



# GEMS Twickenham Primary Academy Newsletter

Principal: Mr. John Smith

Autumn Term: Friday 27th November 2020



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## Dear Parents,

I hope that you have had a brilliant week and are looking forward to the weekend ahead. It has been a busy week in school as pupils continue to work hard in the run up to the end of term. Shortly, the school's Christmas tree will arrive and will be placed in the school foyer, which will bring some Christmas spirit to the school community.

As usual, a second tree will be placed in the dining hall, and if the children would like to they can make a decoration for this tree to add to our own school decorations. Please send any homemade decorations in after 1<sup>st</sup> December and they will be placed on the tree. Please try to name them so that we can return these at the end of term, and keep them fairly small; there will also be a box in the foyer for the children to put their decorations in on arrival to school.

## A School Winner!!!

A huge congratulations to Liyana in Year 2 who has won a writing competition. Well done, Liyana, we are very proud of you for your effort and of your writing talent. BBC's Greg James selected the winners and you can watch the announcement here: <https://www.explorelearning.co.uk/blog/explore-learning-writers-awards-2020-winners/>

## School Reports:

In December, you will receive your child's first school report. This will give you a succinct overview of the progress and achievements that your child has made so far this academic year against the national standards. We very much look forward to sharing your child's first report with you after all their hard work this term.

Please note: There has been a change in date from what was put into the key dates. Reports will now be sent home on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> December. Thank you.

## Last Day of Term:

The school will close at circa 12:00 pm on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December. The pick up areas will be in the current spaces for the year groups and at these times below:

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

### **Behaviour on Twickenham Green:**

Sadly, the school has received a couple of reports this week that the behaviour of some of our pupils has been less than good over on Twickenham Green after school. Please can we ask that all children are supported by their parents or carer with good behaviour outside of school especially when wearing the school uniform as this is a visual representation of Twickenham Primary Academy.

## **Christmas**

### **Christmas Cards:**

We are allowing Christmas Cards to be sent this year in school, but please send these in on a Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday. These will then be stored in a post box until Friday to reduce any risk of infection, and circulated then by year group post people. The post boxes will be kept in the front entrance of the school for pupils to put their cards in.

### **Christmas Lunch:**

Our Christmas Lunch is on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> December. If your child does not normally have a school dinner and you would like them to have a school lunch please order this through Miss Karen in the school office confirming your child's name and class to [k.surey@gemstwickenhamprimary.co.uk](mailto:k.surey@gemstwickenhamprimary.co.uk)  
You can find the menu on our website: <https://www.gemstwickenhamprimary.org/lunch-menus/>

### **Christmas Performances:**

As we are not able to be together this year for our Christmas performances and concerts, we will be creating a video for you to watch and listen to the different classes sharing Christmas songs and poems. We will be recording the songs and poems in their class bubbles on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> December to be able to have the videos ready to enjoy before the end of term. To add some Christmas sparkle, may we ask that all children wear a Christmas jumper on that day.

### **Christmas Pantomime:**

We have decided that because the pupils have behaved remarkably well in school with all the changes this term that they will all get to watch a pantomime. These performances will be performed live and remotely over the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> December 2020



## **School Office News:**

### **School Clubs:**

A reminder that the deadline for club selections is today. The outcomes will be sent out via Parent Mail by Friday 4<sup>th</sup> December.

### **Contacting the school office :**

Please contact the school office directly either by phone 020 3019 6196 or email us at [office@gemstwicenhamprimary.co.uk](mailto:office@gemstwicenhamprimary.co.uk) to report absences before 8:00am or change to pickup arrangements by 2.30pm. Where possible please book GP and Dental appointments outside of school hours. If you are unable to do so please contact us in advance with evidence of their appointment so we can inform the class teacher.

### House Points:

House	Previous Week	This Week
Parks	1602	1825
Gandhi	1611	1827
Pankhurst	1620	1898
Shackleton	1658	1845

### 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	98.0
Year 1	97.7
Year 2	98.3
Year 3	98.5
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

Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> December	School Tree Up – Christmas Decorations to brought in by pupils	
Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Performance Recording – children to wear their Christmas jumpers	
Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> December	Report 1 out to parents – change from the key dates	
Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Lunch	
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> December Last Day of Term	<b>Pick Up Times</b>	
	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, and happy Thanks Giving to those who celebrated it.



**Mr John Smith, Principal**



## Christmas Trees – final call!



Today (Friday 27<sup>th</sup>) is the final deadline for Christmas Tree orders.

Please get your order in immediately for pick-up/delivery on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> December.

Don't forget our trees are probably the best prices in Twickenham and we're also offering home delivery this year!

You can find more information and order details on Claslist (events), or contact Areeba on 07787 584 313.

## Black Friday – earn donations every time you shop online!

If you're shopping online, don't forget to register with:

Amazon Smile - <https://smile.amazon.co.uk/ch/1186147-0>

easyfundraising - <http://t.e.easyfundraising.org.uk/r/?id=h366ca237,275ec68b,256940f7&p1=friendsofgemstpa>

amazon smile



## Christmas raffle

Two books of raffle tickets were sent home this week in school bags. Please just drop your paper ticket stubs and payment back at school by Friday 4<sup>th</sup> December.

If you would prefer to go paperless/cashless – or simply need more tickets to sell to friends and family! – just hop onto Claslist to make your purchase. You can also find a full list of the (absolutely brilliant!) prizes on Claslist. Good luck!



## Coming up...

- The elves are putting together the final touches to the special Christmas Boxes. They will go on sale next week.
- *Shhhh*. Santa is working on a way to send personalised messages home. Thank you to the parents who suggested this idea to us; we're on it ;O)

Big thanks to all the PTA elves working hard to create the festive magic.

Em xx

P.S. Not on Claslist yet? Come and join our parent community! Over 250 parents have registered so far – we'd love to see you there too 😊 <https://claslist.page.link/TH3AJhxcnJ13cHkS6>



# Classlist

Making parent life easier.

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