



## WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

# GILLINGHAM PRIMARY ACADEMY

23 September 2022



**Message from our Executive Head, Mrs. Brand:** It has been a busy week this week, albeit a short one! It's been lovely to welcome families in to learn more about our curriculum, in particular about reading. Thank you for your continued support, fostering a love of reading is something we value hugely. Having confidence with reading allows our children to shine in so many other areas of the curriculum and school life.

We work very hard in school to give children lots of practice with their reading skills, if you, or someone you know, have some spare time and you'd like to support this by coming in and listening to children read, there is training for reading volunteers via <https://www.thenorfolkreadingproject.co.uk/>. If you're interested in this or in volunteering in some other way at school, please do pop in to arrange a time to have a chat with the Head of School. All volunteers would need to follow our safeguarding procedures.

**Skylarks** Thank you so much for attending our Learning Share, it was lovely to show you a snippet of our day.

This week we have enjoyed making pizza for Languages Day and in Art, we have tried to make our own paper.

**Mallards** Another great week for all in Mallards. Everyone is working so hard.

We are looking forward to planning and writing our own wishing stories. The children have enjoyed drawing the Hippocrump in art. We have had some very imaginative creatures.

In science, we carried out their first Science investigation of the year. This looked at which surfaces have more friction. It was great to get the Newton Meters out.

We have shown great team work in our football and dodgeball PE lessons.

**Swans** These 4 days have flown by in Swans. This week it was lovely to see parents at our Reading Café. As a reminder we discussed:

- 1) the children reading a range of authors and genres (sci-fi, historic, adventure).
- 2) It is important they read in chapters, not minutes or pages.
- 3) Occasionally choose a non-fiction book.
- 4) If possible, share the reading.
- 5) Record all reading in their reading records.
- 6) Make sure they show finished books to Mrs Sherwood.

Reading has started really well in Swans. I've been so impressed with their effort with guided reading homework.

### Upcoming Dates

26/09: European Languages Day

30/09: Tempest Photograph Order Deadline

06/10: Y6 to Sir John Leman HS Arts Day

20/10: All years Flu Nasal Spray at school

21/10: Reception Class in B&BJ Supplement

31/10: Swan Class Level 1 & 2 Bikeability (4 days).

### Attendance

Many thanks for your support with attendance. This week our whole school attendance figure was **95.84%**.

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. Again, many thanks for your support with this.

### Who's who!

Name – Mrs. Maria Adcock



Role – Head of School at Ditchingham, Senco at Ditchingham, Gillingham and Earsham

Favourite School Subject – RE and Music

Hobbies – I love cross stitching, reading, football and spending time with my husband, two teenage children and my black Labrador.

#### KINGFISHER READING WINGS



#### Kingfisher Reading Wings

Joint: Swans & Mallards

#### Maths Monster

Mallards

#### MATHS MONSTER

