



# GEMS Twickenham Primary Academy Newsletter

Principal: Mr. John Smith

Autumn Term Term: Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> November



Newsletter 10

## Dear Parents,

I hope that you have had a lovely week, and are looking forward to the weekend ahead. This week, our Year Three pupils have been taking part in the 'Safe Walking Programme' in order to support their understanding about how to cross and navigate roads within the local area. We have also had a visit from the school nurse who delivered a workshop to all pupils around healthy eating, and what a balanced diet should contain in order to keep our bodies healthy.

## Christmas Performances:

Hopefully, you have all received the link to be able to access and book tickets for the Christmas Performances, and thank you to those parents who have already done so. To confirm, the pupils that have their performances over at Holy Trinity Church will be allowed to go home with parents / carers after the concert and will not need to return to school; the remaining children will bring back to school for the usual dismissal. Below is a reminder of performance times if you have not yet booked your tickets.



## Performances:

Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> November at 09:15 am	Reception - this will be located in the School Hall ( <b>Reception Parents Only</b> )
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> December at 2:00 pm	Year 1 and 2 - this will be located in Holy Trinity Church (next to Archdeacon Cambridge School) – <b>Year 1 and 2 Parents Only</b>
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> December At 2:00 pm	Year 3 and 4 - this will be located in Holy Trinity Church (next to Archdeacon Cambridge School) – <b>Year 3 and 4 Parents Only</b>

## Principal's Coffee Morning

Thank you again to the parents who attended the Principal's Coffee morning on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November. Below are some of the key things that were discussed.

## Uniform:

The school has now removed reference to gender from its uniform policy, and you are able to choose from the prescribed list of uniform what your child can wear as long as it meets the school's requirements /policy. The school has removed the Purple Ski Jacket as compulsory item within the uniform policy and has now made this optional. We have completed some further research around the uniform regarding other providers; we didn't feel Marks and Spencer could meet the school's needs, and when researching average costs of uniform our whole set is lower than the average £255 spent on uniform per household (we do understand this will differ from household to household and some of you will of course be spending more than this). Therefore, at this point, we are going to keep our link with Stevensons but if you do have an individual concern about uniform then please do contact myself.

## Sports

We confirmed that football club is not a boys football club but uptake by the girls has been very low. Next term, we are going to fully encourage the girls to choose football as a club. However, if it doesn't work as a mixed club, we will then explore the option of a girls only football club. The school will also review mixed team events for Sports Day.

## School sign off

We are hoping that this will happen this year, once Richmond Council have sat at committee and agreed to the planned tree planting within the school grounds to support us in making less noise when we are outside.

## Energy Kidz

Energy Kidz now has a new manager – Miss Paulina, and I will be meeting with them next week to discuss the development and provision of the club for the key stage Two children so that it is meeting all needs effectively.

## Key Stage 1 workshops:

On Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December, parents are invited to join us for our Key Stage One English and Mathematics workshops (Year groups One and Two). You don't need to book, please just come along, and you can either come to one or both of the workshops. Below are the timings and what Miss Rebecca (Mathematics) and Miss Sara (English) will be covering:

### English at 09:15 am

- Early Reading including phonics
- Spelling
- Grammar
- Sentence construction

### Mathematics at 10:00 am

- Calculation (including the four operations)
- Doodle Mathematics
- Reasoning
- Vocabulary

## Afterschool Clubs

Next week, we will be releasing our afterschool clubs for the spring term. Miss Hana will be coordinating all club bookings, and we will be sending over a link to your email which explains how you are able to book clubs; both school and privately run clubs (seperately), and when you will receive confirmation.

- *We will release the booking for Spring Term Breakfast Club once Afterschool Clubs have been confirmed to support parents with their wrap around care arrangements.*

## Principals Question:

For a housepoint from your class teacher please write down the answer to this riddle: I am an odd number. Take away a letter and I become even. What number am I?

**Your child's first report for the year will be issued on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December. Have a lovely weekend,**



**Mr John Smith**

**Principal**



Twickenham Primary Academy



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

House	Previous Week	This Week
Parks	888	942
Gandhi	889	947
Pankhurst	878	946
Shackleton	889	940

**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	97.6%
Year 1	95.9%
Year 2	96.9%
Year 3	97.5%
Year 4	97%
Whole School	97%

**Key Dates:**

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

<b>Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2.35-2.55pm</b>	School choir performance at the Twickenham Christmas Tree Lighting event
<b>Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November 09:15</b>	Reception Christmas Performance x 2 tickets per family
<b>Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November</b>	Pledge to Plant
<b>Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December</b>	Key Stage 1 parent workshops 09:15 – English 10:00 – Mathematics
<b>Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December onwards</b>	Whole School Book Fair
<b>Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December at 2:00 PM</b>	Year 1 and Year 2 Christmas Concert – Holy Trinity Church x 2 tickets per family
<b>Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> December</b>	PTA Christmas Fayre
<b>Monday 9<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Final Week for clubs
<b>Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Parent Drop off 08:30 Year 1 – 4 only
<b>Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December</b>	School Closes at 1:30 PM for the Varsity Match
<b>Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Report 1 to parents (achievement so far in the academic year)
<b>Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2:00 PM</b>	Year 3 and Year 4 Christmas Concert – Holy Trinity Church x 2 tickets per family
<b>Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Whole School Christmas Lunch
<b>Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Christmas Jumper Day / End of term – school closes at 2:00 (no wrap around care)



## Updated School Term Dates 2020 – 2021

- We have now confirmed the Sixth Inset Day, and the Board of governors have agreed to keep the shortened end of term days with an earlier finish of 12:00 pm. No lunch will be provided on these days.

AUTUMN TERM 2020	
Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September 2020	School Closed – INSET Day
Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> September 2020	School Closed – INSET Day
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> September 2020	Reception Pupils Start school 09:00 am until 1:30 pm (1:30 pm finish all week)
Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> September 2020	All pupils (Y1, Y2, Y3 , Y4 and 5) return from 08:30 am (09:00 am registration)
Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> October – Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> October 2020	Half Term
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> November 2020	School Closed – INSET Day
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November 2020	Term Begins
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> December 2020	Term ends at 12:00 pm – no lunch for pupils

SPRING TERM 2021	
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> January 2021	School Closed INSET Day
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> January 2021	Term Begins
Monday 15 <sup>h</sup> February – Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> February 2020	Half Term
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> February 2021	Term Begins
Wednesday 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2021	Term ends at 12:00 pm – no lunch for pupils

SUMMER TERM 2021	
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> April 2021	School Closed INSET Day
Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> April 2021	Term Begins
Monday 31 <sup>st</sup> May – Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> June 2021	Half Term
Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> June 2021	Term Begins
Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July 2021	Term ends at 12:00 pm – no lunch for pupils
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> July 2021	School Closed INSET Day

# Infection Control Policy



As the colder weather draws nearer, and more pupils are getting coughs and colds, please see our Infection Control Policy:

## Introduction

This policy has been written following guidance from Richmond Council [www.hrch.nhs.uk/patients/patient-safety/infection-prevention/](http://www.hrch.nhs.uk/patients/patient-safety/infection-prevention/)

## Aims and Objectives

This policy aims to provide the school community with guidance when preparing for, and in the event of an outbreak of an infection such as pandemic influenza. It contains a checklist of actions to aid planning and preparing for an outbreak of pandemic influenza and clarifies communication procedures.

## Principles

The school recognises that infections such as influenza pandemics are not new. No-one knows exactly when the school will be faced with having to deal with a potentially contagious illness amongst its community. We recognise the need to be prepared. Infections are likely to spread particularly rapidly in schools and as children may have no residual immunity, they could be amongst the groups worst affected. We recognise that closing the school may be necessary in exceptional circumstances in order to control an infection. However we will strive to remain open unless advised otherwise.

Good pastoral care includes promoting healthy living. School staff will give pupils positive messages about health and well being through lessons and through conversations with pupils.

## Planning and preparation

In the event of the school becoming aware that a pupil or member of staff has an infectious illness we would direct their parents to report to their GP and inform the infection and control team on infection prevention and control team, please call: **020 8714 4083**. Alternatively they may contact the school to advise us that a pupil or member of staff has sought medical attention and has been diagnosed as having an infectious illness.

During an outbreak of an infectious illness such as pandemic influenza, the school will seek to operate as normally as possible but will plan for higher levels of staff absence.

The decision on whether school should remain open or close will be based on medical evidence. This will be discussed with the Government's Health Protection Agency. It is likely that school will remain open but we recognise the fact that both the illness itself and the caring responsibilities of staff will impact staff absence levels. The school will close if lessons cannot be staffed or there is not adequate supervision for the children. Students will be asked to complete work at home or at a local library using the school website or work set via email.

## Infection control

Infections are usually spread from person to person by close contact, for example:

- Infected people can pass a virus to others through large droplets when coughing, sneezing or even talking within a close distance.
- Through direct contact with an infected person: for example, if you shake or hold their hand, and then touch your own mouth, eyes or nose without first washing your hands.
- By touching objects (e.g. door handles, light switches) that have previously been touched by an infected person, then touching your own mouth, eyes or nose without first washing your hands.
- Viruses can survive longer on hard surfaces than on soft or absorbent surfaces. Staff and students are given the following advice about how to reduce the risk of passing on infections to others:
- Wash your hands regularly, particularly after coughing, sneezing or blowing your nose.
- Minimise contact between your hands and mouth/nose, unless you have just washed your hands.
- Cover your nose and mouth when coughing or sneezing.
- Do not attend school if you think you may have an infectious illness.
- If you feel ill during the day go to the medical room. Parents will be contacted if First Aiders feel you are not well enough to be in school.

- Use the isolation room (Medical room) during outbreaks of illness

These messages are promoted through posters around the school, in assemblies and through Personal and Social Education lessons.

***HAND WASHING IS THE SINGLE MOST IMPORTANT PART OF INFECTION CONTROL IN SCHOOLS***

### **Minimise sources of contamination**

We will ensure relevant staff have Food Hygiene Certificate or other training in food handling.

We store food that requires refrigeration, covered and dated within a refrigerator, at a temperature of 5C or below.

We wash hands before and after handling food.

We clean and disinfect food storage and preparation areas.

Food is bought from reputable sources and used by recommended date.

### **To control the spread of infection**

We ensure good hand washing procedures (toilet, handling animals, soil, food)

Children are encouraged to blow and wipe their own noses when necessary and to dispose of the soiled tissues hygienically.

We keep a record of the washing of equipment.

Ensure different cloths and towels are kept for different areas.

We cover all cuts and open sores.

Aprons are worn when preparing food.

We wear protective clothing when dealing with accidents. (e.g. gloves and apron)

A protocol is in place that is followed regarding contact with blood and body fluids.

- Gloves and apron worn
- Soiled articles sealed in a plastic bag
- Staff aware of procedures for the prevention of HIV infection

### **To raise awareness of hygiene procedures**

Inform all attending adults of the existing policy and procedures.

Ensure that student induction includes this information.

Provide visual instructions where possible for ease of understanding.

### **To prevent cross-contamination**

Ensure that adults and children have separate toilet facilities.

### **During outbreaks of diarrhoea and/or vomiting the following should be auctioned:**

The use of play dough should be suspended until 48 hours after the symptoms end and the play dough used prior to the outbreak is disposed of

The use of play sand should be suspended until 48 hours after the symptoms end and the sand used prior to the outbreak is disposed of

The use of water should be suspended until 48 hours after the symptoms end and the water and water toys should be thoroughly cleaned prior to use.

Children who have had diarrhoea and/or vomiting should not be included in cooking for 48 hours.

### **If a child is unwell in school**

They should wait in the medical room until they are collected by their parents or carers. They should be closely monitored and should not wait in communal areas.

### **To prevent the persistence and further spread of infection**

Ensure that dedicated sinks are clearly marked.

Be vigilant as to signs of infection persisting or recurring.

Ask parents to keep their child at home if they have an infection, and to inform the nursery as to the nature of the infection.

Remind parents not to bring a school who has been vomiting or had diarrhoea until at least 48 hours has elapsed since the last attack.

### **Farm visits**

Hand washing is essential throughout the visit and particularly after coming into contact with live stock.

### **Support**

The school has a number of Qualified First Aiders who assess pupils and staff before recommending further action. Individuals who are believed to have an infectious illness are sent home and are advised to contact their GP or local hospital.

## Monitoring and Evaluation

Senior staff and Governors will evaluate the effectiveness of the policy and agree adjustments that may be necessary to address any current concerns. These will be shared with staff, parents/carers and pupils.

## Illnesses and time off if required:

Athlete's Foot	None	Athlete's foot is not a serious condition. Treatment is recommended
Chickenpox	Five days from the onset of rash	See Vulnerable Children & Female Staff – Pregnancy
Cold Sores	None	Avoid kissing and contact with the sores. Cold sores are generally mild and self-limiting
German Measles *	Six days from onset of rash	See Female Staff – Pregnancy
Hand, foot & mouth	None	Contact your local HPU. Exclusion may be considered in some circumstances
Impetigo	Until lesions are crusted and healed or 48 hours after commencing antibiotic treatment	Antibiotic treatment speeds healing and reduces the infectious period
Measles*	Four days from onset of rash	See Vulnerable Children & Female Staff - Pregnancy
Molluscum contagiosum	None	A self-limiting condition
Ringworm	Exclusion not usually required	Treatment is required
Roseola	None	None
Scabies	Child can return after first treatment	Household and close contacts require treatments
Scarlet Fever	Child can return 24 hours after commencing appropriate antibiotic treatment	Antibiotic treatment recommended for the affected child
Slapped cheek	None	See Vulnerable Children & Female Staff – Pregnancy
Shingles	Exclude only if rash is weeping and cannot be covered	Can cause chicken pox in those who are not immune i.e. have not had chickenpox. It is spread by very close contact and touch. Contact HPU for further info. See Vulnerable Children & Female Staff
Warts & verrucae	None	Verrucae should be covered in swimming pools, gymnasiums and changing rooms

Diarrhoea and/or vomiting	48 hours from last episode of diarrhoea or vomiting	
E Coli 0157	Should be excluded for 48 hours from the last episode of diarrhoea	Further exclusions may be required for young children under five and those who have difficulty adhering to hygiene practices.
Typhoid* (and paratyphoid)	Further exclusions may be required for some children until they are no longer excreting	This guidance may also apply to some contacts who may require microbiological clearance
Cryptosporidiosis	Exclude for 48 hrs from the last episode of diarrhoea	Consult HPU for further advice Exclusion from swimming is advisable for two weeks after the diarrhoea has settled

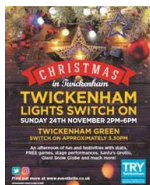
Conjunctivitis	None	If an outbreak/cluster occurs consult local HPU
Diphtheria*	Exclusion is essential Always consult HPU	Family contacts must be excluded until cleared to return by HPU. HPU will organise any contact tracing necessary
Glandular Fever	None	
Head Lice	None	Treatment is recommended only in cases where live lice have been seen
Hepatitis A*	Exclude until seven days after onset of jaundice (or seven days after symptom onset if no jaundice)	If an outbreak of hepatitis A, local HPU will advise on control measures
Hepatitis B*, C*, HIV Aids	None	Hepatitis B & C and HIV are blood borne viruses that are not infectious through casual contact. For cleaning of body fluids spills. See Good Hygiene Practice
Meningococcal meningitis*/septicaemia*	Until recovered	There is no reason to exclude siblings or other close contacts of a case. Local HPU will advise on any action needed.
MRSA	None	Good hygiene, in particular hand washing and environmental cleaning are important to minimise any danger of spread. Contact local HPU for further info.
Mumps*	Exclude child for five days after onset of swelling	
Threadworm	None	Treatment is recommended for the child and household contacts
Tonsillitis	None	There are many causes, but most cases are due to viruses and do not need an antibiotic

## PTA News:



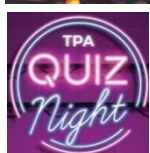
### Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> November | **Deadline for Christmas Tree orders**

[Order your Nordmann Fir here](#)



### Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> November | **Twickenham Lights Switch On**

We're looking forward to hearing the school choir sing on Sunday. We have a pitch on The Green from 2pm-6pm selling glitter tattoos and crafts; please do come and support if you can.



### Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November | **Quiz Night**

We only have a handful of tickets left!

[Order your tickets here](#)

## Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> December | 1pm-4pm | **Christmas Fair**

### Donations needed!

We're looking for good quality:

- Soft Toys
- Raffle and Tombola Items
- Christmas Jumpers and Dressing up
- 2<sup>nd</sup> hand uniform

Just pop your donations in the labelled tubs in reception and we'll do the rest. Thank you to everyone who has donated items so far!



### Meet Santa

Please book your grotto ticket/s in advance.

Meeting Santa at the Christmas Fair is always massively popular so please book ASAP to avoid disappointment

[Book here](#)

### Family portrait session with Andisheh

Get professional photos of your family in just a few minutes at the Christmas Fair.

Slots with Andisheh are very limited so please book in advance on her site:

<https://www.familyphotographybyandisheh.com/gems-christmas-family-sessions/>



**Remember to register with Easyfundraising** using this referral link:

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/friendsofgemstpa/?invite=YJOMPV&referral-campaign=c2s>

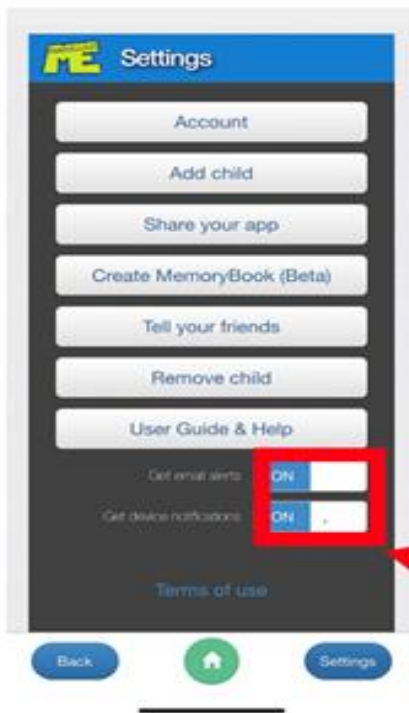


## IMPORTANT UPDATE

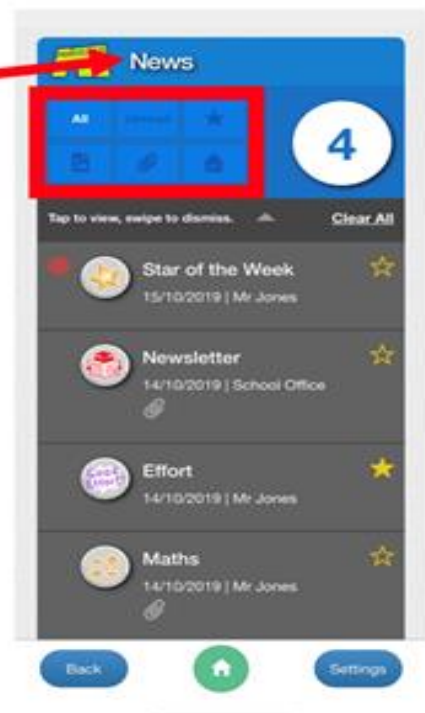


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- To get device notifications, please toggle the device notifications switch 'Off' and back 'On' again. Even if it shows as 'On', you must toggle it 'Off' and 'On' once to activate your device for the new notification system.
- See everything sent from the school in 'News'. Filter, sort, star!



Get Alerts



See all News

### Opening attachments with latest iOS



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