the children in Year 2 have continued their learning on position and direction. They started by exploring and describing movement and turns, using their previous learning to support them. They gave instructions to move an object from one place to another. They then moved onto explore patterns that involve turns. **They looked at identifying the next shapes in the pattern and what direction they face, using the language of quarter, half, three-quarter turns as well as clockwise and anticlockwise.** The children in Year 3 explored multiplying 2-digit numbers by 1-digit numbers, first without exchanging before moving onto calculations requiring exchange. They used their understanding of partitioning to represent and solve calculations using the expanded method. **The 2-digit number is partitioned into tens and ones, both are multiplied by the 1-digit number and then the partial products are added to find the total product.** They then moved onto exploring the link between multiplication and division.

In science, the children were investigating shadows and evaluating an experiment. They had to explore what would happen to the size of a shadow when you moved a light source further away from it. **They discovered that as you move the torch further away from the object, the shadow gets smaller.**

Class Disco

In English, the children were learning to write an autobiography. **They started by learning the difference between a biography and an autobiography, the significant difference being one written in the third person and the other in the second.** They moved onto gathering information to help them write their 'autobiography' as they became Hiccup from How to Train a Dragon. They created a mindmap of what they knew about him, including the events in his life and his personality traits. The children then used this information to write his autobiography. They used subheadings such as 'Early Memories, family, home' and 'Key events including friends' to help organise their writing.

In maths this week, the children in Year 6 explored equations with two unknown values, recognising that these can have several possible solutions. They used substitution to work out pairs of possible values. **For example, if $x + y = 9$, they find the values of y for different values of x , working systematically to find all the possible integer values.** They then moved onto working with decimals, representing numbers with up to 3 decimal places using counters and place value charts and answering key questions such as 'Which is greater, 0.3 or 0.14? How do you know?' The children in Year 5 began by finding fractions of amounts and multiply fractions to identify patterns. **They explored how the commutativity of multiplication can be used, for example $1/3$ of 6 is the same as $6 \times 1/3$.** They then moved onto exploring decimal numbers up to 2 decimal places. They used a place value chart to represent different numbers and answered key questions such as 'What is the same and what is different about a tenth and a hundredth?'

The children in Year 4 have progressed their learning by calculating the perimeter of rectangles using the side lengths, rather than counting the squares. **They explored using different methods for working this out, such as adding double the length to double the width and doubling the sum of the length and the width.** They moved onto finding missing side lengths, exploring the relationship between the sides of a rectilinear shape, rather than finding the perimeter. They start by using addition to find the missing side lengths, then using subtraction and finally using both operations to find more than one missing side length.

In geography, the children have been identifying and describing the geographical features of the United Kingdom. **The children used atlases to help them label the countries of the UK and their capital cities.**

Team Points for the end of this week are:

548



612



521



Golden Book

Well done to **Oliver L** for showing great confidence to read in front of the rest of the class. Well done to **Class Rock 'N' Roll** for creating an amazing wormery. Well done to **Lola** for her fantastic presentation in her RE work. Well done to **Eva-Mae, Callum and Lola** for their excellent work on multiplying 2-digit numbers by 1-digit numbers.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend.

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.