



# Gaddesden Row JMI School

## Newsletter 9<sup>th</sup> May - 2025



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

Another very busy week here at school has come to an end and we have crammed a lot into our 4 days this week. I always feel at the stage of the year how quickly the school year goes, and how much work the children cover in one academic year.

### VE Day

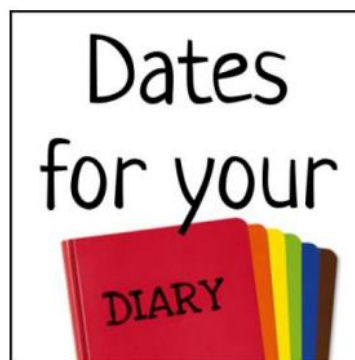
As you know, Thursday marked the 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Victory in Europe Day and we enjoyed some whole school activities on Wednesday to celebrate this.

### INSET Day

We would like to remind all families that Friday the 23<sup>rd</sup> of May is an INSET Day, and the children finish for the end of this half term on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> of May.

### Dates for the Diary – IMPORTANT

W/b 12th May – Key Stage 2 SATs Week  
Monday 19<sup>th</sup> May – Y1-6 Space Workshop  
Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> May – End of Half Term  
Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> May – INSET Day  
Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> June – Children return to school  
W/b 2<sup>nd</sup> June: MTC for Year 4  
Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> June – Team Ruby Reward afternoon  
W/b 9th June: Phonics Screening for Year 1  
Friday 20<sup>th</sup> June – Sports Day - AM



### Good luck, Year 6!

Next week, it is time for Year 6 to complete their SATs. The children have worked so hard, and we are extremely proud of their resilience, positive attitude, and aspiration. A reminder that the children in Year 6 are invited to come into school from 08.20 to have breakfast and get prepared.

### Gold Badges

Today marks week 30 in the academic school year and therefore, this means that we have awarded our first round of gold badges to the children who have not had one day off so far this year. Well done to **Luna, Louie, Francesca and Zephyr**.

## Attendance



Class Rock 'N' Roll	Class Pop	Class Disco
97%	97%	99%

Attendance Matters



**Good attendance across the school again. Well done to Class Disco for getting £5 in your attendance fund!**

# Stars of the Week

**Class Rock 'N' Roll: Noah**  
**Class Pop: Rupert**  
**Class Disco: Evie**

## Curriculum News

### VE Day 80 Afternoon

On Wednesday, we celebrated the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of VE Day by having a whole school celebration afternoon. We started off by having an assembly and discussion to answer key questions such as **What is VE Day?** **When was WW2?** **How did people celebrate VE Day?** **Why do we still mark the date 80 years on?** What was VE Day stand for? What does the word surrender mean? We then shared Churchill's VE day speech and talked about what it was saying and how it would have made people feel. We then broke off into our team groups to take part in a carousel of activities. For the first activity, the children had to work together to **write their own VE day speech**, to be presented at the end of the afternoon. For the second activity, the children had to **design some bunting** for our own Gaddesden Row School classroom party. For the third activity, the children had to **create some apple 'doughnuts'** for the celebration - These were very popular with the children so I have attached the link if you would like to try them at home! [Apple 'doughnuts' recipe | Good Food](#)

### Class Rock 'N' Roll

In English, the children continued their work about 'Jack and the Beanstalk', with their focus being about the two main characters in the story. The children had to create an image of the giant to describe before repeating the process with Jack. Finally, they completed a comparison of the giant and Jack by writing comparative sentences using the conjunction 'but'. **For example, 'Jack has ginger hair, but the giant is bald.'**

In maths, the children in Reception continued to explore numbers up to 20 and looked at counting beyond. The children focused on the process of counting and the numerical patterns and played different counting games to consolidate the learning. **They were introduced to the concept of tens and ones** to further their understanding of the counting patterns.

The children in Year 1 have continued their learning about fractions by exploring quarters. They began by recognising and finding a quarter of an object or shape. **They learned that a quarter means "one of four equal parts"**. They then moved onto to recognising and finding quarter of a quantity. They showed how the total can be shared equally into four groups, and that to find a quarter, you count the quantity in one of your four groups.

### Class Pop

In English, the children have concluded their learning sequence on persuasive writing based around environmental issues. They began the week by holding debates about different environmental issues, for example, should you recycle? The children had a go at debating both for and against different topics. **The children then planned and wrote a persuasive letter to Kier Starmer about the importance of 'recycle, reuse, reduce' to help save the planet.**

In maths, the children in Year 2 moved onto exploring 3D shapes. They started off by identifying and naming a range of different 3D shapes including cuboids, cones and square-based pyramids, before exploring the features by counting the number of faces, edges and vertices in different 3D shapes, **for examples, a squared based pyramid has 5 faces, 8 edges and 5 vertices.**

The children in Year 3 have been exploring shape with a particular focus on 2D shapes. They started off by recapping what horizontal and vertical means before moving on to identifying parallel and perpendicular lines. **They then moved onto to recapping different 2D shapes and focusing in on recognising quadrilaterals - any 2D shape with 4 sides.** Finally, they moved onto learning what a right angle is and practiced finding them in different 2D shapes.

### Class Disco

In English, the children have continued their unit of work on myths and legends by exploring suspense stories. They began by recognising the effect of tone in story openings and had a go at writing two different openings about a bear using contrasting images as their stimulus. **They then looked at identifying the key features for a suspense story, including short simple sentences, rhetorical questions and a description of senses.** Finally, the children moved onto planning a suspense filled mythical quest based upon 'Perseus and the Gorgon's Head'.

In maths this week, the children in Year 6 have been focusing on arithmetic and practicing using formal written methods including **columnar and bus stop** to solve calculations. The children in Year 5 have been exploring statistics. They began by revisiting prior learning about interpreting and drawing and progressed their learning to explore more complex types of graphs, for example conversion graphs. They then moved onto interpret information that has been presented on a line graph and answer questions and solve problems using them, **for example, Car sales in June are half the car sales in April. How many cars are sold in June?** Finally, they moved onto reading and interpreting data presented in a table.

The children in Year 4 have continued their learning about decimals. They began by rounding decimals with 1 decimal place to the nearest whole number. **They learned to use the word "integer" as an alternative to "whole number"**. They used a number line to see which whole numbers a decimal number lies between before considering which whole number the decimal number is nearer to, by looking at the digit in the tenth's column. They moved onto using their knowledge of decimal equivalents of hundredths and tenths to recognise and write 1/4, 1/2 and 3/4 as decimals.

### Team Points for the end of this week are:



### Golden Book

Well done to Theo for his amazing drawing and description of Jack. Well done to **Mia, Lola, Callum, Leyton and Rupert** for their great debating about different topics, including recycling. Well done to **Rupert** for his brilliant RE work about the First Holy Communion. Well done to **Rupert**, again, for his fantastic version of Winston's Churchill's VE Day speech. Well done to **Elizabeth** for her brilliant, labelled tree, completing during free flow, following on from our science lesson. Well done to **Zephyn, Arthur, Daniel and Oscar** for the amazing research about what life was like in Roman times. Well done to **Leyton** for the time and attention he gave to his artwork. Well done to **Henry** for his super RE work about Hindu celebrations. Well done **Elizabeth** for all of her extra writing about Jack and the Beanstalk.

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

Miss Smith

**G enerose 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.