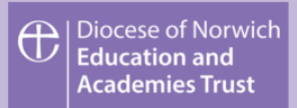




WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

GILLINGHAM PRIMARY ACADEMY

6 January 2023



Message from our Executive Head, Mrs Brand Welcome back all, I do hope that you all had time to rest and recharge over the Christmas break. Today marks Epiphany or Three Kings Day, the day when Jesus was revealed to the world. It was lovely in collective worship this week when children were able to be thankful not only for the gifts, they received but also were thankful for the gifts of spending time with family and friends.

It has been pleasing to see how well the children have settled back into school routines and we are all looking forward to the term ahead.

SKYLARKS Hello and Welcome back! I hope you all enjoyed the Christmas break and ate your weight in cheese and chocolate. We have lots of exciting topics starting this term and the children have already begun answering our R.E. big question: What does it mean to be a Christian? by first thinking about what it means to be themselves. Everyone came up with lots of wonderful ideas but 'I am helpful' and 'I am kind' were among the most popular. We are also starting a painting topic in Art so have created painting in the style of some Wassily Kandinsky. Finally, just a quick note to let you know P.E. is on Monday and Thursdays again for this term.

MALLARDS What an exciting term we have coming up! We are really looking forward to our swimming lessons that begin next week. Mrs White will teach the other PE lesson on a Tuesday. We are going back in time to Ancient Egypt for our history topic and all the children are really excited about what they will be learning in History. Alongside this topic, our class novel is The Secret of the Sun King! The first chapter has already ended in a cliff-hanger! In RE our big question is What is it like to be a Hindu? In Science we are looking at sound and how our ears help us tell different sounds apart. We have already looked at sound vibrations and have learned about the different parts of the ear. In MFL we are beginning to learn French. We are starting with Je peux which means I can. We will be learning lots of different French verbs. In ICT we have a unit of e-safety and be learning about how we keep safe on-line.

SWANS It is so lovely to welcome all the children back after their well-deserved break. This half term we have lots of new units to study. This week we have started with our warning tale in English and drawn fantastic story maps. In maths Year 6 have been looking at function machines and year 5 multiplication of 4 digits by 1-digit and 2 by 2-digits. We have started our new science unit by making circuits with the electrical equipment. In RE we have learnt the meaning of the parable of the wise and foolish builder. I am really impressed with how keen to learn the children are and how quickly they have risen to their challenges.

AOB Please let us know if any of your contact details have changed recently if you've moved or changed mobile numbers over the Christmas holidays:

gillinghamoffice@kingfisherpartnership.org



PE DAYS THIS SPRING TERM

Skylarks: Monday & Thursday

Mallards: Tuesday & Wednesday (Swimming)

Swans: Tuesday & Thursday

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS THIS HALF TERM

Monday: Premier Ed - Dodgeball

Tuesday: Mrs White - Badminton

Thursday: Ipswich Town FC - Football

GOOD NEWS STORIES

Welcome to our new feature – this space will be used to celebrate good news from our school community!

So if your child has achieved something out of school or have some good news they'd like to share, please encourage them to tell their Class teacher or email us in the Office:

gillinghamoffice@kingfisherpartnership.org

Thank you!



ATTENDANCE Many thanks for your support with attendance. This week our whole school attendance figure was **95.56 %**.

Dear God,

On this Epiphany day, we are thankful for the gift God gave us, his Son, Jesus. We are also thankful for the gifts we received and were able to give to others this holiday season. We ask that in the days ahead, we remember others and continue the spirit of giving all year long. Amen

