



Gaddesden Row JMI School Newsletter 3rd May - 2024



Good afternoon, friends, and families,

Welcome to the month of May, and although we had some lovely warm weather on Wednesday, today has been a wash out! Another very busy week here at school has come to an end and a long Bank Holiday Weekend awaits.

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. When I complete book scrutinies, along with our governors, we are always looking to see what the children have covered in the curriculum, how work has improved and progress over time. It is so pleasing and always a pleasure looking through what work has been done.

INSET Day

We would like to remind all families that **Friday the 24th of May is an INSET Day**, and the children finish for the end of this half term on **Thursday 23rd of May**.

Dates for the Diary – IMPORTANT

Monday 6th May – Bank Holiday

W/b 13th May – Key Stage 2 SATs Week

Thursday 23rd May – End of Half Term

Friday 24th May – INSET Day

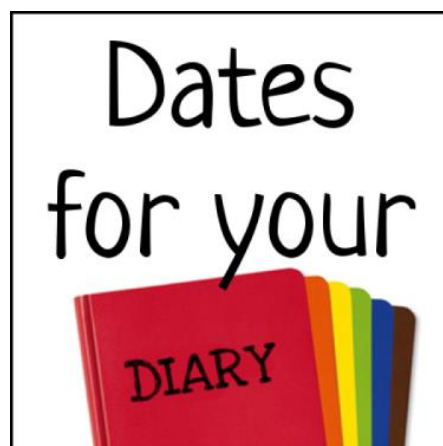
Monday 3rd June – Children return to school

Thursday 5th June – Class Blake Ancient Greek Day (details to follow)

Monday 10th June – Class Photographs

W/b 10th June: Phonics Screening for Year 1 and MTC for Year 4

Thursday 13th June – World War 2 Sleepover for Class Wiltshire (details to follow)



Staffing Update

I am pleased to inform all families that Miss Smith is recovering well from her hip surgery, and she is hoping to return during the last week of this half term.

After half term, week beginning **Monday 3rd June**, Miss Knight will be returning from maternity leave to support the children in Class Blake.

Next week will mark 30 weeks in school, and this means that gold badges will start to be awarded during our Friday assemblies.



Attendance

Class Banksy	Class Blake	Class Wiltshire
97%	94%	88%



Well done to Class Banksy for getting £5 in their attendance fund.

Stars of the Week

Class Banksy: Oliver

Class Blake: Lola

Class Wiltshire: Zephyn

Curriculum News

Class Banksy

In maths this week, the children in Reception have been looking at different 2D shapes and which shapes belong in the same group or not. For example, 'This shape does not belong in this group because it's been rotated' and 'These two circles are large and the other one is small.' The learning then progressed onto the children rotating different 2D shapes to make patterns and to describe movement. The children in Year 1 have been securing their knowledge of finding quarters of shapes, and the progressed onto looking at position and movement in shapes. For example, 'This circle moves two spaces to the left - what is its new position?' In English, the children's focus has been creating, planning, and writing their own stories based on the text 'There's a dinosaur in my bathtub.' This marks the end of this learning sequence. The focus has been using capital letters, full stops, finger spaces, joining words and using known phonics sounds to spell words. In geography, the focus has been re-capping continents and the planning a journey across the world. For example, 'Let's start in Europe, travel to Asia, and then onto Australasia.' In RE, the focus has been 'What do Muslims celebrate?' The children worked in groups to write down things they are thankful for.

Class Blake

In maths this week, the children in Year 2 have been securing their understanding when finding a half, a quarter, a third and three quarters of objects and shapes. Fractions are a very abstract concept for children as children must realise that a third is smaller than a half even though they are taught the 3 is greater than 2. The children in Year 3 have been learning how to find fractions of amounts. For example, there are 12 apples and $\frac{2}{3}$ get eaten. How many got eaten? The children needed to do 12 divided by 3 to get the answer 4, and then multiply this by 2 to get the answer 8. In English, the SPAG focus has been learning how to use the possessive apostrophe. For example, 'That is Harry's bag' and 'Look at Thomas' work.' The giant kid's playground is the wrong use of a possessive apostrophe, as this shows the playground belongs to one kid. It should be 'The giant kids' playground to show plural possession. In Art, the children have been looking at how 'Recycled Art' and what simple structures can be made using different materials.

Class Wiltshire

The children in Year 6 this week have been completed MOCK SATs papers across reading, maths and SPAG. The children completed last year's test papers and I am very proud as how hard they have worked, and the positive attitude shown. In maths, the children in Year 4 have been learning how to order a set of decimals and round them to the nearest whole number. For example, 'What is 14.32 rounded to the nearest whole number?' Why is 6.51 greater than 6.198? The learning then progressed onto converting decimals to fractions. For example, $\frac{25}{100}$ is equivalent to $\frac{1}{4}$. The children in Year 5 have been learning how to calculate angles around a point and on a straight line. For example, 'If there is an acute angle on a straight line measuring 47 degrees, what is the other angle?' In English, the children have been examining propaganda posters from World War 2 as well as looking at different meals eaten during times of rationing. In science, the focus has been reproductive parts of plants.

Team Points for the end of this week are:

285



284



284



Golden Book

Well done to Demi, Cassie, Lois, Lillie-Mai, Megan, Zephyn, Niamh, and Alexia for excellent maths work when ordering decimals and rounding them to the nearest whole number. Well done to Henry, Joy, Noah, Oliver, Robin, and Karolina for excellent maths work when looking at Tangrams. Annie, Zephyn, Ava, and Daisy used superb description when writing about boats in World War 2.

We would like to wish all families a happy and restful Bank Holiday Weekend. I hope the weather improves!

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.