



Gaddesden Row JMI School

Newsletter 20th September - 2024



Good afternoon, friends, and families,

I hope you are all well and have had a good week. Firstly, I would like to thank all families for your patience and understanding when we made the difficult decision to close the school. This is always a last resort, but we were left with no choice due to the issues of power we had. Thankfully, engineers were able to fix the problem on the same day, and we could all return to school on Tuesday.

As always, our wonderful school community came together, and we overcame another challenge together like we have done before.

We have been very lucky with the weather this week, and it makes a huge difference. I have been talking to children and families and discussing how this September weather has been better than it was in August. Can we make it through to October with this lovely sunshine and dry weather...

Animal Encounter Day

What a fantastic day we had on Wednesday this week. All classes had the opportunity to see a range of different animals: a rabbit, snake, bearded dragon, an owl (my personal favourite) and many more. The school organised and funded this enrichment day to support all children for when they learn about animals in the science curriculum, to bring learning to life and for their well-being. The children, and adults, had a fantastic day and thank to all families for providing such positive feedback about the day.

Lost Property



Even though the children have only been back at school for three weeks, we have accumulated lots of lost property. **If your child is missing any school uniform, please feel free to come into school and check the lost property box.**

Lots of the lost property items do not have any names in, so this makes it extremely difficult to find out which children they belong to.

Parent Consultations



On **Monday 21st of October**, we will hold our first parent consultations of the year. Letters will be coming home with the children next week, and an electronic copy will be sent via Parent Mail as well.

Details as to how to book appointments with your child's teacher will be on the letter.

'Every Little Helps'

Tesco have agreed to help us out with some funding – great news! You know the little blue discs that you receive and put in the slot as you walk out of Tesco? Well, one of the options will be our lovely magazine! Keep a look out for us and drop a disc or two in the box. Every little helps us out.



Attendance

| Class Rock 'N' Roll | Class Pop | Class Disco |
|---------------------|-----------|-------------|
| 100% | 100% | 100% |

Attendance Matters



Oh my! How wonderful that every class has got £10 in their attendance fund!!

Stars of the Week

Class Rock 'N' Roll: Oliver

Class Pop: Denny

Class Disco: Hetty

Curriculum News

Class Rock 'N' Roll

In maths this week, the children in Reception have been learning how to match different objects. This has been in the form of children looking at different objects (**pencils, cubes, teddies**) and explaining which objects make a match and why. The learning then progressed onto the children talking about matching cards. The children in Year 1 have been learning how to sort objects into groups and explaining why they have made these decisions. **For example, 'How could we group different coloured triangles, circles and squares?'** The learning then progressed onto the children counting objects fluently and starting on zero. **Key questions have included, 'Does it matter which object I count first? 'How do you know you have counted all the objects?'** In English, the children have started the text, 'We're going on a bear hunt.' The focus has been for the children to join in with predictable words and phrases, act out parts of the story and say aloud what they would like to write about. 'You can't through it, you can't go...' In science, the children have been labelling parts of the human body and recognising where they are. **For example, nose, elbow, neck, feet, and eye.'** In art, the focus has been mark making. The focus has been for the children to create their own patterns using different marks and lines and shades using pencils.

Class Pop

In maths this week, the children in Year 2 have been writing numbers up to one hundred and using place value cards to support with this. The learning then progressed onto plotting multiples of 10 onto a number line to 100. **For example, 'Can you estimate where 70 will go on the number line? How do you know?'** The children in Year 3 have been exploring hundreds, tens and ones. This has included asking questions to determine which number is greater and smaller. The children have been using a part-whole model along with base ten. **The children have been completing flexible partitioning with different 3-digit numbers.** In English, the focus has been for the children to describe characters using adjectives and noun phrase. An example noun phrase would be: **'The gold-plated shield on his arm.'** **Shield is the noun, and this is used to support the noun phrase.** The children then built on the knowledge of this to invent a new character to take place of the dragon. In science, the children have been looking at the human skeleton and what would happen if we didn't have certain bones in our bodies and how important it is to look after them.

Class Disco

In maths this week, the children in Years 4, 5 and 6 have continued securing their knowledge of place value in numbers. **The children in Year 4 have been representing and partitioning numbers up to 10,000, the children in Year 5 have been doing this in numbers up to 1,000,000 and the children in year 6 have been partitioning numbers up 10,000,000.** There has been a clear progression of skills through the three-year groups. Towards the end of the week, the children have been focusing on comparing and ordering numbers. **For example, 'Why is 8,901,967 greater than 8,901,697?'** In English, the children have been reading the text, **'Let it Go - A Twisted Tale.'** The children have read the first three chapters and have been predicting what might happen next, how characters are feeling, and creating a setting description. In science, the focus has been for the children sort and classify plants and animals. In art, the children have built on their horizon points last week by experimenting with different water colours. In geography, the focus this week has been looking at the climate in Scandinavia after finding out last week where in the world these countries are.

Team Points for the end of this week are:

184



202



208



Golden Book

Well done to **Rylee** for some support artwork and using excellent presentation. **Lillie-Mai** worked exceptionally hard during tutoring after school – well done. **Oakley, Tommy, Denny, and Aiysha** completed some excellent maths work when partitioning 2-digit numbers – great work! **Eva-Mae, Lola and Leo** did some superb maths work when partitioning 3-digit numbers – well done! **Karolina** did some excellent phonics when writing words with 'oa' 'igh' and 'oo' in – well done!

I hope you all have a lovely weekend and see you all next week for the final few days of September. It doesn't seem possible that October is just around the corner.

Mr Merriman

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.