



GEMS Twickenham Primary Academy Newsletter

Principal: Mr. John Smith

Autumn Term Term: Friday 27th September



Dear Parents,

I hope that you have had a lovely week and are looking forward to the weekend ahead. This week, there continues to be lots fantastic learning happening in and around school, and I have met with the House and Vice House captains to decide on and begin the organisation for our first House Day – which will have a Halloween theme.

A big thank you to all our families who joined us for the 'Play Streets' on Sunday – it was wonderful to see so many families and the wider community at the school celebrating this event. As always, a thank you to the PTA for organising the day, and raising some much needed funds for the school.

Open Day:

Just a reminder, our first open day is on Saturday 5th October for prospective parents who may wish for their children to attend this school in the future. If you are aware of any local families who you think may wish to attend, please do direct them to the Open Day tab on the school website where they can find all the details about how to book onto an open day tour.

Key Stage 2 Parent Workshops:

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.

Individual Photos:

A reminder that individual photos will take place on Monday 7th October. If you would like siblings to have a photo together, please inform the school office who will place you on the list and organise this with the photographer. We do need to have this list in advance so please do let us know as soon as possible.

Friday 4th October – Parent Drop Off:

Friday 4th October is parent drop off for all pupils. You are able to go into the classrooms from 08:30 – 09:00 to have a look at the displays, the work the children have completed so far and have a talk with the classroom teacher. Reception parents, please can we ask that you use the Reception Playground entrance as usual. We very much look forward to having you there.

Atrium Update:

The climbing frame has now been fitted in the atrium, and the children were very excited about it's arrival – we will now begin to use this as part of our P.E lessons to further deepen and enrich our curriculum. We will continue to develop the atrium further throughout the year as we raise further funds so that the provision for the school remains exciting and enjoyable for all of the children.

Attendance:

We have had some excellent news in that we were one of the top performing school for attendance last year within the borough. We very much hope to retain this level of excellence this academic year, and we ask that you ensure that your child is in school every day unless they are very unwell. We have noticed some pupils are taking Monday and Fridays off, and we will be monitoring this over the next term as we do our weekly analysis of all the registers so please do be mindful.

- *Our full attendance procedures can found under the attendance tab on the school website*

Safeguarding:

At Twickenham Primary Academy we take the safety of our children extremely seriously. All staff are trained in safeguarding procedures annually and the children have regular lessons, as part of the well-being programme, on how to keep themselves safe both in and out of school. The Designated Safeguarding Leader is John Smith and Kizzie Elliott and the Deputy Safeguarding Leader is Petra Gollob . In the event of serious safeguarding concerns, the school has the right to contact, with or without parents' consent, SPA (Single Point of Access) at the London Borough of Richmond. SPA may involve other agencies in these discussions. The school will keep parents informed, where appropriate, however please remember that the school will follow guidance given by SPA and the other agencies. Please see the school's Child Protection Policy on our website.

Principal's Question:

For a House Point on Monday please write down the answer to – 'Name two things you learnt during Jeans for Genes Day?' *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	324	401
Gandhi	289	404
Pankhurst	299	398
Shackleton	301	369

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	96%
Year 1	96%
Year 2	96.6%
Year 3	97.7%
Year 4	96.9%
Whole School	97.2%

Key Dates:

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

Tuesday 1st October	Black History Month Begins
Thursday 3rd October	School Nurse to visit the Year 1 pupils for teeth cleaning
Friday 4th October from 08:30 am	Parent drop off (Reception to Year 4)
Saturday 5th October	Open Day for prospective parents
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





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