



**GIG MILL GOOD NEWS ... CELEBRATING SUCCESS... GIG MILL GOOD NEWS**

We have had a tremendous start to our school year with an incredible amount going on in September. The children across school have already enjoyed many school events linked to our **Reading focus** - such as 'Jungle Book' theatre visit and our wonderful Roald Dahl Day; the children are enjoying reading some of the new non-fiction books now in school, and the HSA have agreed to purchase some new 'author focus' books for us to enjoy.

It was great to see **parents** involved in induction meetings, and Reception's curriculum workshop. Thanks too to the reading volunteers who are supporting us in school, and the HSA who have started planning events for this school year.

Our **values and citizenship focus** got off to a great start with our RRSA focus week - have a look at some of the great displays and children's work at parents consultations this week. This work is at the heart of what we do in school, and the children love it!

As well as looking forward to our new school year and plan ahead – it is also a time for our **staff and governors** to reflect on the past year. We are very proud of our achievements over the past two years, we have a great staff team at Gig Mill, and I would like to share with you some of our recent successes in provisional school results. **Mrs Hannaway**

**MATHS ... CELEBRATING SUCCESS... GOOD NEWS**

Improving Maths has been a focus for the past two years, and we are delighted with improvements across every area in school – a great success for everyone in school.

**Our Key Stage 2 results this year are 8% above Dudley schools and 4% above national figures.**

**EARLY YEARS... CELEBRATING SUCCESS... GOOD NEWS**

This year there have been a number of improvements made to the classroom environments and outdoor classroom, to enable the children to access learning more independently.

**Our improved 2016 end of year data shows that 'good level for development' for Gig Mill is now well above the national 2015 figure. ( 76% v 64% Dudley & National 67% )**

**KEY STAGE 1... CELEBRATING SUCCESS... GOOD NEWS**

We are really excited to share the overall school results for Phonic screening in Year 1 of 82% and the recheck in year 2 is 100 %. Well done everyone!

This year there have been huge changes in assessment at Key Stage 1, but we are really pleased as a school to now be **above national figures in all areas Reading 82%, Writing 82% and Maths 83%.**

**KEY STAGE 2... CELEBRATING SUCCESS... GOOD NEWS**

Again, changes to Key Stage 2 assessments caused lots of press attention! Despite all the changes we are really impressed with our provisional Year 6 results – another huge success!

Although this year's results cannot be compared to the previous assessment system we are delighted that they compare very favourably to other schools in Dudley, and are almost all above national results.

**Our headlines ... Gig Mill 59% met the new combined Reading Writing and Maths measure compared to 48% across Dudley and 53% nationally. Gig Mill 9% of pupils exceeding in all three areas compared to 5% nationally.**

|         | Meeting expected standards | Dudley National | Exceeding expected standards | Dudley National |
|---------|----------------------------|-----------------|------------------------------|-----------------|
| Reading | 72%                        | 61% 66%         | 23%                          | 14% 19%         |
| Writing | 74%                        | 73% 74%         | 25%                          | 16% 14%         |
| SPAG    | 67%                        | 69% 72%         | 28%                          | 18% 22%         |
| Maths   | 74%                        | 66% 70%         | 21%                          | 12% 17%         |

**Well done everyone!**

Thank you to all of the 211 parents and carers who completed the questionnaires, it is great to have so many positive responses and useful areas for school to consider in the coming year.

| Parent Questionnaire Percentage Summary<br>Summer 2016 : 211 responses                     |                    |       |             |
|--|--------------------|-------|-------------|
|  | Yes & mostly agree | No    | No response |
| Do your children like being at this school?  | 97.6%              | 1.6%  | 0%          |
| Do your children think their lessons are interesting and fun?                              | 99%                | 0.9%  | 0%          |
| Do your children have to work hard at school?  | 96%                | 1.8%  | 1.8%        |
| Do Gig Mill children behave well?  | 97.6%              | 0.6%  | 0.4%        |
| Are Gig Mill children friendly?  | 98.6%              | 0.06% | 0.9%        |
| Is there a member of staff you would go to if you were worried about your child at school? | 94.7%              | 3%    | 1.8%        |
| Do you feel your views are listened to?  | 92%                | 4.7%  | 2.8%        |
| Would you recommend our school to others   | 93.8%              | 3.3%  | 2.8%        |

A maths focus has encouraged my children to focus on an area which is probably one of their weaknesses. Fantastic to be a Rights Respecting School – great for the children.

Everyone is made welcome

The school looks and feels fantastic. The children have commented and feel that it has improved, not only the look, but the atmosphere.

The work the HSA do to support the school and provide equipment. The caring nature of the staff (all staff, caring, reception makes it easy to approach the school).

Really lovely classrooms, encouraging a positive learning environment. Glad to see maths is being encouraged more and in a fun and exciting way.

It looks great! My child loves the maths award. RRSA – Great for learning about how lucky we are in the UK

Updating Nursery and reception exteriors to match other building improvements.

More learning through play. Forest school weekly for all years. Make more use of the grounds – outdoor practical learning.

Ethos of school + good teachers = Happy children, safe, learning.

We wish all a very happy half-term break and look forward to welcoming everyone back in school on **Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> November.**