



# GEMS Twickenham Primary Academy Newsletter

Principal: Mr. John Smith



## Autumn Term: Friday 28<sup>th</sup> 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 <sup>rd</sup> October	Black History Month begins
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> October	Great Fire of London Workshop – Year 2 Mini beasts Workshop – Year 1
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

### 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**

Friday 28<sup>th</sup> September 2018

Dear Parents,

The children have had their first Big Write in English this week using an image based on our topic “Nocturnal animals” and we learned how to write a fact file. We also introduced the children to Coco`s friend Freddy the Full Stop man and have been working hard on using capital letters and full stops in sentences correctly.

In our Maths lessons we were learning all about place value. We particularly looked at tens and ones and some children even worked with hundreds. They worked out how many tens and ones are in different 2 digit numbers as well as how we can partition numbers and write addition sentences matching the number.



Our main Topic focus was Owls and Nocturnal animals. The children were learning about different owls in Britain and other countries and how the different habitats vary. In Art & Design the children started to make their very own owl using oil pastels to show the feathers and wings.

Our Science lesson this week was particularly exciting for the children. We were exploring the question, 'do fish have fingers?'. In order for the children to explore this question we brought in lots of different types of dead fish and kept them on ice trays. The children explored what the fishes skin felt like, what shapes and sizes the fins and tails were and were able to talk about the similarities and differences between them. This lesson was very smelly but very exciting for the children.



**WEEK 4:**

ENGLISH and PHONICS – We will be focusing on Poetry. In our Phonics sessions we will be revising phase 3 digraphs and trigraphs.

MATHS – We will focus on Addition.

TOPIC – We will focus on Pandas from China.

Kind Regards,

Miss Natalie

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