



## Gaddesden Row JMI School Newsletter 13<sup>th</sup> February 2026



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

As we come to the end of the half term, it has been a busy but exciting few weeks across the school. From engaging lessons to special events and celebrations, children have been fully involved in learning, exploring new ideas, and enjoying time with their friends.

### **Silver Badges**

Today marks week 20 of the school year, and we have awarded silver badges to **Louie, Robin, Joy, Oliver, Paisley, Lillie-Mai, Francesca, Bella and Leo** in assembly this afternoon. Well done for fantastic attendance!

### **GRAFT Valentine's Disco**

The Graft Valentine's Disco has just finished, and it was a huge success. It was lovely to see the children having so much fun, enjoying the music, dancing with their friends and celebrating together. The atmosphere was full of excitement and smiles, and it was a real joy to see everyone so engaged and happy. Thank you to all who helped make the event such a special occasion.

### **Children's Mental Health Week**

Children's Mental Health Week was a meaningful and positive week across the school. Through a range of thoughtful activities linked to the theme "This is My Place", children explored what it means to feel a sense of belonging and connection. Pupils shared their ideas, listened to one another with care, and reflected on what helps them feel included, supported and valued. They have taken part in collaborative art projects, welly walks to talk and connect outdoors, a whole-school P4C afternoon of thoughtful discussion, and guided meditations. It was wonderful to see such open conversations and a strong sense of community throughout the week.

### **Safer Internet Day**

Safer Internet Day provided an excellent opportunity for pupils to deepen their understanding of using technology safely and responsibly. Focusing on the theme "Smart tech, safe choices – Exploring the safe and responsible use of AI", children engaged in discussions about Artificial Intelligence and its role in everyday life. They showed great maturity when considering how technology can be used positively, as well as the importance of making safe and sensible choices online.

### **100th Day of School – Maths Celebration**

The 100th day of school was marked during maths lessons with a range of engaging activities focused on the number 100. Children enjoyed exploring counting, problem-solving, and creative challenges that helped them deepen their understanding in a fun and meaningful way. Pupils showed great enthusiasm and teamwork, making the celebration a lovely way to recognise progress in maths and celebrate reaching this milestone in the school year.

### **Goodbye Miss Campbell**

This week, we say goodbye to Miss Campbell, who has completed her student teaching placement in Class Star. It has been a joy having her with us. Her enthusiasm, creativity, and dedication have made a wonderful impact on our students. We thank her for all her hard work and wish her the very best as she continues on her journey to becoming a qualified teacher.

### **Water Bottles**

We would like to remind parents and carers that children's drinks bottles should contain plain water only during the school day. We have noticed an increase in small juice or flavouring bottles being brought in to add to water, and we kindly ask that these are not brought into school. To support children's health and ensure consistency across the school, bottles should contain water only. Thank you for your continued support.

### **Toys in School**

We have recently noticed an increase in toys being brought into school. We kindly remind parents that pupils should not bring toys or personal items into school unless they are for a pre-arranged purpose agreed with the class teacher. Toys brought in can become a distraction to learning and may also get lost or damaged. Thank you for your support in helping us maintain a focused and safe learning environment for all children.

## Stars of the Week

**Class Star:** Oakley  
**Class Galaxy:** Joy  
**Class Comet:** Lola

### Our School Values

This week, it has been wonderful to see our pupils putting **open-mindedness** into action. Across the school, children have been listening to different viewpoints, showing curiosity in their learning, and welcoming new ideas with positivity and respect. From engaging thoughtfully in discussions to trying unfamiliar approaches and supporting others' perspectives, pupils are demonstrating flexibility, empathy, and a genuine willingness to learn from one another. We are so proud of how everyone has embraced this value, and we look forward to continuing to nurture open-mindedness in all areas of school life.

**G**enerous      **L**isten  
**A**spirational    **E**njoy  
**D**iscovering    **A**rticulate  
**R**esponsible    **R**esilient  
**O**pen-minded   **N**urture Relationships  
**W**elcoming     **E**ncourage  
**R**emember More and Know More



## Attendance

Attendance Matters



Class Star	Class Galaxy	Class Comet
91%	95%	87%

Unfortunately no money this week.

Team Points for the end of this week are:



### Golden Book

Well done to **Luca** for his brilliant day of listening and trying hard on Monday, including persevering with colouring he is not keen on. Well done to **Rylee** for her great effort in English on Tuesday. Well done to **Oakley** for his excellent presentation and use of stage directions in his play script. Well done to **Leyton and Joy** for their super use of stage directions in their play scripts. Well done to **all our swimmers** for taking on their challenge presented to them this week. Well done to **Chloe and Lola** for their fantastic performance poetry. Well done to **Hetty, Cassie, Lois, Francesca, Isabella, Demi and Alexia** for winning 'The Trading Game'.

I hope you all have a lovely half term and see you all back on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February.

Miss Smith

### Gaddesden Wish List

If you are in a position to support the school, please have a look at our wish list which can be located via this link: [Amazon.co.uk](https://www.amazon.co.uk) This can also be found on the school website, in the top right-hand corner, quick links section.

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.