



GEMS Twickenham Primary Academy Newsletter

Principal: Mr. John Smith



Autumn Term: Friday 28th September 2018

Dear Parents,

I hope that you have had a wonderful week, and are enjoying the Autumnal change in weather that we are now experiencing - I know that many of you have taken your children to the Circus this week, and I hope the children have thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

This week, the children have been busy at Twickenham Primary Academy in lessons as usual, and I have had the opportunity to observe lots of learning to capture how our children are progressing so far this academic year. I was so pleased to see how hard our children in year one have been working on understanding how to partition 10s and 1s, how are reception pupils are progressing in phonics as they begin to develop their early reading skills and I have also seen the fantastic Science achievements that our year twos and threes have made so far.

I also know how much our year two children enjoyed their scooter training this week which I'm sure will support our children in staying safe as they ride their scooters to and from school particularly during the winter months.

School Development Plan:

Each year, a school sets itself targets to ensure that it continues to thrive and progress year on year. After our recent Outstanding Ofsted report, and through our own thorough self evaluation of the school, our main targets for achievement for this year are:

- To continue to build upon the excellent academic achievements so far ensuring that outcomes for pupils in KS2 remain as good as outcomes for KS1
- To continue to develop the leadership and management within the school - developing a secure middle leadership team
- To develop the teaching of Science, and ensure that the teaching and learning in the foundation subjects is a good as that of the core subjects
- Continuing to ensure consistency in outcomes of learning across the school
- To maintain the excellent outcomes in Early Years and KS1

The above is a summary of targets. The full list of targets can be found outside my office on the School Development Plan display if you wish to take a look, or please do discuss with myself if you require any further information.

LAB Parent Governor:

Next week, I will begin the recruitment for up to two new local parent governors - a full information pack will be sent home with your child which will explain the role in detail as well as the information around how to nominate yourself. I warmly welcome all applications off all parents across the school.

House Points:

House	Points Collected
Parks	474
Gandhi	538
Pankhurst	472
Shackleton	439

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	98.8%
Year 2	98.2%
Year 3	98.6%
Whole School	98.5%

Key Dates

Wednesday 3 rd October	Black History Month begins
Thursday 4 th October	Great Fire of London Workshop – Year 2 Mini beasts Workshop – Year 1
Friday 5 th October	From 08:30 am – Y1, 2 and 3 parent drop off
Tuesday 9 th October	Year 1 to Whipsnade Zoo
Thursday 11 th October	PTA movie night – Year 1 and 2

Jeans for Genes:

We raised a fantastic £170. Thank you for all your contributions!

Individual Photos:

Individual photos will be taken on Monday. Please ensure your child is wearing the correct school uniform including hair bands, ribbons and bows. We will arrange for siblings to have their photos together.

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 send in a list of rules about how we can stay safe when we are using the internet

- Please hand your answers to your classroom teacher

Have a lovely weekend,

Mr John Smith

Principal

Elgar Class: Week 3

This week we have been making a class dinosaur time line to show which dinosaurs evolved during which period. The children were asked to draw a dinosaur, write facts and add them in the correct place on the time line.

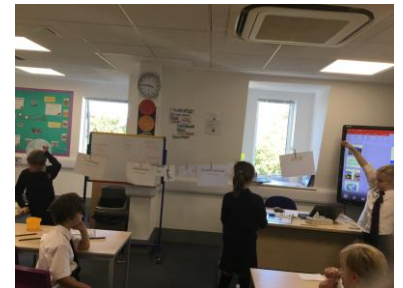
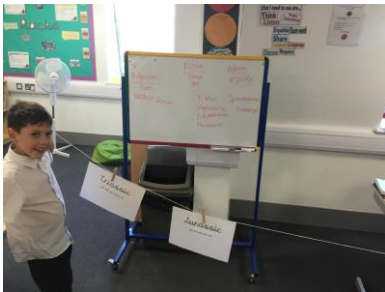
Our English lessons were all about using parts of speech in different genres of writing. Children planned and wrote some impressive dinosaur poems using alliteration, rhyme and similes. They used nouns, verbs and adjectives when writing letters to T-Rex. Today we worked more on spelling words ending with "sure" and "ture".

In Maths we have been focusing on 10 more/less and 100 more/less than any 3 and 4 digit numbers and extending our place value reasoning skills. We also looked more at representing and estimating numbers on number lines to 100 and 1000. Children worked in pairs and small groups to enhance their understanding of estimation and other related skills.

In PE we had our first school swimming lesson which went really well.

In Art we used our drawing, cutting and collaging skills to create a collage of a dinosaur.

Our Science lesson was all about finding out which rocks would be suitable for a statue by testing and comparing the hardness of them. Children used different tools including nails and coins for the "scratch test" to determine which rocks withstand impact.



STAR WORK:

This week George and Lily received the star work certificates. George worked really well in maths and produced beautifully presented work. Lily tried really hard in our swimming lesson this week.

WEEK 4:

ENGLISH – We will begin our text based unit 'Pebble in my Pocket'.

MATHS – We will focus on Addition and Subtraction.

TOPIC – We will be learning about Mary Anning's life and work.

SCIENCE – We will be finding out if all rocks are waterproof.

Reminders:

Homework: Please ensure that all homework books, including the small red book, is returned by Thursday, so we can set the new homework for the following week. We have attached the purple mash log in information card for your child to complete any homework set online. Homework continues to be optional however we do encourage children to complete it as it does help with their learning.

School trip: We will be visiting the Natural History museum on Wednesday 17th October and are looking for 4 parents who would be willing to help on the trip. Please email Miss Petra p.gollob@gemstwickenhamprimary.co.uk if you would like to be a trip helper.

Kind regards,

Miss Sara



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