



GEMS Twickenham Primary Academy Newsletter

Principal: Mr. John Smith



Autumn Term: Friday 12th October 2018

Dear Parents,

I hope that you have had a wonderful week, and are looking forward to the weekend ahead. The learning at Twickenham Primary Academy continues to be exciting and engaging - this week I joined Year 1 on their visit to Whipsnade Zoo. The children thoroughly enjoyed the visit, learnt lots of new information about endangered species, and even got the chance to stroke a Corn Snake! Hopefully, you managed to watch some of our videos of the visit on twitter.

Next week, is the last week of term, and please do remember that Friday 19th October is our House Day therefore the children need to wear their house t - shirts. These can be purchased from Stevensons if you haven't had chance to buy these already. If you're unsure of your child's house, please see Mr Charles in the school office.

Local Academy Board

We extended the period of application until Friday 12th October. Voting will therefore commence between Monday 15th October and Wednesday 17th October; there will be voting slips located in the school foyer. Thank you very much to those parents who have already nominated themselves. I am very much looking forward to welcoming new members to the Local Academy Board

Children's Birthdays

At Twickenham Primary Academy, we do not accept cakes or sweets to be given out during the school day for children's birthdays. However, we actively support the PTA's initiative in donating a reading book to the school on your child's birthday (Non fiction if possible). If you wish to do so, please hand a donated book into the school office, a label with your child's name will then be inserted, and this book will be placed in the library. We have found in the past that the pupils are very proud and enjoy seeing their donated book in the school library

Website:

I have some exciting news - the school website is due to have an overhaul within the next couple of months, and the school will also be developing its own app to support school / parent communication. I am currently in the process of having the website developed, and will update you when the app and the website is ready. My current estimate is that this will all be complete by the end of November.

Parents Evening:

We look forward to welcoming you to parents evening on the 30th October and 1st November. Please ensure that you do hand in your booking form to Mr Charles if you haven't already. Your confirmed appointment will be emailed to you.

House Points:

House	Points Collected
Parks	901
Gandhi	1015
Pankhurst	1103
Shackleton	840

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	98%
Year 1	98.7%
Year 2	98.4%
Year 3	98.4%
Whole School	98.4%

Key Dates

Thursday 11 th October	PTA movie night – Year 1 and 2
Tuesday 16 th October	World Food Day
Friday 19 th October	House Day (House T shirts to be worn)
Friday 19 th October	PTA Bake Sale from 3:30pm
Friday 19 th October	End of term 1 – usual time

Twitter:

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

Parent Pay:

Parent Pay seems to be working well for most parents. If you do have any issues around payment or allocation, please do see Miss Karen who will assist you with this.

Principal's Question: For a house point on Monday, Please write the answer to 'Why are we celebrating Black History Month?'

- Please hand your answers to your classroom teacher

Have a lovely weekend,

Mr John Smith

Principal



Glennie Class: Week 5

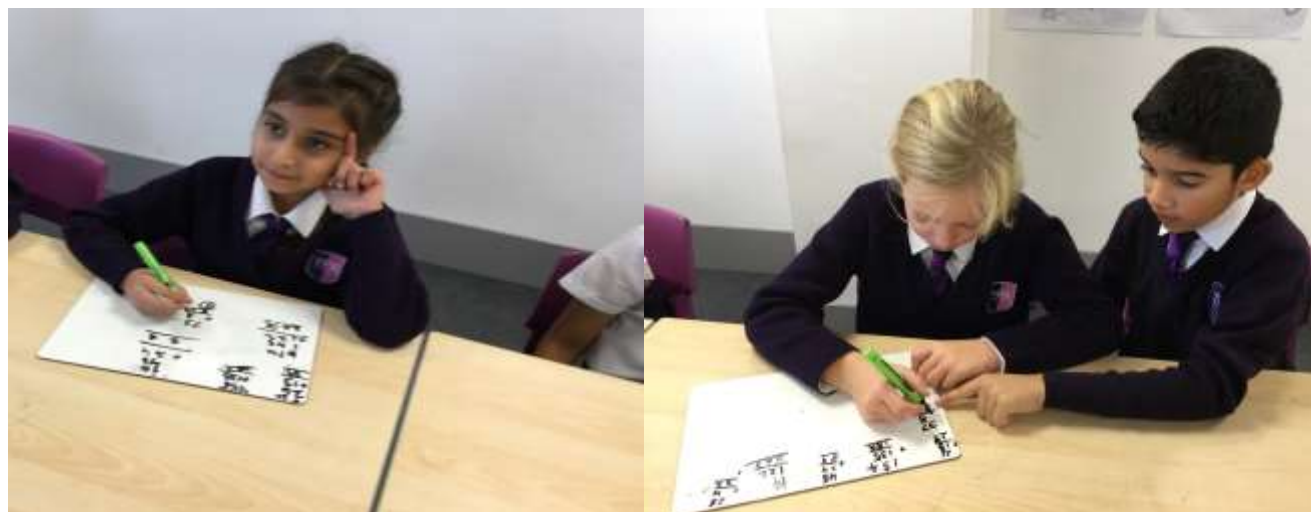
This week we have been enjoying an outside science lesson to find out how rocks change over time. Children worked in pairs to identify any changes in the rocks due to wear and tear as well as weathering. They used microscopes and magnifying glasses to see any marks and discolouring more clearly.



Our English lessons continued to be based on the text unit. The children showed great use of similes and have been introduced to metaphors when describing the sea creatures movement in the text. We also worked in small groups to create freeze frames about the different time period scenes in the book. Some great cooperation lead to very good frames. The children also showed some good story telling skills when writing about a pebble flowing down the river using descriptive language and some children using personification in their writing.



In Maths we continued to focus on addition and subtraction, in particular the column method exchanging and carrying over, as needed. The children have shown good understanding about the steps needed to work out the different sums and worked well with their partners when practicing their skills.



Our topic lesson was about the different theories on how dinosaurs became extinct. We discussed the different theories and then the children chose one of the theories to create an information poster justifying their reason for believing in that theory.

In Computing we have started our coding unit and explored the kodable website where they had to program different fuzzy characters to move around mazes to collect stars. The children have shown great enthusiasm when unlocking new characters and reaching the next level.



Miss Sara and I have been busy the last few days displaying your childrens` work – see photos below.





STAR WORK:

This week Lorenzo and Saif received the star certificates. Lorenzo showed great effort and skills using the column method when adding and subtracting and Saif wrote some creative similes and metaphors about the movement of sea creatures.

WEEK 6:

ENGLISH – We will be finishing the text unit with a focus on story writing. In SPAG we will be introducing more prefixes.

MATHS – We will finish our Addition and Subtraction work.

TOPIC – We will be focusing on how life on earth began and what happened after the dinosaurs became extinct.

SCIENCE – We will be finishing our rocks topic learning about the 3 types of rocks (igneous, sedimentary, metamorphic).

Reminders:

School trip: We will be visiting the Natural History museum on Wednesday 17th October – please ensure your child brings lunch in a disposable bag and a drink. Children must wear their school uniform.

Battersea Cats and Dogs Home House day: Last year the School Hub ambassadors chose Battersea Cats and Dogs home as one of the national charities they would like to support. On Friday 19th October we will be raising funds for the home and therefore ask children to bring £1. We will be learning more about what the charity does to help cats and dogs and take part in different activities related to this. Children to wear their house t-shirt.

Junk material: We are working on dinosaur sculptures and are in need of junk materials such as cardboard boxes, milk bottles, egg boxes, newspaper, paper rolls..... If you have anything at home please bring it into school next week. We appreciate your help with this.

News from the Office:

School Uniform

Please ensure that all your child's uniform and items are clearly named, we have had lots of items being mislaid lately and we would appreciate it if you could check that your child has brought home their own uniform as sometime items do get mixed up when the children are changing for PE etc.

Year 3 School Trip – Natural History Museum

Parents, please ensure you have returned the consent form for your child to attend this trip to Mr Charles by Tuesday 16th October and payment has been made on ParentPay – Thank you.

PTA – Bake Sale

Calling all bakers! 1/2 term is almost upon us and that means it's bake sale time! The sale will run from 3.30 - 4pm on Friday 19th October. We would love donations of any homemade treats, the spookier the better since Halloween is approaching. Just remember no nuts, Nutella or coconut.

Please leave donations in the school office on the morning of the sale. Remember all funds raised go directly to our school. Thank you TPA-PTA.



Best wishes,

Miss Petra

'Inspiring Education and Achievement for Life'