



10 February 2023

Gillingham St Michael's Church of England Primary Academy



Message from our Executive Head What a busy half term! How lovely to end it with Number Day, many thanks for your support, it's great to see the creative 'numbered' outfits. Thank you also for your contributions to the NSPCC, some of that will go towards the work that the NSPCC do within schools. Helping children to understand what to do if they are scared or worried is a key part of our RSHE curriculum, resources and volunteers provided as part of the 'Speak Out Stay Safe' program help us to do that. We wish you all a restful and enjoyable half term. We look forward to welcoming you back on 20th February. **Mrs Brand**

SKYLARKS This week we have been litter picking around the school for PHSE and talking about how we can take care of the other communities we are part of. In History we finished off our Mary Seacole topic by awarding her a 'Star of the War' sheet! The children had fun giving her lots of compliments such as "you are determined because you paid for your own (ship) ticket" and "you are smart because you made your own medicine and wrote a book". In Art we created an abstract painting based around the story 'Quangle Wangles hat'. We were only given the primary colours to use so had to do lots of paint mixing to create secondary colours. Finally in R.E. we looked at different churches and their features, we created stained glass windows which had pictures from different bible stories on. **Mrs Carroll**

MALLARDS We have had a test week in Mallards this week. I'm so proud of how all the children have risen to the challenge and shown real resilience and determination to do their best. We have come to the end of another set of guided reading books. Year 4 have finished How to Train Your Dragon, whilst Year 3 have been reading The Boy Who Grew Dragons. We have really enjoyed the humour that runs throughout these books. Science has been really exciting this week, as we have made our own pan pipes and investigated how the pitch might change depending on the length of the straw. In RE we have continued with our big question of : What is it like to be a Hindu? This week we looked the Hindu belief of the human life cycle. **Mrs Munro**

**** REMINDER IT IS OUR NORWICH CASTLE TRIP ON THE FIRST DAY BACK (20 FEB) PLEASE BE IN SCHOOL AT 8.40AM ****

SWANS This week we have enjoyed finished our artwork inspired by Chris Ofili. We have been adding texture using coloured sands, paper and glitter. Our modern art designs have brightened our classroom. In computing we finished our internet safety websites and also did an assembly on internet safety and thought about the ages that were appropriate to do activities online like taking selfies, watching videos, online chatting. This week we have been writing to persuade someone else our own age to stay safe online using lots of different persuasive techniques. We finished our recorder playing for this half term playing Mama Mia, which we really enjoyed. We have earned enough Euros for extra fun sports activities in the hall on Friday afternoon. **Mrs Sherwood**



AN AMAZING EFFORT FROM SO MANY OF OUR CHILDREN ENTERING INTO THE PANINI SPORTS CHALLENGE FOR FOOTBALL WEEK. ALL THE ENTRIES ADORN OUR OFFICE WINDOW, HERE ARE JUST A FEW OF THE ENTRIESWELL DONE EVERYONE, SUPER PROUD OF YOU ALL!!



A BIG THANK YOU TOO TO IPSWICH TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB FOR OUR IN-HOUSE PRIZES - SIGNED PHOTOS OF CONOR CHAPLIN AND ITFC MEDALS PRESENTED BY ELLIOT MEYER.



Congratulations

TO THIS WEEKS WINNERS:

TIMES TABLES ROCKSTARS - MALLARDS
KINGFISHER WINGS READING – JOINT WINNERS
SWANS & SKYLARKS



ATTENDANCE Many thanks for your support with attendance. This week our whole school attendance figure is **92.94%**.

With **Swans** winning our Attendance Teddy with their class attendance of **96.89%**.



AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS IN SPRING TERM 2

MONDAY (Premier Ed) * Basketball * 3.20-4.20pm

TUESDAY (Mrs White & Miss Munro) * American Football * 3.15-4pm

THURSDAY (Ipswich Town FC) * Football * 3.15-4.15pm



*Loving God,
your Son told his disciples
to become like little children.
Lead us to work for the welfare
and protection of all young people.
May we respect their dignity
that they may flourish in life,
following the example of the same
Jesus Christ our Lord.*

Amen

DATES FOR THE DIARY:

February

10: *Last Day of Spring Term 1!*

20: *Return to School for Spring Term 2!*

20: Mallards Class to Norwich Castle.

22: Y5 Maths Team to Maths Challenge at Norwich School.

22: Parents Evening – In Person or Video Call.

23: 'Rainbow Bright' Lunch Menu.

24: Y6 Maths Team to Maths Challenge at Norwich School.

March

2: World Book Day 'All Creatures Great & Small Theme'.

17: Red Nose Day.

30: Y5/Y6 to SJHLS Music Concert.

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

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