



# GEMS Twickenham Primary Academy Newsletter

Principal: Mr. John Smith



## Autumn Term: Friday 21<sup>st</sup> September 2018

### Dear Parents,

I hope that you have had a wonderful week, and that you are looking forward to the weekend ahead. This week has been both busy and exciting at Twickenham Primary Academy with lots of fantastic learning going on; I know that year two have been thoroughly enjoying learning about the Great Fire of London, and year three have started their wider opportunities music lessons for this term. The children have also begun their afterschool clubs, and it is lovely to see how much they are already enjoying them.

The school celebrated its annual Jeans for Genes today, and thank you again for all your kind donations. Jeans for Genes is a fantastic charity supporting many children across the United Kingdom who have been born with a range of genetic medical conditions, and your support has been most welcomed

### Children's absence:

A couple of parents have asked about what to do if a child is ill and they need to be absent from school. Hopefully, the below will be helpful to you all:

If your child is going to be absent, you need to ring the school office by 08:00 am to report this to Mr Charles. If your child is going to be absent for more than one day, you will need to ring us at the beginning of each day to report this absence and give an update of the condition – unless this a prolonged absence which the school is aware of. Our school website has an infection control policy which will inform you if / and how long your child should be off school for a range of illnesses and medical conditions. As a rule of thumb, it is 48 hours away from school for sickness and diarrhoea.

- If your child's attendance has fallen below 90% then the school will stop authorising any absences that do not have medical evidence e.g. a doctor's note.
- If your child is going to have a medical appointment then you need to inform the school office, and provide them with the appointment letter.

### Headlice:

We haven't had any reported cases of head lice yet. However, please do check through your child's hair over the weekend. We do ask the pupils with long hair to wear it up as a preventative measure. The school office does have head lice prevention treatment in stock; if you would like any of this treatment to treat your child's head, please see Miss Karen.

### Lost Property:

The Lost property box is beginning to fill up – please do check through to see if any of the items belong to your children. We do ask that you clearly label all uniform.

### House Points:

House	Points Collected
Parks	236
Gandhi	260
Pankhurst	273
Shackleton	248

### 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 schools register.

Year Group	Target (96%)
Reception	95%
Year 1	96.8%
Year 2	93.4%
Year 3	98.5%
Whole School	96%

### Key Dates

Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> September	Year 2 Scooter Training
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

### PTA:

The PTA now has an email address. It is [pta@gemstwickenhamprimary.co.uk](mailto:pta@gemstwickenhamprimary.co.uk) if you wish to get in touch.

### Twitter:

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

### Sibling Club:

Just a reminder, sibling club is for Reception pupils only. All pupils who are not siblings must be collected at 3:30pm.

### Football Cards:

Please can I ask that you do not send your children in with the football playing cards. Thank you.

### Principal's Question:

For a house point on Monday, please send in a written answer to the question to 'Why did we wear our jeans on Friday?'

- Please hand your answers to your classroom teacher

Mr John Smith

**Principal**

## Elgar Class: Week 2

Another busy week has come to an end with the annual Jeans for Genes day. Children have been writing newspaper reports, leaflets or made posters about when and why we have Jeans for Genes day and how we can help this wonderful charity.

On Monday we had our first Wider Opportunities vocal class with Miss Mel. She was working on the correct posture and breathing when singing as well as using Katy Perry's Firework song to get children singing in unison. Her voice and guitar playing skills are impressive and the class clearly enjoyed themselves.

In English we have been focusing on punctuation and using conjunctions to join clauses for compound sentences. Most of our writing was linked to the dinosaur topic and children linked facts about the different dinosaurs. Our grammar lesson and weekend news writing was all about accurately using punctuation such as capital letters and punctuation marks. Our first week of daily guided reading sessions went really well – children completed comprehension writing tasks, book reports and finding different types of sentences and parts of speech in their text.

In Maths we continued to work on place value and partitioning from last week. We used Base 10 and counters to represent different numbers and worked on counting and comparing numbers within 100/1000. Children have shown progress in their partitioning skills and are gaining greater confidence with reasoning and problem solving tasks.

Our Science lesson was about naming, describing and sorting the different rocks using a branching flow chart with questions as a key. All of them clearly relish the opportunity to get their hands on the different samples of rocks and are using good related terminology when describing them.

In Art and DT we painted our plaster of paris fossils which turned out even better than I expected. Our topic lesson was about answering questions and solving problems linked to the world of dinosaurs.



### STAR WORK:

This week the Star Certificates have gone to Noa for his work on compound sentences in English, Ryan for his work on using different representation of numbers in Maths and Paloma for trying hard with her accent in Spanish.

### WEEK 3:

ENGLISH – We will be focusing on using parts of speech in different genres of writing.

MATHS – We will continue to focus on Number and Place Value.

TOPIC – We will be producing a dinosaur timeline.

SCIENCE – We will be carrying out fair tests to determine and compare the hardness of rocks.

Best wishes,

Miss Sara



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