



## WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

# GILLINGHAM PRIMARY ACADEMY

18 November 2022



### Message from our Executive Head, Mrs. Brand:

As I sit to write this, I can see children in non-uniform as a way of fundraising for Children in Need. The excitement in school on these days is joyful. More importantly though, is the care and compassion that our children show when thinking about the reasons why they're raising funds. I am hugely humbled and thankful to our wonderful school community for the importance they give to thinking about and then doing something for others.

*Loving God*

*Help us to be generous*

*Help us to be kind*

*Help us to be loving*

*So that Children in Need are helped today and every day.*

*Amen*

**SKYLARKS** The Year 1 and 2's started the week with an incredible Gymnastics day at Waveney Gym. They got to jump into foam pits, walk along the balance beams, trampoline and vault, all the children agreed they had an amazing, fun time. In computing this week, the children have been learning to use painting software called Tux Paint, a lot of children have asked to create art on it since so if you want to have a go at home it's completely free to download. In RE we have been looking at the meaning of Christmas Carols and in Science we had a fun lesson testing materials that bend and stretch!

**MALLARDS** This week Mallards have been taking part in Anti Bullying Week, they have talking about the importance of friendship and kindness and have designed Odd Socks to celebrate the occasion. In Geography we have been comparing the Amazon River with the River Trent in Nottingham and considering how they are the same and differences. In RE we have been looking at William Booth, the founder of the Salvation Army, and finding out how his Christian beliefs influenced his desire to do good in the world. All children have written fantastic non-chronological reports.

**SWANS** This week Swans had a history themed curriculum day. We started the day learning some songs. We enjoyed singing in roles as evacuees and their mums at the station. We also learnt the beautiful song The White Cliffs of Dover by Dame Vera Lynn. Aspens then visited our classroom to discuss rationing. Most of us tried a vegetable stew, bread and carrot cake made from wartime recipes and Spam. We even tried a chocolate cake made from breadcrumbs and cocoa powder. We then moved onto learning about the Blitz. In the afternoon we had a go at Morse Code using torches and created garden models with Anderson Shelters in them.

### UPCOMING DATES

- 21/11: Vaccination UK in school for any children who missed the first appointment.
- 29/11: Y3 & Y4 Unihoc at Sir John Leman High School.
- 08/12: Skylarks Christmas Play – arrive at 1.30pm. Friends providing refreshments.
- 09/12: Family Christmas Craft Session.
- 10/12: Friends Elf Trail & Christmas Fair at The Wherry Inn, Geldeston, 4-8pm.
- 14/12: Y6 NCMP Weight & Height Screening.
- 14/12: Christmas Lunch.
- 15/12: Whole School to Pantomime.
- 16/12: Nelsons Journey Rudolph Run.
- 16/12: 2pm Christmas Carol Service at Geldeston Church.
- 16/12: Last Day of Autumn Term 2!

*All dates can be viewed on our school calendar via our website:*

<http://www.gillingham.dneat.org/calendar/>

### CONGRATULATIONS TO THIS WEEKS WINNERS:

*TIMES TABLES ROCKSTARS – SKYLARKS CLASS  
KINGFISHER WINGS READING – SWAN CLASS*

**ATTENDANCE** Many thanks for your support with attendance. This week our whole school attendance figure was **97.69%**.

### WHO'S WHO

**Name:** Mrs White

**Role:** Teaching Assistant in Skylarks, Tuesday's After School Club.

**Favourite School Subjects:** I love PE and Science.

**Hobbies:** I love everything to do with Ballet, cycling, being in nature and can't wait to go to Orkney at Christmas to visit my mum!

