



20 January 2023

Gillingham St Michael's Church of England Primary Academy



Message from our Executive Head The bible reminds us of this: "You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven." Matthew 5 14-16

This week in our staff meeting we looked at all of the different ways our children 'shine'. Staff identified so many things from across our full curriculum. We hope you enjoy reading our newsletters each week to get a flavour of all the different things your children do. If you'd like more information, please remember to have a look at our website. **Mrs Brand**

SKYLARKS Rev. David came into Skylarks this week to talk about what it means to be a Christian. He showed the children his bible and other special items to him. All the children let their light shine with their wonderful questions, one of which was "where do you pray?". We were shocked to learn that people pray when playing instruments, painting, washing up and when out walking. In computing we have begun to learn how to use the laptops, we played games which involved using track pads and typed using a word document. In Science this week we went on a listening walk and to test our sense of hearing, when we were really quiet our ears could even hear the cars on the A146! **Mrs Carroll**

MALLARDS you have been amazing this week. Your lights have truly shone brightly. You have all created some amazing artwork in the style of Georgia O'Keeffe. In English, you have all written amazing stories about a mysterious traveller. You are becoming so much more confident in using imaginative vocabulary. A fantastic well done to learning this week's spellings too. You are all very accurate in spelling words that end in al and le. Science was really exciting this week. You made sound gongs using a metal coat hanger and investigated how sound travels better through string than it does through the air. If you have a metal coat hanger at home, perhaps you can show someone you live with how the experiment worked. We also look at how Chinese New Year is celebrated, and found out which year we were born in. A great effort at painting your names using Chinese lettering. **Mrs Munro**

SWANS This week the children have really shone in their writing. We have been writing warning stories and I have been so impressed with how they have written suspense, it kept me on the edge of my seat whilst reading them. They have used similes and metaphors, short sentences, ellipses and senses descriptions to make us believe something spooky is lurking in their setting. I have been really pleased with their joined up handwriting and speech layout and punctuation as well. It was also lovely to have Elliot from Ipswich Town state what a fantastic class we have and how it is a joy to teach them. **Mrs Sherwood**



WE HAVE SO MUCH GOOD NEWS FROM SCHOOL THIS WEEK:

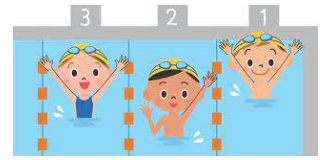
Mr Whear, a primary school language expert, came in to school this week to deliver wonderful French lessons to KS2. It was fantastic and all the children were amazing!



MR DREW-BATTY HAS HAD AN AMAZING NUMBER OF PUPILS SIGN UP FOR PIANO LESSONS HERE AT SCHOOL AND IT IS SO LOVELY TO HEAR THE SOUND OF THE PIANO FILLING OUR RECEPTION AREA.



MALLARDS are doing so incredibly well with their swimming lessons at Waveney Valley Leisure Centre. Mrs Munro is loving their attitude and desire to improve their skills!



Congratulations

TO THIS WEEKS WINNERS:

TIMES TABLES ROCKSTARS - MALLARDS
KINGFISHER WINGS READING - SWANS



ATTENDANCE Many thanks for your support with attendance. This week our whole school attendance figure is **96.07%**.

With **Mallards** winning our Attendance Teddy with their class attendance of **100%**.



Oh Father God

You created our wonderful world and everything in it. Teach us to look after it.

You fill our school with happiness, fun and learning. Guide us to be the best we can be.

You put our friends, family and teachers around us. Help us to be kind and caring towards them.

You give us a light in our hearts and our heads. Let it shine brightly for all to see.

Amen

DATES FOR THE DIARY:

January

23: Skylarks Community Day.

February

7: Safer Internet Day.

10: NSPCC Number Day.

10: ***Last Day of Spring Term 1!***

All future dates can be viewed on our school calendar via our website: <http://www.gillingham.dneat.org/calendar/>