



# Gaddesden Row JMI School

## Newsletter 24<sup>th</sup> January - 2025



Good afternoon, friends, and families,

I hope this newsletter finds you well. Where has the time gone? It doesn't seem like a week ago I wrote to everyone and here we are at the end of another week.

Hard to believe we are already halfway through this half term and fast approaching the halfway point of the year!

### Children's Mental Health Week

Children's Mental Health Week 2025 is taking place from 3-9 February 2025. This year's theme is Know Yourself, Grow Yourself in partnership with Here4You, supported by The Walt Disney Company and the *Inside Out 2* characters. Across the week, we will be taking part in different activities to encourage the children to express their emotions in a safe environment.



### Rolling Drop-off and Collection

Can I please ask parents to remember that we run a one-way system at collection and drop-off to ensure the safety of our children as we have had some near misses recently. If you wish to park-up at either end of the day, please follow the one-way system to reach your parking space or park on the road and walk down. Thank you for your cooperation with this matter.

### Our School Values – Generosity

We are continuing to recognise children showing behaviours linked to our chosen value of **Generosity** this week. We have seen examples of; children returning other's lost items to them and children giving up their time to help a new child to settle into school and understand routines. Well done on your random acts of generosity! Next week, we will be focusing on our new value of Aspiration.



### Attendance



Class Rock 'N' Roll	Class Pop	Class Disco
94%	94%	97%

Attendance Matters



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

## Stars of the Week

Class Rock 'N' Roll: Sebastian  
Class Pop: Callum  
Class Disco: Daniel

## Curriculum News

### Class Rock 'N' Roll

In English, the children have reached the end of their learning sequence based on 'Supertato.' They have edited the story map to replace Evil Pea and Supertato with their own created character. **The children also chose a new type of chaos for their evil vegetable to cause in the supermarket including putting the vegetables in a soup and trapping them in a packet of sweets.**

In maths, the children in Reception have continued their learning on 'Growing 6, 7 and 8'. They have been working out how to find a pair by beginning to recognize odd and even numbers by answering key questions such as 'How many do we need to make a pair?' and 'Is this a pair? How do you know?'. They were then introduced to the concept of doubling and they learned that this means 'twice as many'. The children in Year 1 finished their work on addition and subtraction by exploring missing number problems. **"First, then, now" stories helped us to act out the problems and visualise what is happening.** They then began to explore numbers beyond 20 by counting forwards and backwards between 20 and 50, using Chanting games, such as "I count, you count", to support.

In science, the children have been learning about different categories of animals and this week the focus was on birds. They explored and identified different birds and their features. They learned that birds have wings, a beak and feathers. **Children found out that some birds can fly and some cannot.** The children were introduced to range of common birds.

### Class Pop

In English, the children have come to the end of their learning based upon 'A Lion in the Meadow' by Margaret Mahy. They used a story mountain to plan their version of the story. **They used their plan to retell the story with a change of character.**

In maths, the children in Year 2 have continued their work on multiplication and division by exploring multiplying and dividing by 2. They used this knowledge and understanding to exploring doubling and halving. **The children were encouraged to recognise that when they double a number, they multiply by 2 and when they halve a number, they divide by 2.** The children in Year 3 have continued to develop their times tables knowledge by exploring the 3 and 4 times tables to help support and develop fluency. **The children used their understanding of division as sharing and grouping to explore dividing by 4 through sharing into 4 equal groups and grouping into 4s.**

In art, the children have been exploring different forms of plant art. This week they used paint to **made tints and shades and applied their new skill to creating flower pictures.**

### Class Disco

In English, the children are continuing their work on How to Train Your Dragon. within this, they have explored the text to find out how each dragon has been described. They have explored humour and come up with jokes to make Toothless laugh. **The children also had to write a description of an ordinary object to make it sound extraordinary some examples of the language used included a confrontational dog and versatile pens.**

In maths this week, the children in Year 6 have continued their learning about ratio using their prior learning to explore similar shapes, **working systematically around a shape to ensure that all sides have been enlarged by the same scale factor.** Children then went on to use what they have learnt so far solve a variety of problems involving ratio and to explore different strategies for solving proportion problems. The children in Year 5 applied their knowledge of multiplication to solve problems before moving onto building on informal methods of written division to the formal written method of short division. **The children used familiar models such as place value charts to help the structure of short division become clearer, and allow them to see the relationship between the model and the formal written method.** The children in Year 4 built on their understanding of dividing by 10 to help them divide by 100. Children then brought together the skills learnt so far to explore calculations related to known facts. Children explored scaling facts by 10 and 100, **The children know that multiplication is commutative, but division is not.**

In history, the children are continuing their learning and the Vikings. This week, they found out about the Viking settlement of Britain and how this affected the Anglo-Saxons. **They used a timeline to order events about the Viking invasions and subsequent settlement of areas of Britain and how eventually a divide was established between the Danelaw and the rest of Britain.**

Team Points for the end of this week are:

220



244



237



### Golden Book

Well done to **Bella and Lily** for their excellent description of ordinary objects. Well done to **Tory and Lillie-Mai** for the work on short division. Well done to **Arthur and Daniel** on their super understanding of the Viking invasion. Well done, again, to **Lillie-Mai** for her confidence when reading in front of the whole class. Well done to **Isabella, Hetty and Bella** for their work on adding fractions and find the whole. Well done to **Primrose, Harry and Sebby** for their excellent blending skills. Well done to **Oakley and Louis** for their fantastic story writing.

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

Miss Smith

**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.