



# GEMS Twickenham Primary Academy Newsletter

Principal: Mr. John Smith



## Autumn Term: Friday 7<sup>th</sup> 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 <sup>th</sup> December	The Christmas Fair from 2:00pm
Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> December	Final week for afterschool clubs
Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Bauble Workshop for Y1,2 and 3 – <a href="#">Date Change</a>
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> December	PTA movie night (Whole School)
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> December	Y2 and Y3 Carol Concert 2:00 pm – Holy Trinity Church
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	Reception and Y1 Christmas Performance 09:00 am
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	Reception and Y1 Christmas Performance 09:00 am
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> December	PTA £1 Christmas Jumper Day and School Christmas Lunch
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> 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**

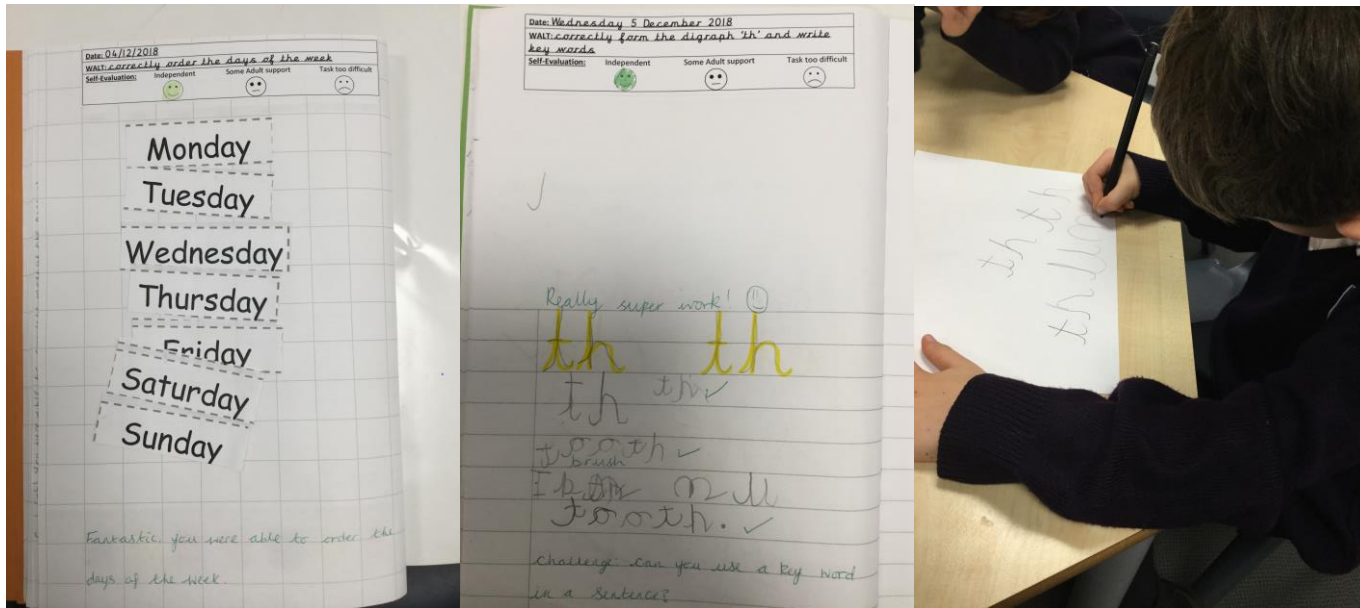
Dear Parents,

Throughout the week we have been focusing on Christmas and have been busy with play practise. The children did really well in their rehearsal and are looking forward to more rehearsals with all of Reception and year 1 next week!

During our literacy sessions the children have been making greater strides in writing and reading using their phonic knowledge. We have also been focusing on the digraph th, which is one of our trickier digraphs to pronounce.

In Maths the children have been completing activities with sand timers and stopwatches to understand and use the language associated with time. We also looked at the days of the week, seasons, months and years!

Our provision in the classroom has been themed around Christmas activities and crafting and the children have produced some wonderful creations during their play.



## Next Week:

Christmas Galore – Children will be having fun taking part in various Christmas activities including Christmas crafting and gingerbread making! We will also recap all of our learning from the previous half term during Maths and Literacy lessons, focusing on trickier concepts, sounds and digraphs

## Reminders:

- TPA Christmas fair: PTA's Christmas fair is on Saturday 8th December. We look forward to seeing you there!
- Please continue to practise doing up zips on coats with children
- Please practice Christmas lines if your child has a talking role during our play!
- If your child attends cookery club or computing, our last session of the term will be this Tuesday

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