



GEMS Twickenham Primary Academy Newsletter

Principal: Mr. John Smith



Autumn Term: Friday 7th December 2018

Dear parents,

I hope that you have had a lovely week, and that you are looking forward to the weekend ahead. We have been very busy here this week at Twickenham Primary Academy as we rehearse for our Christmas concerts, and as we look forward to our Christmas Fair which we are all very excited about.

I hope to see many of you at the Christmas Fair on Saturday; I'm sure it will be wonderful afternoon filled with many fun filled activities. Thank you in advance to the PTA who have worked incredibly hard in coordinating the event; I'm sure the children are going to have an excellent afternoon especially when they pay their visit to Santa in his grotto.

Just as a reminder, unfortunately there will no parking available on site during this day.

Reports:

You will receive your first school report for this academic year on Wednesday 19th December 2018. This is the first report of three that you will receive throughout the year. Please do take time to read the report carefully, and make contact with the classroom teacher if you need any further information. I'm sure you will all be very proud and pleased regarding the progress that the children have made this year.

Alongside the report, will be your child's attendance certificate for this academic year so far. Good attendance is 96% or over. If your child's attendance is below 90% you will be asked to attend a meeting with myself to discuss this further.

Afterschool Clubs:

Thank you to those parents who have returned their afterschool club forms. Just as a reminder, when clubs are oversubscribed – which they often are, all names are drawn out of a hat. The school does its absolute best to place the children in at least one club of their choice. You will receive confirmation of clubs by the end of next week.

Scooters:

A reminder to please not leave scooters on the school premises overnight. We cannot be held responsible for any theft that may take place.

Healthy Snacks:

Please may I remind you that snacks for break time need to be healthy. A couple of items containing lots of sugar have started to be brought into the school. Healthy snacks include: Brown bread , rice cakes, pitta breads, raisins, and cheese and banana bread and fruit etc.

House Points:

House	Points Collected
Parks	2197
Gandhi	2220
Pankhurst	2180
Shackleton	2179

Attendance:

Just a reminder, 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.

Year Group	Target (96%)
Reception	95.2%
Year 1	96.4%
Year 2	97.6%
Year 3	95.8%
Whole School	96.09%

Key Dates

Saturday 8 th December	The Christmas Fair from 2:00pm
Monday 10 th December	Final week for afterschool clubs
Monday 10 th December	Christmas Bauble Workshop for Y1,2 and 3 – Date Change
Thursday 13 th December	PTA movie night (Whole School)
Friday 14 th December	Y2 and Y3 Carol Concert 2:00 pm – Holy Trinity Church
Wednesday 19 th December	Reception and Y1 Christmas Performance 09:00 am
Thursday 20 th December	Reception and Y1 Christmas Performance 09:00 am
Friday 21 st December	PTA £1 Christmas Jumper Day and School Christmas Lunch
Friday 21 st December 2018	End of Term – School closes at 2:00 pm

Twitter:

Please follow us on [@GemsTwickenham](#) for all the latest news and updates.

Principal's Question: For **3 bonus** house points on Monday, please answer the question 'Apart from the colour red, what other colours does Santa traditionally wear?'

- Please hand your answers to your classroom teacher

Have a lovely weekend,

Mr John Smith

Principal

Elgar Class: Week 12

This week in English we finished our poetry unit by looking at the use of word play and imagery in poems. We finished our enjoyable unit with Christmas tree kenning poems. Kennings are mini riddles used during the Anglo-Saxon and Viking periods and used in different poems. The children came up with some great kennings about Christmas trees such as "Present disguiser, Bauble holder..." and they are now displayed for all to see.

In Maths we worked more on measurement, especially on converting units of measure. We also introduced the concept of perimeter and the children have worked well in their pairs to work out the perimeters of different 2D shapes.

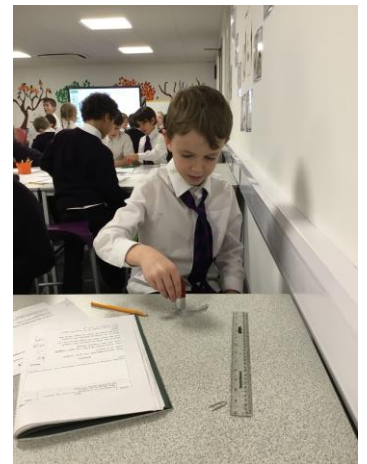
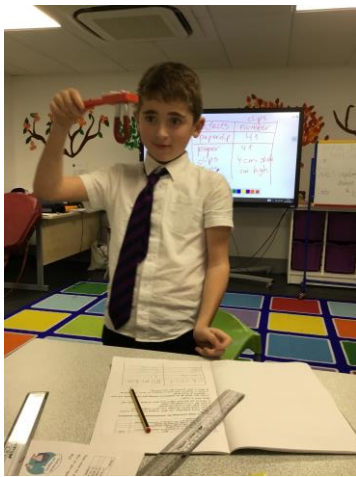
Our topic lesson was all about major capital cities in Europe and the children used clues to label and locate capital cities of Europe.

In RE we looked at the meaning of advent and how people may celebrate it. The children enjoyed making their own advent calendars drawing Christmas pictures and decorating the numbers on the doors.

On Wednesday we continued to build up our understanding of magnets by testing how strong magnets are. The children completed different activities such as making a paper clip chain with a magnet to identify the strength of the different magnets.

Today we had the Christmas concert rehearsal at the church where the children have been full of festive spirit and joy when singing the songs and reciting their poems. Going by the rehearsal I am certain that you will enjoy the show next Friday!

This morning we also had the first round of the spelling and maths bee and all the children did really well and have shown some great effort. However only 2 children can go through the finals taking place on Tuesday. The spelling bee finalists in Elgar are Maddie and Libby and the maths bee finalists are Georgie and Christopher. Well done to all the children and good luck to our finalists 😊



STAR WORK:

This week Kayan and Zai received the star certificates. Kayan for a fantastic Kenning poem and Zai for a making a great advent calendar.

WEEK 13:

ENGLISH and MATHS – We will be completing our end of term assessments

TOPIC – We will be comparing two European capital cities

Reminders:

Monday 10th December: Last Week of After school clubs. Choir will have their end of term performance for p 17th December at 4.15pm.

Christmas Bauble workshop: All children will be decorating their own bauble to hang on our Christmas tree in the hall on



Reminders:

Monday 10th December: Last Week of After school clubs. Choir will have their end of term performance for parents on Monday 17th December at 4.15pm.

Christmas Bauble workshop: All children will be decorating their own bauble to hang on our Christmas tree in the hall on Monday 10th December.

Tate Photo Workshop: The photographer will be coming on Tuesday 11th December to introduce the project to the children, take the class photograph and lead a drama activity based on “reading” a photo. Please ensure your child wears the correct uniform, including cardigan/jumper on that day. Any children who have not been given consent can take part in the activities but will not appear in the class photo to be used for the exhibition.

PTA Movie Night: The movie night is on Thursday 13th December at 3.30pm. Tickets to be purchased from the PTA or your class rep. After school clubs are taking place as usual on that day.

Year 2 and 3 Christmas Concert: The first Christmas concert is taking place on **Friday 14th December at 2pm at Holy Trinity Church**, opposite the Green. Parents are free to take their children home straight after the concert. Any children who are attending energy kids or an after school club will be taking back to school.
Best wishes

Miss Sara

Reception and Year 1 Production Tickets

Tickets have been sent home in your child’s book bag today. Please note that due to demand for tickets there are no spare tickets available for either dates.

News from the PTA

Tomorrow is the Christmas Fair! From 2pm -4pm we will have games, BBQ, bouncy castle, festive treats, crafts, gifts, the raffle and the TPA Tavern!

It is a cash only event and all money raised goes directly to purchase items or resources the school needs.

See you all there!

TPA PTA

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