



GEMS Twickenham Primary Academy Newsletter

Principal: Mr. John Smith

Autumn Term: Friday 4th December 2020



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Dear Parents,

I hope that you have had a lovely week and are looking forward to the weekend ahead – the school Christmas Tree has now gone up, and looks wonderful (Thank you Miss Karen), and thank you to those children who have brought in decorations to add to the tree in the dining hall this is also looking lovely and festive.

Just a reminder, that Christmas cards should only come in on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. These are then stored until Friday when they are then delivered by their year group post people.

Christmas Video Recording:

As mentioned in the newsletter last week, we will be recording songs and poems for the Christmas video on Wednesday 9th December. Can we ask that children wear a Christmas jumper to add some sparkle. No blazers need to be worn and children wear their usual trousers and dresses/skirts.

Halal Food Consultation:

Thank you to all those families who contributed to the consultation around the possibility of school serving Halal Chicken. The school has reviewed the feedback from all parents, and at this point we will not be offering Halal food as part of our service. However, this will be consulted on again in two years' time as part of our food policy and continued contextual development as a school.

Last Day of Term:

A reminder that the school will close at circa 12:00 pm on Friday 18th December. The pickup areas will be in the current spaces for the year groups and at these times below. For those families that require wrap around care, Energy Kidz will operate from 12:00 pm – 6:00 pm on this day.

Reception	11:50
Year 1	12:00
Year 2	12:10
Year 5	12:10
Year 3	12:00
Year 4	12:10

Spring Term Opening Times:

When the school reopens in January for the spring term, all pupils can be dropped off at the main entrance between 08:30 am – 09:00 am (our usual opening time and soft start) and the backdoor will no longer be opened on The Green side of the school in the morning. The one way system will remain in place, and please do socially distance when dropping off your children and continue to wear a mask when entering the school site as well as exiting promptly.

The school's pick up times and systems will remain as they are until the end of the spring term at the earliest including The Green side Year 3 and Year 4 exit.

Please find the further updates for the spring term here:

<https://www.gemstwickenhamprimary.org/return-to-school>

School Office News:

Afterschool Clubs:

Currently, the most up to date guidance will allow for our after school clubs to begin on schedule as advertised during the spring term. However, we will continue to update you if this changes at any point - especially if we have to close the clubs during the spring term for any reason. Thank you for your patience and your understanding with this matter.

Breakfast Club:

From Tuesday 5th January 2021, the club will restart from 7.45am priced £2.70 per session.

Please check your Parent mail account for instructions for Spring Term 2021 which went out yesterday. Bookings go live via Forms on Parent mail at 9.00am Monday 7th December and close 9.00am Thursday 10th December. Outcomes will be sent via email on Tuesday 15th December. If you missed the deadline please email Miss Joy at j.chapple@gemstwickenhamprimary.co.uk to be added to the waiting list.

Please ensure fees for 1st & 2nd Half term Autumn 2020 are paid in full prior to booking for Spring 2021 as this may affect your booking for next term.

Hand sanitiser:

Please do not send your child into school with hand sanitiser for health and safety purposes.

School Lunches:

Please check your Parentmail account under Payment Items for any outstanding chargers.

Spare clothes for Reception / Y1:

If your child has been sent home in spare clothes can we please ask if could please launder and return them to school, unfortunately we are running low on trousers, jogging bottoms, pants and tights. Thank you.

Key Dates:

The key dates for the Spring Term will be put into next week's newsletter.



House Points:

House	Previous Week	This Week
Parks	1825	1935
Gandhi	1827	1966
Pankhurst	1898	1980
Shackleton	1845	1976

Attendance:

In line with DFE guidance, that the school does not authorise any holiday. Thank you.
All holiday is coded as an unauthorised absence (G) on the school's register.

Year Group	Target (97%)
Reception	98.1
Year 1	97.7
Year 2	98.3
Year 3	98.4
Year 4	97.4
Year 5	97.7
Whole School	97.9

Key Dates:

Please note: All the key dates for this academic term can be found on the school's online calendar

Wednesday 9 th December	Christmas Performance Recording – children to wear their Christmas jumpers	
Monday 14 th December	Report 1 out to parents – change from the key dates	
Wednesday 16 th December	Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Lunch	
Friday 18 th December Last Day of Term	Pick Up Times	
	Reception	11:50
	Year 1	12:00
	Year 2	12:10
	Year 5	12:10
	Year 3	12:00
	Year 4	12:10

Have a lovely weekend,



Mr John Smith, Principal



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