



## **Gaddesden Row JMI School**

### **Newsletter 26<sup>th</sup> January - 2024**



**Good afternoon, friends, and families,**

I cannot quite believe that January has nearly ended! It is always a long month and one which seems to have been very dark and gloomy. However, lighter evenings, and slightly longer days are in sight now.

The children this week have enjoyed spending more time outside in the winter sunshine now that the temperature has risen slightly. It has been so cold, so wet and so windy, and it has been nice to have some respite for a few days.



#### **Online Safety**

Staying safe online is embedded throughout our curriculum here at Gaddesden Row. We are constantly reminding and reiterating to the children how to stay safe online and how and who to report any concerns or worries to.

It is concerning when we hear children in school talking about games, websites, and social media platforms they have accessed that are not appropriate for their age. **Please could I request that Internet activity is monitored to ensure children are not accessing things online that are not appropriate or legal for their age.**

#### **Lost Property**

We have accumulated lots of missing uniform items again. **Most jumpers and cardigans do not have any names in – this makes it very difficult to find out who they belong to. Please could all uniform be named.**

If you think your child has lost something, please feel free to come and look in our lost property box.

#### **Space Workshop**



What a fantastic morning we had yesterday! We organised a space workshop delivered by a company called 'Space Detectives.' A teacher joined us via a live feed and gave instructions to the children. We are extremely proud of all our children from how they listened and participated so well.

We then took the whole school outside to show them how far away the planets in our solar system are away from the sun.

We will almost certainly use 'Space Detectives' again to deliver workshops at Gaddesden Row.



#### **Attendance**

Class Banksy	Class Blake	Class Wiltshire
95%	91%	90%



## Stars of the Week



**Class Banksy:** Theo  
**Class Blake:** Maria  
**Class Wiltshire:** Niamh

## Curriculum News

### Class Banksy

In maths this week, the children in Year 1 have been building on their learning when calculating missing number problems. **For example,  $3 + ? = 11$ . The missing number is 14. True or false?** The learning then progressed onto counting on and back between 20 and 50. The children in Reception have been learning to recognise odd and even numbers. This has involved the children taking a handful of cubes, putting into pairs if they can, and working out if they have an odd or even number. In English this week, the children have been learning to ask relevant questions for an image. **The focus has been using words such as 'Why' 'How' 'When' to start a question.** The learning then progressed onto the children writing about their favourite part of the story and why.

### Class Blake

In English this week, the children have started learning about playscripts. The focus was looking at the classic story of 'The Lion, The witch, and The Wardrobe.' The children then started to identify key features of a playscript. In maths the focus has been data and statistics, specifically looking at bar charts. The children have been reading data and then drawing the correct bars for each piece of data. The learning then progressed onto answering question such as, **'How many more people prefer swimming to football?'** In science, the children planted seeds in soil and predicted how quickly they would grow and understand the importance of a fair test. Key questions included, **'What do you think will happen to the plants kept in the dark?' and 'How much water will you give both plants?'** In geography, the children labelled the features of rivers and made a 3-D model.

### Class Wiltshire

In maths this week, the children in Year 4 have been learning how to multiply a 2 and 3-digit number by a 1-digit number. **For example, what is  $45 \times 9$ ? And what is  $875 \times 3$ ?** Learning times tables is vital. The children in Year 5 and 6 have been learning to solve problems involving multiplication, division, and ratio. **For example, there are 384 people travelling to a sports match. A coach can hold 45 people; how many coaches are needed to take all the supporters?** In English, the children have continued their work with the book, 'Kai and the Monkey King.' The children have been looking at creating their own beast and describing its appearance and special skills it may have. In history, the focus has been explaining some of the religious beliefs and practices of the people from the Shang Dynasty. In science, the children planned their own insulating heat experiment. Some of the key questions were, **'What is a thermal insulator? What are the independent, dependent, and controlled variables in the experiment?'**

Team Points for the end of this week are:

281



292



297



### Golden Book

Well done to **Denny** for excellent writing and reading of tricky sounds in phonics. **Theo and Karolina** did some fantastic maths work when doubling numbers up to 10 – very fluent indeed! **Lola, Oliver, Maria, and Leo** worked together well as a team to act out scenes from The Lion, The Witch, and The Wardrobe – well done! **Hetty and Oscar** did some excellent speed stacking – great job! **Hollie, Chloe, and Lola** did some superb acting during our space workshop. **Eva-Mae, Leo and Lola** worked so hard during tutoring after school – well done. **Ava** completed a fabulous sketch in art – well done. **Annie** was extremely helpful to another child during our space workshop – well done! **Tommy** did some excellent maths work when making groups of ten to make it easier to count and group – superb!

**It is always a pleasure to meet with and share your successes in assembly with the rest of the school.**

I hope you all have a lovely weekend and see you all next week when February will begin.

Mr Merriman

**G**enerosity **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.