



Gaddesden Row JMI School

Newsletter 14th March 2025



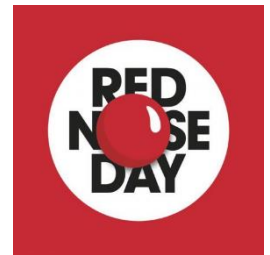
Good afternoon, friends, and families,

I hope this newsletter finds you well.

Another busy week has gone by with the children continuing to work hard and explore their learning with enthusiasm and curiosity.

Red Nose Day

Red Nose Day is next Friday, 21st March. As you know, we will not be in school on this day so we will be celebrating on Thursday 20th March. School Council have decided they would like us to dress in red and take part in a class craft afternoon. See the attached letter for more information.



Staffing Update

I wrote to all families on Thursday regarding staffing changes for the summer term. I have attached a copy of the letter to this update if anyone did not receive it.

Parent Consultations

We look forward to welcoming parents and carers to school on Monday 31st March for our parent consultations. All children came home with appointment times this week. As stated in the original letter, we have done our utmost best to give parents and carers their preferred time slots.

INSET

A reminder that school will be closed next Friday – 21st March - for our INSET Day. Our weekly celebration assembly will take place on Thursday afternoon.

Our School Values – Open-Mindedness

We are recognising children showing behaviours linked to our chosen value of **Open-Mindedness** this week. We have seen examples of: Children being prepared to have a go at something challenging before saying they can't do it. Children following someone else's lead before making a judgement. Children researching more information to help them make a decision. Well done on your open-mindedness!



Well done to Robin and Karolina for achieving your silver badge for 20 full weeks in school!



Attendance

Class Rock 'N' Roll	Class Pop	Class Disco
93%	92%	94%

Attendance Matters



Unfortunately, no money this week.

Stars of the Week

Class Rock 'N' Roll: Karolina
Class Pop: Maria
Class Disco: Oscar

Curriculum News

All classes celebrated British science week this week exploring the theme of 'Change and Adapt'.

We completed a whole school project about amazing animal adaptations. The children explored some of the remarkable adaptations that allow animals to thrive in different habitats around the world. They answered key questions like: **How do polar bears survive in such chilly climates without freezing? How do tigers sneak up on their prey without being heard?** Finally, each group created a poster about a chosen animal to teach the rest of the school about how their animal has changed and adapted to survive.

Class Rock 'N' Roll

In English, the children have moved onto learning about everyday superheroes. They talked about who we traditionally identify as 'superheroes' then moved on to think about who else can be a hero. **They looked at different people who help us, such as doctors, vets, firefighters and teachers**, amongst others and found out what their jobs were like and why they could be seen as heroes. The children then drew a picture of a person that helps them and wrote a sentence to explain how.

In maths, the children in Reception have explored number bonds to 10 using 2 parts and 3 parts. They explored the key question; 'How can you make the same number in a different way?' They found different ways of building the bonds to 10, **for example, parking 10 toy cars in two car parks and with 10 small world animals: 3 ducks in the water, 4 in the grass and 3 on the bridge.**

The children in Year 1 have moved onto learning about multiplication and division. **They began to explore these concepts by learning to count forwards and backwards in 2s, 5s and 10s, using practical resources to aid their fluency and understanding.** They then moved onto recognising equal groups by exploring how you know when there are equal groups and when there are not by seeing lots of different examples of equal groups in different contexts, for example trays of buns or bunches of flowers.

Class Pop

In English, the children have been planning and writing their non-chronological reports about arctic animals. They began by recapping the features of a non-chronological report to help them organise their plan. **They identified key questions to help organize their plan and to use as the sub-headings such as: 'What do penguins look like? How do beluga whales survive?' and Where do polar bears live?** They then wrote informative paragraphs to answer the sub-heading questions to complete their report.

In maths, the children in Year 2 have continued their learning about money. They have been exploring ways of making a given amount and comparing different amounts. Children have become more familiar with different coins and notes and their values and used this knowledge to solve challenges, **for example 'Choose three coins that have a total of 25p'.** They moved onto making the amount in one way, before swapping notes/coins for other notes/coins that make the same value. **For example, they could swap a 20p coin for two 10p coins to make the same amount.** Children then compared amounts of money using the language of "greater than", "less than", "most" and "least". The children in Year 3 continued their work on dividing a 2-digit numbers by 1-digit numbers, moving on to explore calculations with remainders. The children looked at calculations involving exchanging between the tens and ones, and that have a remainder, **for example $43 \div 3 = 14$ remainder 1 or 14 r1.** They used practical equipment to support their understanding and learned to answer the key question; **'Can a remainder ever be greater than the number you are dividing by?'** The children used the bus stop method to record their work.

Class Disco

In English, the children have been learning about formal and informal letters. They began by exploring the structure of different letters and creating a checklist for the requirements of a formal letter. They went on to explore the difference between formal and informal language and sorted phrases into the appropriate groups. **For example, 'What a wonderful opportunity!' was identified as formal language and 'Gimme back my stuff!' was identified as informal language.**

In maths this week, the children in Year 6 looked at multiplying numbers with up to 3 decimal places. They used place value counters and found that when multiplying by 10, they exchange for a counter that goes in the place value column to the left. **When multiplying by 100, digits move two place value columns to the left and when multiplying by 1000, digits move three place value columns to the left.** They moved onto dividing numbers with up to 3 decimal places and found the same principle with the counters moving one place to the right when dividing by 10, two places when dividing by 100 and three places when dividing by 1000.

The children in Year 5 continued to explore the idea of thousandths, by representing them in decimal form. **They learned that $0.001 = 1/1000$ is a tenth the size of $0.01 = 1/100$.** They moved onto looking at representing numbers with up to 3 decimal places on a place value chart. They learned that a decimal such as 0.012 is shown on a place value chart as one 0.01 counter in the tenths column and two 0.001 counters in the thousandths column.

The children in Year 4 the children have explored the idea of a tenth as a fraction. They looked at tenths through different representations of 1 whole split into ten equal parts. They moved onto looking at tenths as decimals. **They looked at a variety of representations of tenths as decimals, up to the value of 1 whole, using the tenths column of a place value chart to see how tenths fit with the rest of the number system and to understand the need for the decimal point.**

Team Points for the end of this week are:

673



745



662



Golden Book

Well done to **Oscar** for the fantastic presentation of his formal letter checklist. Well done to **Lola and Eva-Mae** for their excellent dance exam results. Well done to **Chloe, Leyton and Oakley** for their brilliant work on labelling the physical features of Arctic landscapes. Well done to **Henry** for his great English work about an everyday superhero. Well done to **Denny and Aiysha** for their superb work on identifying and adding money. Well done to **Maria** for her fabulous understanding of bus stop division.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend.

Miss Smith

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.