



# Gaddesden Row JMI School Newsletter 19<sup>th</sup> April - 2024



Good afternoon, friends, and families,

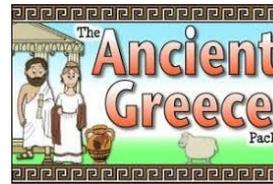
Welcome back to a brand new term! The children came back to school on Tuesday feeling refreshed after the Easter break, and they have settled down very well.

All classes have started their new topics and the children have enjoyed exploring these, asking probing questions and taking part in different activities to bring the topic to life. Listed below, are the overarching topics for each class:

**Class Banský** – Dinosaurs

**Class Blake** – Ancient Greece

**Class Wiltshire** – World War 2



To bring the above topics to life for our children, we have already delivered ‘Dinosaur Detective Day’ for the children in Class Banský. The children were invited to come into dressed as paelontologists and there were lots of practical activities that took place over the course of the day – photographs are on our school Facebook page.

On **Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> of June**, the children in **Class Blake** will be taking part in a ‘Greek Day’ – details for this will be sent our over the next few weeks.

On **Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> June**, the children in **Class Wiltshire** will be invited to come and sleepover at school for the night and be evacuees during the blitz. details for this will be sent our over the next few weeks.

## Summer Swimming

We would like to remind familes of children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 that weekly swimming sessions will begin next Thursday – 25<sup>th</sup> April – at Berkhamsted Leisure Centre. **The coach will pick the children up at 09.15 andf return them to school at 11.15.**

## After-School Clubs

All after-school clubs started this week and the children have enjoyed taking part. **We do still have spaces available at athletics club, art and craft club, multi-sports and building club.** Please contact the school office if you would like your child to attend.

**A reminder that all after-school clubs and tutoring finish at 16.15.**



Attendance		
Class Banský	Class Blake	Class Wiltshire
97%	98%	90%



**Well done to Class Blake for getting £5 in their attendance fund.**

## Stars of the Week



Class Banksy: Noah  
Class Blake: Oliver  
Class Wiltshire: Megan



## Curriculum News

### Class Banksy

In maths this week, the children in Reception have started looking at numbers beyond 10, specifically, 10, 11, 12 and 13. The children represented these numbers using a range of manipulatives such as numicon, bead strings and cubes. The learning then progressed onto recognising the numbers 14, 15 and 16. The children in Year 1 have started to explore finding half of a shape, object, or quantity. The children looked at different ways shapes and objects can be split into half and answered questions such as, 'Which plate shows half?' 'Can you match the halves to make a whole?' In English, the key text has been, 'There's a dinosaur in my bathtub.' The children have been making a list as to where in the house a dinosaur could live and why this would be a good place. The children wrote a story map to develop ideas for their writing of a dinosaur story.

### Class Blake

In maths this week, the children have started learning how to find a quarter of shapes and understanding what an equal  $\frac{1}{4}$  means. For example, 'How many ways can you split a square into quarters? Is there only one way?' The children in Year 3 have been learning how to place fractions onto a blank number line. For example, 'Where would  $\frac{2}{3}$  go on this number line?' 'Why is  $\frac{1}{2}$  in the wrong place on this number line?' In science, the focus has been plants and seeds and understanding what plants need to grow. The children answered and investigated questions such as, 'Why have these plants died?' 'How do you know when plants are healthy?' 'Why is sunlight important?' In English, the children have started to learn about Theseus and The Minotaur, and the plan King Minos had. The children looked and used adjectives to describe such as, 'fearsome, Brutal and Menacing.' A wonderful myth and I know the children will love learning more!

### Class Wiltshire

In English this week, the children have started their World War 2 topic and the focus text has been 'Letters from the Lighthouse.' The focus has been looking at what appropriate similes and metaphors could be used to describe. For example, 'The sky was as black as coal.' 'He had butterflies in his stomach.' The learning then progressed onto the children writing character profiles for people in the story. In art, the focus has been World War 2 sketches. The task was for the children to explore and discuss the artwork and then re-sketch a section of it and then write a description to match. There are sample photographs on our school Facebook page. In maths, the children in year 6 have been working extremely hard when doing revision with Mr Merriman in preparation for SATs week. The children in Year 4 have been looking at partitioning decimals and place value. For example, '6.37 can be partitioned into 6, 0.3 and 0.07. The children in year 5 have been classifying angles and understanding degrees in 2D shapes. For example, 'Why is this angle obtuse?' 'How many right angles are in a trapezium?'

Team Points for the end of this week are:

106



109



91



## Golden Book

Well done to Megan, Evie, and Lillie-Mai for excellent use of subordinate clauses in sentences. Dexter, Daisy, and Tory did some fabulous sketching of a World War 2 scene – well done. Maria, Hetty and Lily were able to complete the egg and spoon race without dropping the egg once – well done, all! Well done to Karolina and Henry for excellent blending of sounds in phonics. Tory and Hollie did some fantastic work in maths when converting decimals to fractions – well done!

We would like to wish all families a happy and relaxing weekend, and we look forward to seeing everyone on Monday for brand new week.

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.