



# GEMS Twickenham Primary Academy Newsletter

Principal: Mr. John Smith



## Autumn Term: Friday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2018

**Dear Parents,**

I hope that you have had a wonderful week – I cannot believe we are already in October, and it will soon be our annual Halloween dress up; a very exciting part of the school year!

Another brilliant week at Twickenham Primary Academy with our Year 1 pupils enjoying their Mini Beast workshops, and our Year 2 pupils taking part in the Great Fire of London experience. The pupils were thoroughly engaged throughout, and gained a much deeper knowledge and understanding of their topic; I'm sure they will be very excited to talk about these workshops at home, and what they learnt.

Next week, Year 1 are off to Whipsnade Zoo to extend their learning even further which I am sure they will very much enjoy.

### **Parents Evening:**

Parents evening is taking place the first week back after half term. Next Monday, you will receive your booking form. Please hand these into Mr Charles, and he will confirm by email your fifteen minute slot.

Booking will commence as follows. From:

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> October: Reception parents and older siblings

Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup>: Year 1 parents and older siblings

Thursday 11<sup>th</sup>: Year 2 parents and older siblings

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> Year 3 parents

Your allotted time will then also be displayed in the foyer for you to view.

### **LAB:**

The letters for the Local Academy Board have gone out. If you would like to nominate yourself to become a member, please hand form 1 and form 2 back to Mr Charles in the school office by Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> October. Voting will take place from Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> October.

### **Lost Property:**

The lost property box is filling up. Please do check the box if your child has lost any part of their school uniform. Please ensure every item is clearly labelled especially if you have purchased an Item of clothing from the PTA uniform sale, and it has the previous child's name in it; this often results in some confusion. Lily in Year 2 had lost her cardigan if anybody has it – it is named.

### House Points:

House	Points Collected
Parks	655
Gandhi	753
Pankhurst	619
Shackleton	630

### 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	99%
Year 2	97.3%
Year 3	98.7%
Whole School	98.2%

### Key Dates

Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> October	From 08:30 am – Y1, 2 and 3 parent drop off
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> October	Year 1 to Whipsnade Zoo
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> October	PTA movie night – Year 1 and 2
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> October	World Food Day
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> October	House Day (House T shirts to be worn)
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> October	PTA Bake Sale from 3:30pm
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> October	End of term 1 – usual time

### Year 1 and 2 Football:

Mr Wojciech had requested that the children in Year 1 and 2 do not wear football socks as they are currently finding it difficult to change out of these at the end of the session.

### Twitter:

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

### Jewellery:

Please can I ask that you do not send your children in wearing jewellery unless it is studded earrings. Necklaces in particular can be very dangerous whilst we are teaching Physical Education.

**Principal's Question:** For a house point on Monday, Please write the answer to 'What seasonal changes take place in Autumn?'

- Please hand your answers to your classroom teacher

Have a lovely weekend,

Mr John Smith

**Principal**

Year 2 Hawking Weekly News

Autumn Term 2017 - Week 6

Friday 13th October 2017

Dear Parents,

On Tuesday the children had an amazing day learning about the Great Plague and the Great Fire of London in the Tales of Fire workshop. It has been an educational, fun and interactive experience for all and the children were enthusiastic and engaged throughout the sessions. The children have shown off their impressive drama and acting skills as well as their previously attained knowledge of these important historical events.

In our English lessons we introduced children have been learning about command and exclamation sentences They also wrote a recount of the workshop with some great detail.

Our Maths lessons were all about subtraction and I must say they all showed real skills when completed the different tasks. Children worked hard subtracting two digits and single digit numbers using a 100 square and partitioning skills.

In our Topic lesson we looked at how the fire equipment and fire service has changed since 1666. They were sorting it accordingly and named the different equipment. In Science children enjoyed learning about waterproof material and loved the wax crayon and paper experiment.

#### STAR WORK:

This week Hope has been chosen for star work for her fantastic effort in maths and reading. The superstar award in assembly this week went to Victor.

#### WEEK 7:

ENGLISH and PHONICS – We will focus on using sentence rules and continue to work on adverbs. In Phonics we will work on writing longer words using phonics correctly.

MATHS – We will continue to focus on Subtraction.

TOPIC – We will start our last historical event, the Gunpowder Plot and finish our building from 1666 in Art and Design.

#### Reminders:

- Homework: Some parents feel that too much homework has been given the past few weeks. Like in Year 1 we have an English, Maths and Spelling task. It has been more the past few weeks as we also added handwriting which no longer will attached as we have completed all the cursive letters in the alphabet. Homework is an extension of anything we have covered throughout the week and children are given tasks based on their understanding and knowledge shown in class. However if your child does find a task difficult to complete please do not struggle through it but write a note informing the class teacher. This way we know if any children need extra help or booster lessons on specific concepts. Please note, while we recommend children to complete the homework, it is optional.

- Curriculum and Expectations: I just wanted to clarify that we have not changed our expectations or curriculum in any way this year. As stated in our curriculum policy we still follow the National Curriculum and do not expect more of children this year than any other year. However, Reception, Year 2, Year 4 and Year 5/6 are generally seen as the most difficult years as many new concepts are being introduced, especially in autumn term. As a school we want children to try their best and be able to reach their potential which I am sure is what you want for your child. If you have any questions or queries about the curriculum please do come and see Miss Petra.

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