



**Message from our Executive Head** Thank you to everyone who celebrated World Down Syndrome day on Thursday. World Down Syndrome Day, 21 March, is a global awareness day which has been officially observed since 2012. The date for WSDS being the 21st day of the 3rd month, was selected to signify the uniqueness of the triplication (trisomy) of the 21st chromosome which causes Down syndrome. We chose to have our theme as wearing something to allow us all to 'shine bright', because at our school, we believe that everyone shines in their unique and special way. **Mrs Brand**

**SKYLARKS** Skylarks have been working on our final piece of artwork in our Yayoi Kusama topic. We have drawn our own pictures and have begun covering them in poke-a-dots and will be finishing the backgrounds next week. We have some wonderful spotty Titanics, butterflies, ladybirds, and bats! In P.E. we finished off our dance topic by creating a sequence pretending to look for a lost toy, we each did a solo performance at the end of the lesson. In maths we have all been looking at measurement. We have measured height, length, weight and this week moved onto volume. **Mrs Carroll**

**MALLARDS** Another busy week for Mallards. We are coming to the end of writing our instructions in English. Their writing has been clear, purposeful and entertaining all at the same time. In maths, we have become experts in reading and presenting data in a wide range of ways including bar charts, tally charts, pictograms and line graphs! The children have been busy with creating a painting in the style of Monet in art. We look forward to sharing our finished pieces with parents in our art gallery during the summer term. In RE, we are getting towards the end of looking at the Bible's Big Story. This week we looked at Good Friday and produced some beautiful artwork to reflect on that sad day. We also looked at how we remember this event today and enjoyed trying some hot cross buns! Have a lovely Easter break and we look forward to an action-packed summer term. **Mrs Munro**

**SWANS** This week in swans we have completed our last lessons in dodgeball and dance. The children enjoyed creating their dragon dance with props and using all their skills learnt with Mr Self in dodgeball. In computing this week, we have been using an Excel spreadsheet and creating formulae to help us with arithmetic. We enjoyed doing difficult calculations quickly. In RE we finished our topic on inspirational people looking at Dr Barnardo and were inspired by his autobiography to help others and support this wonderful children's charity. The children have all worked really hard in this short term so next week they have earned the top Euro prize of Easter baking. **Mrs Sherwood**

## ATTENDANCE

Many thanks for your support with attendance. Our year-to-date attendance figure is **93.3%**. With **Skylarks** winning this week's Attendance Teddy.



## Congratulations

TO THIS WEEK'S WINNERS:  
KINGFISHER WINGS READING - SWANS



# THANK YOU & GOODBYE!!!

It is with much pride but equally much sadness, that we will bid farewell to Miss Roos at the end of this term. Miss Roos can be relied upon to be the oracle of everything in the office, no request too much trouble, and always a smiley welcoming face. We wish Miss Roos all our love and luck and know that she will shine brightly in her new career move.

Sadly, we are also saying goodbye to Mrs Fodder who has been one of our Midday Supervisors. We would like to thank her for her invaluable contribution to our school over the past years. We wish her every success for her future adventures ahead. She will be greatly missed.

## SUMMER TERM 1 CLUBS

Available now for booking on  
**ParentMail**



### CLUBS

#### Summer Term 1

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<b>Morning Club</b> 08:00 to 08:45 ➤ £2.50 per day ➤ Pre-book via ParentMail	<b>Morning Club</b> 08:00 to 08:45 ➤ £2.50 per day ➤ Pre-book via ParentMail	<b>Morning Club</b> 08:00 to 08:45 ➤ £2.50 per day ➤ Pre-book via ParentMail	<b>Morning Club</b> 08:00 to 08:45 ➤ £2.50 per day ➤ Pre-book via ParentMail	<b>Morning Club</b> 08:00 to 08:45 ➤ £2.50 per day ➤ Pre-book via ParentMail
<b>After School Club</b> 15:15 to 16:15 ➤ Activity: Multi-Sports ➤ Premier Education ➤ 20 spaces available ➤ Open to: All Years ➤ Cost: £4/session* ➤ Pre-book via ParentMail	<b>After School Club</b> 15:15 to 16:15 ➤ Activity: Tennis ➤ Mrs White ➤ 20 spaces available ➤ Open to: All Years ➤ Cost: £4/session* ➤ Pre-book via ParentMail	<b>After School Club</b> 15:15 to 16:15 ➤ Activity: Gardening ➤ Mrs Wilson ➤ 20 spaces available ➤ Open to: All Years ➤ Cost: £4/session* ➤ Pre-book via ParentMail	<b>After School Club</b> 15:15 to 16:15 ➤ Activity: Football ➤ Darell Sibbons (BTFC) ➤ 20 spaces available ➤ Open to: Years 2-6 ➤ Cost: £4/session* ➤ Pre-book via ParentMail	<b>After School Club</b> 15:15 to 16:15 ➤ Activity: Crafts, Lego, Junk Modelling & Games ➤ Mrs Wilson ➤ 20 spaces available ➤ Open to: All Years ➤ Cost: £4/session* ➤ Pre-book via ParentMail

\* 50% funded if your child is entitled to Free School Meals.

Please contact the school office if you require financial support, or for more information on help with paying for childcare head to <https://www.gov.uk/help-with-childcare-costs>



*Oh Father God  
 You created our wonderful world and  
 everything in it.  
 Teach us to look after it.  
 You fill our happiness, fun and  
 learning.  
 Guide us to be the best we can be.  
 You put 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.*



### Science Competition 2024



#### Invent a timer

Sasha and Oliver want to practise for their sports day event. They are in the ball throwing competition. They want to practise throwing their balls into the bucket, but mum has said they can't throw balls near the clock because it might break. They want to make a timer to take into the garden with them.



Invent a one minute timer for the children to use.

#### Rules:

- It must time 1 minute.
- Must be a new invention- designed using materials from home
- Can't use existing timers e.g. stop watch, phone, tablet, watch.
- Be ready to test in school or tested on video from home.
- Any videos made to be emailed FAO: Mrs Campbell (Head of Science for our Federation) to [ditchinghamoffice@kingfisherpartnership.org](mailto:ditchinghamoffice@kingfisherpartnership.org)
- Competition deadline: Wednesday April 17th.



FRIENDS OF GILLINGHAM ST MICHAEL'S PRIMARY

## EASTER FAMILY BINGO

**Friday 22nd March**

Doors open at 17:50  
 18:00-20:00 at  
 Gillingham Primary School

£5 entry - includes 6 BINGO games.  
 Special Golden Bingo available on the night £1 per ticket.

All welcome! Bring your friends and family  
 Plenty of prizes!!!

**All proceeds will go towards new Playground equipment**

Refreshments and a raffle will be available

## **DATES FOR THE DIARY:**

### **March**

- 22:** 6-8pm Friends Easter Bingo, everyone welcome!
- 26:** Mallards Trip to Adventure Island.
- 27:** Y5 to Sir John Leman HS Concert.
- 27:** ***Last Day of Spring Term 2!***

### **April**

- 15:** ***First Day of Summer Term 1!***
- 16:** Reception 2024 Pupil Offer Letters from NCC.
- 17:** Ogden Science Competition Deadline.
- 23:** Y4 Maths Challenge at Norwich Lower School.
- 24:** Y5 Maths Challenge at Norwich Lower School.
- 25:** Y6 Maths Challenge at Norwich Lower School.
- 26:** Y6 Forensic Science Day at Hobart HS.

### **May**

- 6:** ***May Bank Holiday!***
- 13-17:** Y6 SATs Week.
- 21:** Y6 to Crucial Crew at The Space, Norwich.
- 24:** ***Last Day of Summer Term 1!***

### **June**

- 3:** ***First Day of Summer Term 2!***
- 20:** Sports Day, families invited.
- 17-19:** Swan Class Residential to Horstead.
- 25:** Reception NCMP Vision & Hearing Screening.
- 26-27:** Y6 Bungay High School Transition Day.

### **July**

- 1:** Reception and Y2 Road Safety sessions with Mrs McClusky.
- 1:** Y6 Seat Belt & Safe Travel session with Mrs McClusky.
- 2:** KS2 Performance Dress Rehearsal.
- 3:** KS2 Performance.
- 5:** Leavers Disco, all pupils welcome.
- 8-10:** Y6 Hobart High School Transition Day.
- 10:** Y5 Bungay High School Transition Day.
- 16:** Y6 Leavers Assembly.
- 17-19:** Y6 Sir John Leman HS Transition Day.
- 19:** ***Last Day of Summer Term 2!***

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