



GEMS Twickenham Primary Academy Newsletter

Principal: Mr. John Smith

Autumn Term Term: Friday 4th October



Dear Parents,

I hope that you have had a lovely week and are looking forward to the weekend ahead. It was brilliant to see so many of you at the parent drop off this morning, and I am sure that you have been able to see the progress that your children have already made this term.

Purple Coats:

I know some of you are currently purchasing the school's Purple Storm Coat in preparation for the winter term, and you may have found that Stevensons are currently not stocking sizes 11+. However, thank you to the helpful parent who has found the same coat on two websites but at a cheaper cost. These are the following links: DirectSchoolwear.co.uk and www.bestworkwear.co.uk. The school has also been in contact with Stevensons, and asked them to stock the coat in the larger size but this will take some time to get into the shop. Hopefully, you will be find this helpful when making your purchases. Furthermore, the school is now going to keep its own stock of coats on site available to purchase, and I will let you know when we have these available.

A reminder that the summer uniform needs to stop being worn after the October half term holiday

Key Stage 2 Parent Workshops:

A reminder that the key Stage Two parent workshops will occur on Tuesday 15th October – you do not need to book onto these, you can just come along and learn about the teaching methods used in school which will be helpful for supporting the children's learning at home. We have altered the timings slightly from feedback we have had and the sessions will focus on and at:

English: 09:15 am – 10:00 am

- Reading (comprehension / inference)
- Spelling
- Sentence level development
- Grammar

Mathematics 10:00 am – 10:45 am

- Fluency
- Mathematical vocabulary
- Reasoning and problem solving
- Calculation

These workshops are aimed at parents whose children are in **Year Three upwards**. The school will facilitate the key Stage One workshops on Tuesday 3rd December 2019.

Educational Visits:

We have a number of Educational Visits coming up at school, the letters for these will all be sent via a link to your email address. Please ensure you fill in the online form in as we cannot take the pupils on visits if we do not have explicit consent for the children to attend from the parents. Once you have signed up for the visit, the cost will be applied to your parent pay account. Thank you.

Term Dates:

The proposed term dates for the 2020 / 2021 academic year are now on the school website; please notice we will no longer be closing early at the end of a full term e.g. 2:00 pm from 2020 / 2021 this is because the school will be adding a 6th teacher training day to its calendar (yet to be confirmed) in which all school's within the GEMS learning Trust will attend a staff training day together.

Please note the term dates are not yet confirmed and there may be some further additional changes

Parents Evening:

The term is slipping away quite quickly, and it will soon be our first parents evening. Parents evening is scheduled for Tuesday 12th November and Thursday 14th November. During the week commencing the 14th October, you will be sent the online link to your email address to book your parents evening slot. Once you have booked, you will receive an automatic confirmation email. Please note: the online system will only email the parent listed as priority one on the system so if you are a family who require more than one or separate appointments per child then please contact Miss Hana Hamilton in the school office who will be happy to support you in arranging this.

Miss Natasha Hart the School Nurse will also be on site during parents evening - if you have any concerns or worries that you would like to discuss with her please do go to see her



Inventory System:

Our signing system is now working correctly. Please can we ask that once the gates are closed, that you bring your child into the foyer and sign them in for the late mark. Thank you.

Principal's Question:

For a House Point on Monday please write down the answer to – 'What will we be celebrating during Black History Month?' *Please hand your answer into the class teacher who will give you a house point!*

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	401	501
Gandhi	404	502
Pankhurst	398	500
Shackleton	369	523

Attendance:

In line with DFE guidance, that the school does not authorise any holiday. Thank you. All holiday is coded as an unauthorised absence on the school's register.

Last academic years attendance: 2018 – 2019

Year Group	Target (97%)
Reception	98.9%
Year 1	95.4%
Year 2	96.2%
Year 3	97.8%
Year 4	96.8%
Whole School	97%

Key Dates:

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

Monday 7th October	Individual Photos for all pupils
Monday 7th October	Great Fire of London Workshop for Year 2 pupils
Wednesday 9th October	Year 1 to Whipsnade Zoo
Tuesday 15th October NO NEED TO BOOK JUST COME ALONG!	Key stage 2 Parent Workshops English – 09:15 am Mathematics – 10:00 am
Wednesday 16th October	Year 4 to the British Museum
Thursday 17th October	Year 3 to the National History Museum
Thursday 17th October	School Nurse into see Year 1 handwashing
Monday 21st October	PTA movie night – Year 3 and Year 4
Friday 25th October House Day – Halloween Special!	House Day – No House T shirts as the children will be wearing Halloween costumes! 
Friday 25th October	PTA Bake and Uniform Sale
Friday 25th October	End of Term – usual timings / and clubs for all pupils
Monday 4th November	School Closed for Inset
Tuesday 5th November	All pupils return to school
Tuesday 5th November	09:15 am Phonics Workshop for Reception Parents – just turn up!





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