



GEMS Twickenham Primary Academy Newsletter

Principal: Mr. John Smith

Autumn Term: Friday 23 October 2020



Newsletter 7

Dear Parents,

I hope that you have had a wonderful week, and that you are looking forward to the end of term. I hope that you have a lovely half term holiday planned, and you all get a good rest and some time to spend as a family.

The children had a wonderful time celebrating Halloween in school and there were some fantastic costumes being worn; well done to everybody for their amazing effort! Thank you to our House Captains for sorting out the prizes in each class and awarding these to the 'best dressed'

Please do remember, that that the school will not reopen until Tuesday 3 November 2020 as we are closed on Monday 2 November for staff training. Furthermore, please do take some time over the holiday if you haven't already to review the updates that are happening in school from November - <https://www.gemstwickenhamprimary.org/return-to-school/>

Once again, I hope you have a well-deserved break, and I look forward to welcoming you and the children back after half term.

A reminder of our Homework Project to complete over half term:

STEAM Open Homework Project:

Our annual STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Maths) open homework project is set for children to complete by Monday 9th November.

We would like the children to think about the STEAM linked phrase 'Spark' and respond in a way of their choice. They may wish to do a scientific study, experiment or activity, produce a piece of art, design something on the computer, create a 3D model, compose a piece of music, write a poem or story.... there are lots of possibilities. There is no right or wrong way to approach "Open homework" and it provides the children with the opportunity to be creative and develop their lateral thinking.

Please could you set aside some time to talk to your child/children about this and allocate time for them to complete their response.

Please bring the responses into school on Monday 9th November. We will arrange a display of everything in the hall and create a video for you to watch on the school website.

Parent Workshops:

The next parent workshop is [Phonics](#). This is for Reception parents only, and will be conducted via zoom by Miss Kizzie on Tuesday 3rd November 2020 at 09:30 am. A link has been sent out to parents with pupils in Reception via parent mail.

School Office News:

Uniform:

A reminder that after half term, the pupils now need to wear their full winter uniform including a named coat. A full list of the school uniform can be found on the school website:

<https://primarysite-prod-sorted.s3.amazonaws.com/gems-twickenham/UploadedDocument/5cbc479da4e145fc97b0a6d6be305f04/uniform-policy.pdf>

Positive Covid Tests:

If over half term, you test positive for COVID – 19 or the family has to go into isolation because of symptoms or that a family member has tested positive then please do report this as usual at

j.chapple@gemstwickenhamprimary.co.uk. Thank you.

Reporting Absences / Pickup Arrangements:

Please remember to report all absences (before 8:00am) and pickup arrangements (before 2:30pm) by phone 020 3019 6196 or email directly to the school office at office@gemstwickenhamprimary.co.uk and put your child's name and class in the subject line for all correspondence.



House Points:

The House Treat is a Pantomime in School at Christmas... restrictions allowing!

House	Previous Week	This Week
Parks	989	1221
Gandhi	988	1201
Pankhurst	980	1199
Shackleton	950	1200

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	98.2
Year 1	97.4
Year 2	98.5
Year 3	98.7
Year 4	97.0
Year 5	97.1
Whole School	98.8

Key Dates:

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

Friday 23 rd October	STEAM Homework Project begins
Monday 2 nd November	School is closed for Staff Training
Tuesday 3 rd November	All pupils return to school
Tuesday 3 rd November	09:30 Phonics Workshop for Reception Parents Via Zoom you will be sent a link for this

Have a lovely half term,



Mr John Smith, Principal





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