



Gaddesden Row JMI School

Newsletter 2nd May - 2025



Good afternoon, friends, and families,

First full week of the summer term completed and what a week it has been. We have all thoroughly enjoyed the beautiful weather and being able to be outside more.

Film Club

Don't forget, our GRAFT Film Club will be taking place on **Friday 9th May**. Please remember to return your form by **Tuesday 6th May**. There will be no other clubs taking place on this day.

Team Points Reward

I met with Team Ruby today to discuss their chosen reward for being our Spring Term winners. They have chosen to have some extra play outside with ice creams. Date for this to follow.

Class Photos

On **Tuesday 6th May** we have our annual class photos. Please ensure your children are in correct school uniform and are well presented.

Key Stage 2 SATs Week

The children in Year 6 have been working extremely hard and have been doing daily revision in preparation for the upcoming SATs Week. A reminder that the children in Year 6 are invited to come into school at 08.20 week beginning Monday 12th of May to have breakfast and prepare themselves. This afternoon, we spent some time discussing what we are going to do for our leavers trip.

Our School Values

In our assembly this week, we reviewed all our school values, and we talked about how they link into my vision for the school. We recognised that our 6 values are all things that we are. I explained I am going to add a second set of values to complement our existing ones that will all be things that we do. Look out for our first one next week.



Attendance

Class Rock 'N' Roll	Class Pop	Class Disco
100%	100%	99%

Attendance Matters



Amazing attendance across the school this week! Well done to **Classes Rock 'N' Roll and Pop for getting **£10** each in your attendance fund!**

Stars of the Week

Class Rock 'N' Roll: Sebby
Class Pop: Oakley
Class Disco: Daniel

Curriculum News

Class Rock 'N' Roll

In English, the children began their unit of work on Fairy Tales with a focus on 'Jack and the Beanstalk'. They explored the two main settings in the story - Jack's house and the Giant's castle and created an image of what they thought each place would look like. They then compared the two settings, writing comparative sentences to explain what was the same and what was different. **For example, Jack's house is on the ground, but the Giant's castle is above the clouds.**

In maths, the children in Reception have begun to explore numbers beyond 10. First, they practiced saying the numbers 11, 12 and 13 and used one-to-one correspondence to count items beyond 10 before building the numbers 10, 11, 12 and 13 using different manipulatives. **They continued to build and notice patterns with numbers beyond 10 (up to 13) and recognise that the numbers 1 to 3 repeat after every full ten.** They then applied this learning to explore numbers 14-20.

The children in Year 1 have begun to learn about fractions, starting by exploring halves. They began by recognising and finding a half of an object or shape. **They learned that a half means "one of two equal parts".** They then moved onto recognising and finding half of a quantity. They showed how the total can be shared equally into two groups, using learning covered in the previous block on multiplication and division and answered key questions such as: **'If 3 is half, how can you find the whole?'**

In history, the children began to explore the time period around the Battle of Hastings and the Norman conquest. **They explored images of the Bayeux Tapestry to find out what it tells us about the significant people and events surrounding the Norman conquest.**

Class Pop

In English, the children have begun to explore persuasive writing based around environmental issues. They explored features of a persuasive letter before focussing on using and writing rhetorical questions. **For examples; 'Can't you see what is happening?'** Finally they researched information for their persuasive letter about an environmental issue.

In maths, the children in Year 2 began to explore 2D shapes. They looked at counting sides and vertices to help them identify different shapes before moving onto drawing and sorting a range of 2D shapes. Finally, they moved onto exploring horizontal and vertical lines of symmetry in 2D shapes. **They learned that for something to be symmetrical, it must be the same on either side of the line.**

The children in Year 3 continued their work on exploring length. They explored equivalent lengths by converting cm in mm and visa versa. **They measured height and foot length and compared results to find out if taller people have longer feet?** They then moved onto adding and subtracting lengths using columnar method to support their working out.

In Science, the children planned and began an experiment to explore the question: **'Does the number of seeds within one plant pot affect the growth of the plants?'** They will be measuring the growth of their 4 plants over the next half term to see if we can provide a conclusion to the question.

Class Disco

In English, the children have begun their unit of work on myths and legends. Last week, the children created their own mythical creature and this week they have explored different tools to write a detailed character description. They looked at using relative clauses, prepositions and similes. **For example; 'The distinctive sound of hissing, which comes from her snake hair, is the first clue she is near.'** The creatures antlers sound like nails against a chalkboard. Their voice is raspy like a croaking frog but as quiet as a mouse.

In maths this week, the children in Year 6 have been exploring finding percentages of an amount. They started by finding percentages of amounts that can be completed in one step, for example finding 1%, 10%, 20%, 25% and 50% by dividing by 100, 10, 5, 4 and 2 respectively. They moved onto finding percentages of amounts that require more than one step. Using knowledge of how to find 1%, 10%, 20%, 25%, 50%, children found multiples of these amounts. **For example, to find 75% they found 25% and multiplied it by 3 and to find 60% they found 10% and multiplied it by 6.** They then used this learning to find missing values related to percentages.

The children in Year 5 have been exploring perimeter and area. They explored finding the perimeter of polygons and used the perimeter of a shape to find a missing side before solving problems related to perimeter. They then moved onto finding the area of different shapes, starting with rectangles. They used the method of counting squares, and were introduced to the square centimetre (cm²). **They recognise that cm is a measure of length and cm² is a measure of area.**

The children in Year 4 have continued their learning about decimals. They began by partitioning decimals into the ones part, the tenths part and the hundredths part. They recognise the role of zero as a placeholder and emphasised this by verbalising each place value column of a number, for example "zero tenths" in the number 3.09. They moved onto compare decimal numbers with up to 2 decimal places. They identified whether all the place value columns need to be compared. **For example, when comparing 6.73 and 2.98, only the ones need to be compared; but when comparing 5.37 and 5.39, all the places need to be compared.** They used this understanding to help them order decimal numbers.

In art, the children explored how clothing can be used to express ourselves. The children had to design an outfit to express their own personality. **For example, one child had hot pink clothes because she is crazy. Another child wore a D-Day hat because he likes history.**

Team Points for the end of this week are:



Golden Book

Well done to **Tory** for his amazing use of vocabulary when describing his mythical creature. Well done to **Theo** for his detailed drawing and description of the Giant's castle using excellent adjectives. Well done to **Noah** for his fantastic reading and sorting of 'ee' words, recognising the 3 different diagrams. Well done to **Noah**, again, for his excellent 'Let's Write' book. Well done to **Sebby** for his superb handwriting.

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

Miss Smith

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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.