



GEMS Twickenham Primary Academy Newsletter

Principal: Mr. John Smith

Autumn Term: Friday 6th December



Newsletter 12

Dear Parents,

I hope that you have had a lovely week, and are looking forward to the weekend ahead. Firstly, a huge congratulations to our Year 1 and 2 pupils who performed so beautifully over at Holy Trinity Church today; you all put on a wonderful performance and your singing was spectacular, and well done for learning your poems so confidently and fluently.

A Reminder that Friday 13th December will be the Year 3s and 4s Christmas Performance over at Holy Trinity Church (2:00 PM).

Library Books:

A message from Miss Sara (English Coordinator)...

As the Christmas holidays draw near, we need to take stock of the library books that we have at TPA. I would be grateful if you could ensure your child has returned all of the library books they may have at home by Friday 6th December. If you are unsure of any outstanding books, please ask the class teacher and they will be able to advise you of the book. If the books have been lost, please speak to the class teacher, who will advise you of the next steps.

Questionnaire reminders:

Just a reminder, that if you haven't done so already then please do fill in the parent questionnaire; this was sent to you via email. Thank you to all those parents who have signed the school petition for a School Street; so far we currently have 100 signatures, and would like as many as possible to send to the local authority. There have been some questions about timings regarding the school street therefore I will discuss this further with the School Travel Advisor – Miss Lindi Louw

Eco Team News:

Thank you very much to our parent volunteers who worked very hard with the ECO Team on Friday 29th November brightening up the outdoor space with some further planting in the playground and the Reception area as well as pruning the bushes outside the school gates. Mishca has now placed the Stationery Recycling Bin inside the school – where pens, fountain pens, highlighters and empty glue bottles can be recycled. Please do send these in with the children to be put into the bin. More information can be found here: <https://www.terracycle.com/en-GB/brigades/bic-uk>

Please note: **Glue sticks, rubbers, rulers, pencils and scissors are not accepted**



Key Dates:

The key dates for the Spring term will be sent out with next weeks final newsletter; these will also be placed on the school website and onto the online calendar for you to view and coordinate your diaries. Some of the dates are subject to change; and we will update you accordingly if needed. If you do have any questions regarding the events that will be happening over the Spring Term, then please do not hesitate contact the school office.

Early Closure:

A reminder that on Thursday 12th December it is the Varsity Match, and the school has a scheduled early closure of 1:30 pm. We will be bringing all pupils out into the playground at this time for collection. Parents of Reception pupils please collect from the Reception Garden as usual. Please contact the school office before 12.00 should you have any changes to your normal pickup arrangements. Thank you.

Please note: There is no wrap around care or afterschool clubs on this day.

Local Academy Board: Update

Following the recent elections for Parent Governors for TPA's Local Academy Board (LAB), we wanted to provide some additional information about the LAB and how it can help parents.

What is the LAB

The LAB is a group of elected parents, staff and local community members who meet termly with John, our Head Teacher, to look at the school's performance and review policy. Additionally, the LAB engages with TPA's key stakeholders including parents, pupils, staff and the community.

How can the LAB help parents?

If you have questions, new ideas for the school or problems or issues you wish to discuss, we are happy to help or direct your query through the appropriate channel.

Communicating with the LAB

The LAB is keen to improve it's stakeholder engagement an recently held it's first coffee morning with Mr. John who was available to answer parent's questions. There are more coffee morning and some evening sessions planned this year to ensure as many parents and carers as possible have the opportunity to attend. Additionally, the LAB have an email address where questions and concerns can be sent: lab@gemstwickenhamprimary.co.uk

Also, please feel free to reach out whenever you see us in person at drop off or pick up etc

Who are your parent governors....



Stuart Bessent



Beth Hodder



Erika Hoddy

Principal's Question

Please write down the names of all of Santas Reindeers and hand the answer into your class teacher

Have a lovely weekend, Mr John Smith, Principal

House Points: The House Treat is a pantomime in school for the winning house

House	Previous Week	This Week
Parks	1009	To be announced on Monday
Gandhi	1012	To be announced on Monday
Pankhurst	1005	To be announced on Monday
Shackleton	1002	To be announced on Monday

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	97.4%
Year 1	96.3%
Year 2	97%
Year 3	97.5%
Year 4	97.2%
Whole School	97.1%

Key Dates:

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

Saturday 7th December	PTA Christmas Fayre
Monday 9th December	Final Week for clubs
Wednesday 11th December	Parent Drop off 08:30 Year 1 – 4 only
Wednesday 11th December	Christmas Elf Visit – children will receive a Christmas Present from the school
Thursday 12th December	School Closes at 1:30 PM for the Varsity Match
Thursday 12th December	Report (1) to parents (achievement so far in the academic year)
Friday 13th December 2:00 PM	Year 3 and Year 4 Christmas Concert – Holy Trinity Church x 2 tickets per family
Monday 16th December	Whole School Christmas Lunch
Wednesday 18th December	Christmas Jumper Day / End of term – school closes at 2:00 (no wrap around care)
Monday 6th January	School Closed for INSET
Tuesday 7th January	All pupils return to school – Breakfast Club as usual



- *It is Parent Drop Off on Wednesday 11th (08:30 am) for Year 1 – 4 only. We are going to organise an afternoon session for Reception in the Spring Term.*



57 Colne Road | Twickenham TW2 6QF | Telephone No: 0203 019 6196 | Email: office@gemstwickenham.co.uk | www.gemstwickenhamprimary.org



'Inspiring Education and Achievement for Life'

