



GEMS Twickenham Primary Academy Newsletter

Principal: Mr. John Smith



Autumn Term: Friday 21st 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 th September	Year 2 Scooter Training
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

PTA:

The PTA now has an email address. It is 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

Year 1 Dahl Weekly News

Autumn Term 2018 - Week 2

Friday 21st September 2018

Dear Parents,

Another busy week with lots of different activities and new learning experiences. The children have shown greater confidence coming up to the classroom independently. However, a few children are still being escorted by their parents and we would like to kindly ask you to encourage them to go upstairs on their own from next week. It is an important aspect of transition and enhances their independence and confidence.

Our focus in Maths was reading and writing numbers in numerals and words to 20 and recognition and formation of numbers to 100. The children enjoyed the partner games and have shown good number sense when working with numbers to 100. They can read number words with increasing confidence and we will continue to work on this.



In English we have been writing lists and captions and using adjectives. They have written lists of what they can see in the classroom in pairs and writing captions to Roald Dahl's Enormous Crocodile story pictures. We also introduced them to Coco, the Capital Fellow in our grammar and punctuation lesson and worked more on previous covered digraphs and trigraphs in our phonics sessions.

This week we have been learning about another African animal, the Nile crocodile. The children loved looking at the different pictures and wrote some fantastic facts about the crocodiles and their habitat in our topic lessons. We continued our theme of extraordinary animals in science and had a closer look at amphibians and reptiles. Our focus question for the lesson was – Are all animals bodies the same? The children used play dough to create a model of their chosen amphibian or reptile.



Today we celebrated Jeans for Genes day. The children learnt a little about why we do this and how we can help. Here the children are showing off their own designs of a pair of Jeans.



WEEK 3:

ENGLISH and PHONICS – We will be working on writing fact-files and have our first Big Write. In our Phonics sessions we will be continuing to revise Phase 3 digraphs and trigraphs.

MATHS – We will focus on Place Value, introducing them to tens and units.

TOPIC – We will focus on Owls from Europe and find out more about Nocturnal animals.

Reminders:

- **Homework and Spelling:** Children have their homework folder including their spelling lists in their book bags today. Please complete by Thursday. The spelling challenge is every Thursday morning – it is important for your child to practice the words as often as possible.

Kind regards

Miss Rebecca



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