



Gaddesden Row JMI School Newsletter 25th October - 2024



Good afternoon, friends, and families,

Welcome to the end of the first half term of this academic year. It does not seem possible that eight weeks have passed since we came back to school after the summer holidays.

Parent's Evening

Thank you to all parents and carers for attending Monday evening's parent consultations. It is vital that we as teachers meet to discuss your child's progress, well-being and answer any question you have. I cannot thank you enough for some of the kind and supportive words you passed onto my team with regards to how happy you are with your child's school life.

On a personal note, I am going to thoroughly miss parent's evening with you all from January and thank you for your kind words passed onto me.

Thank you, GRAFT...



What a fantastic day we have had here for our Halloween Fancy Dress Day! The children looked fantastic and to be able to do PE as well as wear our costumes has been an extra treat. Thank you to everyone at GRAFT for organising today.

As well as this, we held an extended assembly this morning to share every pumpkin that was brought into school. Firstly, well done to all of you for your superb carvings! Secondly, you made extremely difficult for adults to choose the winning times. Extra time to deliberate was required today!

Remembrance and Poppies



On **Monday the 11th of November**, we will hold a special Remembrance Assembly at 11.00. All classes will be making poppies to put together on a class wreath. Children in Years 5 and 6 will be selected to read some poems during the assembly.

Our heroes in the forces, past and present, gave their today so we could have our tomorrow. Wear your poppies with pride.

From **Wednesday the 6th of November**, poppies and merchandise will be available to purchase in the mornings, at break time, and at lunch time.

Lost Property



Thank you to those parents and carers that have come into school to claim missing items of uniform. The lost property box will be on the playground after school. **If any items of school uniform remain at 16.15 this afternoon, they will be given to GRAFT to be sold back in second hand uniform sales.**



Attendance

Class Rock 'N' Roll	Class Pop	Class Disco
95%	89%	100%

Attendance Matters



Well done to Class Disco for getting £10 in your attendance fund!

Stars of the Week

Class Rock 'N' Roll: Robin
Class Pop: Tommy
Class Disco: Hollie

Curriculum News

Class Rock 'N' Roll

In maths this week, the children in Reception have been identifying triangles and circles. Some activities have included the children going on a triangle and circle hunt around the classroom and feeling for different shapes in a bag. **The learning then progressed onto the children making their own circles and using a range of objects.** The children in Year 1 have been looking at part, part whole with number up to 10. **For example, 'If my whole is 9, what could my parts be?' The learning then progressed onto the children making fact families for 8. For example, '1 + 7 = 8. 2 + 6 = 8.'** In English, the children have been reading the text 'Granny came here on the Empire Windrush' as part of Black History Week. Activities have included the children predicting what the text might be about by looking at the front cover, discussing illustrations and writing about themselves, their family members and what we are good at. **The learning then progressed onto the children creating a 'Welcome Pack' for someone who has just moved to the UK and what we could do to make them feel more at home.** Linked to this in history, the children looked at Windrush and compared Britain to The Caribbean and talked about how The Windrush Generation helped Britain. For art, the focus has been the artist, Alma Thomas. The children looked at her achievements and studied the painting 'A Springtime in Washington' and created their own. In science, the children have been using their sense of smell. **Some items have been coffee, cumin, cinnamon, lemon juice and marmite.**

Class Pop

In maths this week, the children in Year 2 have been securing their knowledge of adding three one-digit numbers. **For example, 'What is 8 + 7 + 2?' The focus has been finding the number bonds to 10 first.** The learning then progressed onto adding to the nearest 10. The children were given, for example, the number 27. **How do we get from 27 to 30?** The children used beads and one hundred squares to help them. The children in Year 3 have been making connections between numbers to help complete number sentences. **For example, '453 + 2 = 455. 453 + 20 = 473. 453 + 200 = 653. The focus has been for the children to use their place value skills to add ones, tens, and hundreds.** The children started off Black History Week by learning about Black British Music. The children looked at key vocabulary and famous artists including Akala and Dame Shirley Bassey. As part of English, the children explored the Windrush Generation's contribution to Britain's workforce. The children looked at the NHS and London TFL recruited over 3,500 from Barbados. The children had to then create a job poster for someone working in these sectors. The children worked brilliantly in their groups and there I witnessed some excellent discussions.

Class Disco

In English this week, the children have been using the text, as the whole school have been doing, 'Grandma came here on the Empire Windrush.' The children started off by looking at the front cover, making inferences and using specific vocabulary. The learning then progressed onto the children making an information poster for a Caribbean country of their choice. **This included towns, facts about their country, drawing the flag and have a 'Did you know' section.** On Tuesday afternoon, the children tried a range of food from the The Caribbean. This included mango, coconut, pineapple plantain chips and coco bread. As part of a history focus linked to Black History Week, the children learned about John Blanke - a trumpeter for Henry VIII. The children were fascinated by his achievements and how contributed to some of the greatest spectacles of The Tudor Age. **What a 'Frozen Day' the children had on Wednesday! The children have been working so hard when learning about all things frozen and what a way to bring the topic to life.** The children decorated snowflake biscuits, made their own frozen pens, created landscape art, and use edible items to create frozen characters. A huge thank to Mrs Groves for organising.

Team Points for the end of this week are:

579



636



611



CONGRATULATIONS TO TEAM RUBY FOR BEING THIS HALF TERM'S WINNING TEAM! I look forward to meeting with you to discuss your reward.

Golden Book

Well done to **Demi** for being extremely helpful during after-school club and for being a great sports captain. **Hetty, Oscar and Bella-Rose** were able to lead their sports groups superbly – well done. **Henry and Elizabeth** did some great maths work when looking at fact families to 8 – well done. **Leyton and Rylee** also did some fantastic maths when looking at addition. **Luna, Sebastian, Harry, Nell, Primrose, and Kobi** did some superb letter formation – well done. **Annie, Zephyn, Francesca, and Alexia** did some tremendous writing about themselves – amazing! Well done to **Lois, Bella-Rose, Niamh, Oscar, and Zephyn** for writing detailed facts about countries in Scandinavia.

On behalf of everyone here at Gaddesden Row, we would like to wish all families a very happy and pleasant half term. Please remember that the clocks go back one hour this weekend. Enjoy the break and all children return to school on **Monday 4th of November.**

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.