



# GEMS Twickenham Primary Academy Newsletter

Principal: Mr. John Smith



## Autumn Term: Friday 30<sup>th</sup> November 2018

### Dear Parents,

I hope that you have had a wonderful week and that you are looking forward to the weekend ahead – I'm sure many of you will have started or will be starting your Christmas shopping, and I hope that it all goes well for you wherever you are this weekend.

I wanted to start by saying congratulations to our excellent choir, and Miss Petra, who sang at the Try Twickenham festival on Sunday for the Christmas lights switch on. The children sang with such enthusiasm and gusto, and we thoroughly enjoyed watching them. It was so enjoyable to see Twickenham Primary Academy coming together during a festive community event, and how excited the children were to be on stage. Hopefully, many of you managed to watch some of the performance on Twitter!

### Christmas Cards:

The postbox for Christmas cards will be located in the foyer from next week. Please ask your children to put their cards into the postbox in the morning, and then our Christmas post monitors will deliver the cards in the afternoon. Please remember to write the child's name and class on the envelope so that they receive their Christmas cards on time.

### Parent Drop off:

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> December is our parent drop off for Years 1, 2 and 3. Please arrive from 08:30 am and make your way to your child's classroom. The teachers will have the children's books out so that you can talk to your child about what they have learnt this term. I know that the children have enjoyed a very exciting and rich curriculum, and I am sure they will have lots to say. Hopefully we will see you all there!

### Website:

My apologies that the website is taking a little while longer than expected to launch. I am hoping to have this resolved within the next week – but I shall keep you updated about this.

### Christmas Fair:

It won't be long until our Christmas Fair (Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> December from 2:00pm). One of the stalls will also be a book fair from which you will be able to buy a selection of books. Please do come along and buy some books for Christmas; for every £100 the school sells in books it will receive £40 in commission to purchase new books for the school.

### Varsity:

Just a reminder, that we are closing at 1:15pm on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> December for the varsity match. There will be no after school clubs or provision this day.

### Christmas Tree:

We look forward to the arrival of our Christmas tree next week! This year the children will be attending a workshop in which they make their own Christmas bauble. They will then put these baubles on the Christmas tree in the school hall. At the end of term, we will send these home for the children to keep.

### House Points:

House	Points Collected
Parks	1927
Gandhi	2193
Pankhurst	2017
Shackleton	1853

### 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	94.5%
Year 1	97.4%
Year 2	97.8%
Year 3	96.6%
Whole School	96.5%

### Key Dates

Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> December	Flu immunisation for the whole school
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> December	Parent Dropoff from 08:30 am – Y1, 2 and 3
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> December	Varsity: School closed at 1:15pm – error on 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
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> December	PTA movie night (Year 3)

### Twitter:

Please follow us on [@GemsTwickenham](https://twitter.com/GemsTwickenham) for all the latest news and updates.

**Principal's Question:** For **3 bonus** house points on Monday, please answer the question 'Why will we be opening our advent calendars next week?'

- Please hand your answers to your classroom teacher

Have a lovely weekend,

Mr John Smith

Principal

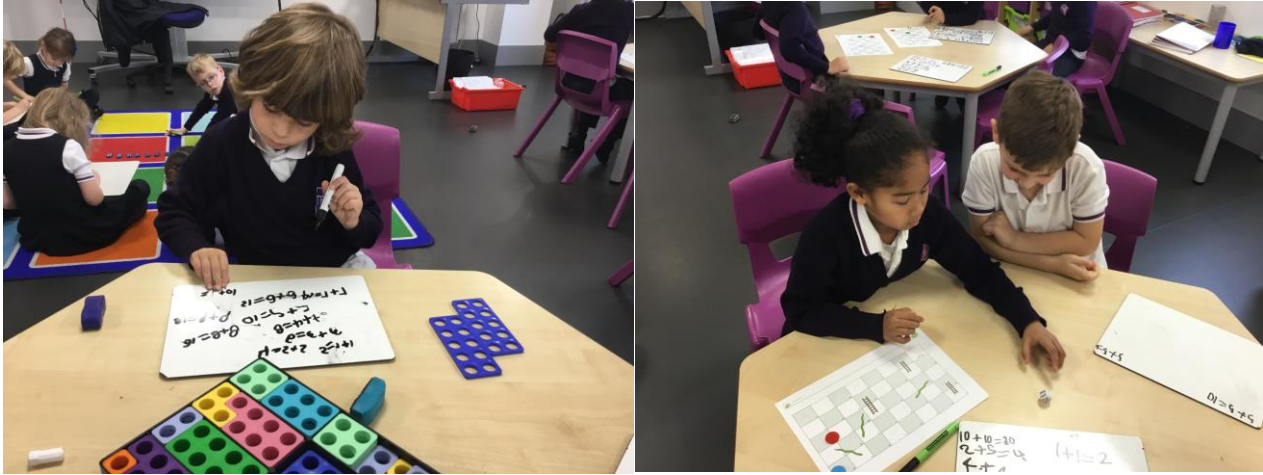


Friday 30th November 2018

Dear Parents,

This week we have been busy practising for the Christmas play. We have been practicing with the other Year 1 class and the children have been showing off their dancing, singing and speaking skills.

Our Maths lessons were full of addition and subtraction activities and games. The children have shown greater understanding when completing word problems and can now confidently read, write and understand statements using +, - and = signs.



In English, we have been working hard on our writing skills with weekend news and the Big Write inspired by Van Gogh's Starry Night Painting. We also looked more at asking and answering questions, the use of question marks and name and write question words. The children completed a reading comprehension, and most could answer and write all the related questions unaided.

WEEK 12:

ENGLISH and PHONICS – We will be focusing on Composition and continue to work on Grammar and Punctuation. In our Phonics sessions, we will continue to work on recognising, naming and using Phase 5 sounds as well as reading and writing tricky words.

MATHS – We will be focusing on Place Value and Problem Solving.

TOPIC – In art we will be creating a Van Gogh Sunflower creation using paint, collage materials and sunflower seeds. In Science we will continue to look at suitable materials for different use.

**Reminders:**

-There is a Year 1 drop of morning on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> December where you can come into the classroom and look at the work on displays. This happens between 8.30-9.00am.

Best Wishes,

Miss Rebecca

## News from the School Office

Tickets for the Reception and Year 1 production will be sent home in book bags next Wednesday. Reception and Year 1 parents that have yet to request tickets please use the link below – thank you.

### [Reception & Year 1 Christmas Performance](#)

Please find attached information on the council's consultation for 20MPH on the street where you live – for your information.

## News from the PTA

Only a week to go until the Christmas Fair 🎄

Thank you to everyone so far who has volunteered to help at the fair. We really couldn't do it without the support of the school community. We are still looking for helpers so do let your rep know if you can help.

Thank you for all the Christmas Tree orders. We will have raised over £200 from sales so that is amazing! For those that still need to pay, please leave payment with the school office or see Dani Meredith (Finn in Glennie and Freya in Turner mum) who can answer any queries.

Thank you for all the generous donations to the tombola.

We are still looking for TPA Teddy 🧸 donations and any 2nd hand toys, if you are doing a pre-Christmas clear out please send items our way.

We have some completely brilliant raffle prizes including:

A One month VIP voucher to Plan B fitness worth £150 A Bike Academy course from Birdie Bikes Beauty treatments and haircuts A hamper from The Meat Room And bike rental for a year from Bike Xchange! Plus many, many more donations from local businesses.

The year 3 classes wrote beautiful letters asking for prizes and it's been lovely to see how much support the local business community were willing to show our school.

Many Thanks  
TPA PTA

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