



Gaddesden Row JMI School

Newsletter 31st January - 2025



Good afternoon, friends, and families,

I hope this newsletter finds you well. I cannot quite believe that we've finally made it to the end of January! It is always a long month and one which seems to have been very dark and gloomy. However, lighter evenings, and slightly longer days are in sight now.

Safer Internet Day

Next week we will be organising an engaging and beneficial enrichment day on Tuesday.

Staying safe online is an integral part of our school curriculum and we remind the children how imperative it is to stay safe when using the Internet. Safer Internet Day is the UK's biggest celebration of online safety.

Each year an online issue or theme that speaks about the things young people are experiencing online is explored. The theme for this year is **'Too good to be true? Protecting yourself and others from scams online.'**



Non-Uniform Day for Children's Mental Health Week

As part of our Children's Mental Health Week, we will be having a non-uniform day on Friday 7th February. Children can wear anything they wish that help makes them feel good.

Children will need to either wear trainers or bring trainers with them to school for their PE lesson.

Our School Values – Aspiration

We are continuing to recognise children showing behaviours linked to our chosen value of **Aspiration** this week. We have seen examples of; children setting themselves the challenge to complete the harder level of work, aspiring to make the future generations succeed by providing valuable advice and and aspiring to overcome a fear by facing it. Well done on your aspirational acts!



Attendance

Class Rock 'N' Roll	Class Pop	Class Disco
93%	94%	95%

Attendance Matters



No money this week unfortunately.

Stars of the Week



Class Rock 'N' Roll: Harry
Class Pop: Aiysha
Class Disco: Bella



Curriculum News

Class Rock 'N' Roll

In English, the children have begun their new learning sequence based on 'Traction Man.' The children have been getting to know the story events and characters. **To help with their understanding, the children used action figures and small world items such as the farm animals to act out what has already happened and then explore what could happen next.** They went on to write descriptions about the main events in the story and the main character – Traction Man.

In maths, the children in Reception finished their learning on 'Growing 6, 7 and 8'. Children had to recognise a number by grouping it into small sets. They would say the whole number first and then the two parts or more that they say, **for example, "I can see 8. There are 4 here and 4 there. There are 8 altogether."** The Children then moved onto learning onto the new topic 'Length, Height and Time'. They began by exploring objects and beginning to use the language of length to describe them. The children in Year 1 continued their learning about Place Value within 50 and to build upon their understanding of 2-digit numbers being formed by **counting the number of groups of ten for the first digit and the ones left over as the second digit.** They then moved onto exploring partitioning using a part-whole model.

In geography, the children have continued their learning on 'Life in the City'. They recapped their learning on physical features found in Edinburgh and Cape Town before moving on to explore the human features in each city. They identified what a human feature of a city is and which human features would be found in each city. **Children were able to explain the differences between human and physical features and how human features are developed according to the physical environment.**

Class Pop

In English, the children have started to explore the genre of letter writing. **They began by talking about what letters are and what they are used for.** They began by exploring different letters and trying to work out who the letters are from before exploring the features of informal letters and comparing them to formal letters.

In maths, the children in Year 2 have continued their work on multiplication and division by exploring odd and even numbers. **Children can recognise that an even number can be halved to give a whole number answer, as it is divisible by 2 but an odd number cannot.** They then went on to practice the 10 times tables and dividing by 10. They used their understanding of multiplication to count forwards and backwards in 10s. Children explored the 10-times table through a range of representations and drew an image that matches a number sentence. They experienced a range of grouping and sharing activities, and explored and multiplying and dividing by 10 are linked. The children in Year 3 have built on their knowledge of the 4 times-table to multiply by 8. They used concrete manipulatives and pictorial representations to explain the link between counting in 8s and multiplying by 8. They then moved onto exploring dividing by 8 through sharing into 8 equal groups and grouping into 8s. **Children identified whether the question involves sharing or grouping and used appropriate concrete manipulatives or pictorial representations to support their understanding.** Finally, children drew together their knowledge of multiplying and dividing by 8 in order to deepen their understanding of the 8 times-table.

In history, the children have been looking at space exploration and how this has informed new technology. **Children can name and describe some of the technology we have today because of space exploration such as insulation, batteries and insulin pumps.**

Class Disco

In English, the children continue to explore 'How to Train Your Dragon'. This week, children have explored how posters present information to appeal to readers and created their own advertising 'The Young Heroes final Initiation Test.' **They explored a specific event in the story - the failed initiation test - to create an argument for who was to blame.** Finally, children worked on expanding their vocabulary by exploring alternative words to 'big' that are used in the text to describe the dragons and then used them in their own writing.

In maths this week, the children in Year 6 have moved on to learning about algebra. Children began by exploring function machines. They have learned the meanings of the terms "input", "output", "function" and "rule" and why it is important that you follow the order of the functions: **for example, the output of $\times 5$ then $+ 3$ will be different from $+ 3$ then $\times 5$.** The children in Year 5 explored making decisions regarding the most effective methods to use when solving problems. They used their knowledge to identify which operation is needed to answer a particular problem, and then to solve the problem using an appropriate method. **Children also developed their understanding of the remainder when performing a division in context.** The children in Year 4 continue to develop their understanding of multiplication by using the short multiplication method to multiply a 3-digit number by a 1-digit number. Children went on to use their division facts to build on their knowledge of dividing a 2-digit number by a 1-digit number. **Children carried out divisions where the number divided without any remainders, for example $96 \div 3$. They then moved on to calculations with remainders, for example $96 \div 5$.**

In Spanish, the children and Miss Smith enjoyed exploring Madrid and finding out all the places we could go and visit. We then created a leaflet to tell others of the places they could visit including: **el Museo del Prado, el Estadio Santiago Bernabeu and El Palacio Real.**

Team Points for the end of this week are:

299



341



301



Golden Book

Well done to **Rylee** for completing her work so efficiently. Well done to **Joy** for her super spellings. Well done to **Tommy, Louie and Leyton** for their excellent understanding of finding half of an amount. Well done to **Leo** for his work on the 8 times tables and excellent pictorial representations. Well done to **Tommy, Denny, Natty and Rylee** for their super understanding of odd and even numbers. Well done to **Aiysha** for her fantastic work on the 10 times tables. Well done to **Denny and Aiysha** for their independent work on dividing by 10 and for using their initiative to support a friend who was struggling. Well done to **Annie and Evie** for their thoughtful, valuable goals to pass onto the next generation.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend and see you all next week.

Miss Smith

Generosity **A**spiration **D**iscovery **R**esponsibility **O**pen-mindedness **W**elcoming

At Gaddesden Row JMI School, we are fully committed to the safeguarding of pupils and take E-Safety very seriously. With the support of parents, we pro-actively teach our pupils how to keep themselves safe, including online.