



# GEMS Twickenham Primary Academy Newsletter

Principal: Mr. John Smith

Spring Term: Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2020



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## Dear Parents,

I hope that you have had a wonderful week, and that you are looking forward to the weekend ahead. We had a brilliant time during both 'World Book Day' and 'World Mathematics Day', and we hoped that you enjoyed the photos that we shared on twitter which encapsulated the children's learning and celebration. Next week, we have Science week within School, and we look forward to sharing the children's new knowledge with you at Parent Drop Off on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March from 08:30 am. Please note this is at 3:00 pm for pupils in Reception.

Thank you to all our parents who supported the children with their costumes as well as helping your child with taking part in the activities that we had planned within the school. The children thoroughly enjoyed the sponsored read, and the World Book Day book swap!

## Coronavirus Update (correct at time of publishing)

Please do read the below particularly any parents who may not have read my communication about the Coronavirus and how this may impact Twickenham Primary Academy

## Advice from Public Health

Public Health England and the Department for Education have produced detailed guidance about COVID-19 (coronavirus) which will assist you with the following:

- the novel coronavirus, COVID-19,
- how to help prevent the spread of all respiratory infections including COVID-19,
- what to do if someone confirmed or suspected to have COVID-19 has been in a school or other educational setting, and
- what advice to give to follow for individuals who have travelled from China, Hong Kong, Japan, Macau, Malaysia, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Taiwan or Thailand within the last 14 days

The guidance can be accessed here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19>

## Twickenham Primary Academy Emergency Plans:

If there is a confirmed case of Coronavirus, COVID - 19 within the school, we will follow orders from Public Health England. The Public Health England has stated: *No school should close in response to a suspected (or confirmed) COVID-19 case unless directed to do so by Public Health England.*

If we are ordered to close, the school will write a letter to parents confirming the expected time frame for the closure, and when Twickenham Primary Academy will be reopened for the children to return to school. During this time, the school will keep you as up to date as possible with all government information and any developments that the school needs parents to be aware of.

The teachers will also provide daily work (at 09:00 am) for the pupils to complete at home; this will be sent to you via email, and the completed work should be brought back into school on our return.

Please do not hesitate to contact myself, if you have any further questions about this.

Please also find a useful clip from the BBC's Newsround which has been designed to educate and reassure the Pupils about the Coronavirus <https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/51342366>

Please find all the latest information for the Coronavirus on the school's webpage here: <https://www.gemstwickenhamprimary.org/lateabsence-procedures-coronavirus/>

### **Educational Visits:**

Currently, our Educational visits are planned to go ahead as scheduled, and the places that we are due to visit have contacted the school in regards to how they are managing infection control with improved measures at their sites. This includes a higher grading of antibacterial soap being used within the washrooms and clear signage about the importance of handwashing. As standard and current practice within the school, we will continue to take along our own handsanitiser and hygiene products on every visit. However, the situation is being monitored closely, and the school will follow any advice that we receive from Public Health England, and the Department of Education. Therefore, a trip may result in a cancellation at short notice. As always, the school will keep you up to date with the latest guidance and information.

### **Principal's Coffee Morning / Forum:**

The next Principal's coffee morning is on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March at 2:00 pm. Please do submit your questions the Local Academy Board in advance – [lab@gemstwickenhamprimary.co.uk](mailto:lab@gemstwickenhamprimary.co.uk) . The LAB and I had our governance meeting on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March, and have been discussing the questions that have been submitted so far, in preparation for the coffee morning. I look forward to seeing as many parents at the meeting as possible to answer your questions and queries.

### **School Office News**

**Afterschool clubs :** You should have received a paper copy of the Afterschool Club information yesterday via your child's bookbag for your review of the Summer Term 2020. The online booking form will be sent out via email today, the deadline for applications will be Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March and email confirmations will go out on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March should your child receive a place. Please apply for external clubs directly.

**Breakfast club:** Applications for Breakfast club Summer Term 2020 will be sent out via email on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March and the deadline for responses is Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March. Email confirmations will go out on Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> March. Please ensure any outstanding debts for Autumn and Spring Term are paid by 31<sup>st</sup> March.

**House Points:** The House Treat is a Balloon Artist visitng the school...

House	Last Week	This Week
Parks	1116	1451
Gandhi	1118	1454
Pankhurst	1115	1456
Shackleton	1115	1450

**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	96.8%
Year 1	95.7%
Year 2	96.5%
Year 3	97%
Year 4	97%
Whole School	96.6%

**Key Dates:**

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

<b>Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March Onwards</b>	British Science Week
<b>Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Y3 Woodrow House Residential Meeting for Parents (6:30 pm)
<b>Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Pop Up Planetarium in school
<b>Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Principal's Coffee Morning (2) at 2:00 pm
<b>Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Parent Drop off Y1 – 4 only (08:30 am onwards)  Reception (3:00 pm) the doors will be open early for parents to go into class
<b>Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March</b>	PTA Litter Pick at Kneller Gardens 2:45 pm (Year 4)
<b>Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Voice in a Million Concert (Choir Only)
<b>Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March</b>	Final week for all Before and After school clubs
<b>Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Y3 Residential to Woodrow High House
<b>Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Y4 Performance Both classes at 09:15 am

Have a lovely weekend,



**Mr John Smith, Principal**

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