



13 January 2023

# Gillingham St Michael's Church of England Primary Academy



**Message from our Executive Head** This week has been a really thoughtful week for us as staff, very sadly our staff member Miss Flack lost her battle with cancer, my huge thanks to all in our community of schools who have shared their love and compassion at this sad time. As we have reflected on our memories, it has been an interesting reminder of how quickly time passes. Taking that moment to step back, even to just look from September to now, it is remarkable to see the progress children have made in so many little ways. We are exceptionally proud of all the small steps that our children have made, we thoroughly enjoy also hearing about things they tell us from outside of school. What a fortunate and privileged position we are in to share in the lives of all in our school community, thank you. Mrs Brand.

**SKYLARKS** This week Skylarks children were very excited to start our History topic on Mary Seacole. We looked at clues to try and figure out why she is famous today. In R.E. we have written questions for Rev. David about what it means to be a Christian. In Music we improvised to twinkle, twinkle little star on the glockenspiels and then composed new tunes using the notes D, E and A. The children then practised playing their tunes on the keyboard in class. Finally, in Science we were learning about our sense of taste, we taste tested different foods and decided if they were sweet or savoury.

**MALLARDS** What a fantastic week we've had. I was so proud of you all when we went swimming. Everyone's behaviour was impeccable. So many children have moved into the deeper end of the pool this year. We have had great fun looking at different Ancient Egyptian artefacts and finding anachronisms in a picture depicting Ancient Egyptian life. Can the children tell you what an anachronism is? We had a very special visitor in to come and teach us some French on Thursday. The children were super at understanding and pronouncing a range of verbs. See if they can remember what *touchez le nez* means. In science we have continued to explore sound and have experimented with how different sounds are made from a wide range of instruments.

**SWANS** This week we have continued with our learning on electrical circuits in science. We looked at the number of switches we use in our everyday lives and how they complete circuits. We then made electrical circuits with switches that turned on together and independently. We then made parallel and series circuits with switches. We are all enjoying using the electricity equipment in school.

**ATTENDANCE** Many thanks for your support with attendance. This week our whole school attendance figure is **94.9%**.

With **Skylarks** winning our Attendance Teddy with their class attendance of **98.61%**.



## Congratulations

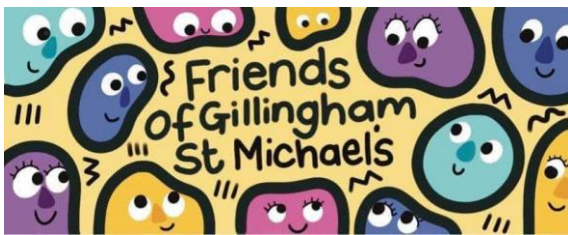
TO THIS WEEKS WINNERS:

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





*Dear God, whether our lives are calm and peaceful or stormy and scary, help us to know your presence and peace, Amen.*



**Meeting at The Wherry Inn, Geldeston**

Our Friends are holding their first meeting of 2023 next Thursday 19 January at 6pm. Please do pop along, everyone welcome!

*You can follow our Friends on Facebook at:*

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/307054479433612>

## **'AROUND THE WORLD' LUNCH MENU**

Children can order at registration as normal 😊

**Around The World  
CHINA**

Friday 20th January 2023

Kung Pao Chicken with Rice

Veggie Chow Mein with Noodles

Soy Green Beans

Spiced Cupcakes

**FOOD FESTIVAL**  
By Aspens