



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

GILLINGHAM PRIMARY ACADEMY

16 September 2022



Message from our Executive Head, Mrs. Brand:

Well done and thank you to all for another great week at school. On Friday, last week, all three schools participated some interesting activities linked to the emergency services, organised by Miss Ward from Earsham Primary, I hope the children shared with families what they learned. It has been a pleasure to see how engaged the children are, indeed, when speaking to teacher's from across Earsham, Gillingham and Ditchingham schools this week they were hugely proud to be able to share the positive start to the term the children had made to their usual curriculum and some of the additional enrichment activities offered. What superstars the children are!

Skylarks This week we have begun all our normal Phonics, English and Maths lessons. The reception children have begun learning their first sounds and the Year 2's are working really hard to begin joining up their handwriting! We have begun our Geography topic 'Hot and Cold places' and have been looking at the equator, Artic and Antarctic circles. In R.E. we looked at the picture 'The Big Frieze' in preparation to exploring Incarnation over the next 6 weeks.

Mallards Mallards have been so super busy this week. We are place-value experts, and are becoming very confident at recognising the importance of where we place different digits.

We have begun our guided reading journeys. Year 4 have begun reading "Who Let the Gods Out?" by Maz Evans. And Year 3 are reading "Bill's New Frock".

In Geography, we have been looking at the invisible lines around the world, such as the Arctic Circle and Equator, and how our location in the world affects our climate.

In our British Sign Language, we are looking at the alphabet, and should be able to sign their names by the end of the lesson.

Swans This week we have been continuing on our place value journey. All the children are securing their knowledge of big numbers in math. In science this week we have been investigating mirrors. We have been looking at what happens in a mirror to letters, words and shapes. We have been thinking as scientists when writing what we discovered. For our science work in the next couple of weeks we need to collect some cereal boxes and shoe boxes, as we will be attempting to make periscopes and pinhole cameras. ***If you have any boxes at home, we need them ASAP.***

Don't forget you are invited to join our class on Wednesday 21st September at 9am for our reading cafe in the hall. Mrs Sherwood

Upcoming Dates

- 19/09: SCHOOL CLOSED for Queens State Funeral
- 20/09: 2.45pm Mallards Class Reading
- 21/09: 9am Swan Class Reading
- 22/09: 9am Skylarks Class Reading
- 22/09: Tempest Individual & Sibling photographs
- 26/09: European Languages Day
- 06/10: Y6 to Sir John Leman HS Arts Day

Attendance

Many thanks for your support with attendance. This week our whole school attendance figure was **97.18%**. We know that ensuring good levels of attendance at school has a significant impact on positive outcomes with children's learning. We are required by the Department for Education to ensure clear procedures are in place. Please find attached to this letter further information about how we want to support with maintaining good levels of attendance. Again, many thanks for your support with this.

Who's Who!

Name: Alix Roos
Role: School Secretary
Favourite School Subject: PE



Hobbies – I love to be outside in nature or doing home improvements, painting and decorating. My children are very active with sports so am an excellent mum taxi too!!



Kingfisher Reading Wings

Skylarks

Maths Monster

Swans

