



# Gaddesden Row JMI School

## Newsletter 2<sup>nd</sup> February - 2024



Good afternoon, friends, and families,

January – the longest month of the year – has ended and February is here! I cannot quite believe where this school year is going and that we only have two weeks remaining until half term.

### Team Ruby



The children in **Team Ruby** enjoyed their reward on Tuesday afternoon this week for being last half term’s winning team. They voted for an extra hour’s playtime with a hot chocolate. All children thoroughly enjoyed their afternoon!

### Driveway

You will have seen the fantastic job that one of our families in our school community has done to improve our driveway. On behalf of everyone here at Gaddesden Row, we cannot thank you enough for the hard work you put in and for giving up your own time last weekend.



### Well-Being Week

Children’s well-being and mental health is embedded throughout our curriculum and next week we will be supporting children’s well-being week. We are proud as to how all of us here at Gaddesden Row School promote children’s well-being and ensure that they know who they can talk to if they are worried or concerned about anything. Our approach to well-being was praised by the OFSTED team during our inspection in October and this is something we are very proud of.

There will be lots of activities taking place in school and we will be linking these to ‘**Safer Internet Day**’ on **Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February**.

### Sickness Policy

We would like to remind all families that if a child has had sickness or diarrhoea, they need to be absent from school for 48 hours and if they have not had any more symptoms during this time, they can return to school. **For example, if a child is sick at 6pm on a Tuesday, they can return to school on Friday.**

**Although children may start to feel better before the end of the 48 hours, this is still a contagious period and sickness and diarrhoea can still be passed onto others.**

### Attendance

Class Banksy	Class Blake	Class Wiltshire
93%	87%	84%



There has been a lot of illness in school this week, and we hope that all children feel better soon.

## Stars of the Week



**Class Banksy:** Denny  
**Class Blake:** Isabella  
**Class Wiltshire:** Ava-Leigh



## Curriculum News

### Class Banksy

In maths this week, the children in Year 1 have been learning how to partition 2-digit numbers into tens and ones. **For example, 34 is partitioned into 30 and 4.** The children then progressed onto identifying numbers on a number line up to 50 and estimate where numbers on a blank number line. The children in Reception have been comparing length and height. **Key questions have included, 'Which flower is the tallest?' 'Which tower is the tallest?'** In English, the text has been 'Man on the Moon.' The children have been learning how to write a recount to describe events from the story. In science, the focus has been identifying features of fish and amphibians. The children had to label the main parts of these animals. In history, the focus has been looking at the life and achievements of Neil Armstrong. The children then completed a fact file.

### Class Blake

In maths this week, the children have been learning how to measure in centimetres (cm) and metres (m). The children have been measuring different items in the classroom, focusing on starting on zero on their rulers and then comparing lengths. The learning then progressed onto comparing lengths. **For example, 'Which is the greater: 118 cm or one metre and nine cm?'** In English, the children have continued looking at playscripts with the focus being on 'The Lion, The Witch, and The Wardrobe.' The children have been using their knowledge of adjectives and conjunctions to write suitable stage directions for characters. **For example (looking wearily down at the snow-covered ground).** In Geography, the children have continued their work on rivers when looking at the River Gade. The children discussed features of rivers and the trip we went on last summer.

### Class Wiltshire

In English this week, the children drafted their own mythical stories. The children planned their story before writing an appropriate beginning, middle and ending. Part of the SPAG focus was to use fronted adverbials. **For example, 'Beneath the clouds' 'On top of the hill' 'Next to the castle gate.'** In maths, the children in Year 4 have been mastering the skill of dividing two-digit numbers by another one-digit. **For example, 73 divided by 5 = 14 remainder 3. 70 divided by 5 = 14 and there are 3 remaining.** The children in Year 5 and Year 6 have been learning how to multiply mixed fractions by a whole number. **For example, what is 4 and 1/5 x 3? The answer would equal 63/5 or 12 and 3/5 as mixed number.** In science, the children have been planning their own experiment to insulate heat. The children have been making their own predictions and deciding what equipment to use as well as discussing how to make their experiment a fair test.

Team Points for the end of this week are:

407



405



401



## Golden Book

Well done to all the children who take part in indoor sports on Tuesday - **Hetty, Oliver, Oscar, Daniel, Alexia, Karolina, Henry, Joy, Demi, Megan, Rupert, Robin, Natty, Martin, Leyton, Theo, Denny and Louie**, you beat the speed stacking time challenge! Well done to all of Year 6 (**Joseph, Bobby, Ava, Daisy, Samuel, and Dexter**) for displaying a superb attitude when we had some visitors in school. Well done to **Tommy and Denny** for doing some superb reading! Well done to **Isabella** for excellent acting of a scene during an English lesson. **Demi, Daniel, and Arthur**- well done for excellent and descriptive writing.

Wishing all families a very happy weekend and I look forward to seeing everyone next week. **For all of you that are fans of rugby, The Six Nations begins this weekend!**

Mr Merriman

**G**enerosity **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.