



As part of our continued focus on mental wellbeing our first focus day went really well, all the children in yellow brought a bit of sunshine to World Mental Health day. The children really loved the Happy Homework session and each class now have a 'wellbeing warrior' voted by their classmates.

Thank you to all the parents and carers for meeting with staff this week, it has been lovely to see the children's progress in our first half term. Thank you for your positive comments about the displays, kinetic letters and our Maths focus. I have been really impressed in lessons this week by the children's use of maths vocabulary and explanations. Singing 'Eye of the Tiger' in assembly got our Maths rockstar day off to a flying start for the Battle of the Bands. Well done to all classes for amazing scores, winners celebrated in assembly were 1H, 1W, 2D, 3P, 4F, 4A, 5SK, 5R and 6DG; the overall winners for KS1 were class 2D – 17,305 points, and in KS2 were class 5R – 79,727 points. Amazing Maths!

Enjoy the half term break we welcome children back to school on Tuesday 5th November.

Mrs Hannaway

I liked spending time with my friends and playing with my family. It was amazing, I want to do it again!!

I did art with my Dad whilst having a deep, funny conversation.

I thought it was fun. I played board games with my Nan and Sister. I could do it all day because my Nan is funny.

Me, my dad and my brother built a police station out of lego. It was EPIC!



WINNERS!

A team of four mathematicians went to Ridgewood Secondary School with Mr Walter last week to take part in a Maths Competition with other Primary Schools from Dudley and other boroughs. We are very proud to say that they came first. Huge congratulations to you all, you worked very hard and you were all an absolute credit to Gig Mill.

Many of you enjoyed sampling school meals on parents evening, please join in with **National School Meals Week November 11th – 15th**

For this week, the spotlight is on healthier eating and puddings from times gone by which contain little or no sugar. The sample sized puddings will be on offer *alongside* our normal menu and children who attend for school lunches all this week will have a collectors card - these children can vote for their favourite sugar-free pudding and they will then be entered into a draw to win a prize.

Monday – Anzac Biscuits
Tuesday – Bread Pudding

Wednesday - Apple Cobbler
Thursday – Chocolate Semolina
Friday – Jam Roly Poly

On Tuesday 22nd October, Gig Mill football team played their first match in a new competitive league. In a close match throughout, Gig Mill showed signs of progress and began playing well, taking an early first half lead thanks to Bailey. Gig Mill defended well with some super saves from Tyler in goal. A last minute goal from The Ridge made it 1 – 1 but a very good game played by both sides. The team play again against St James after half term to hopefully get the first win of the season.



Mr Jones

Poppies and various poppy related merchandise will be available in school from Tuesday 5th November - Monday 11th November. Please can we ask that you give your child the exact money wherever possible.

Snap bands – £1.50
Cord bracelets – £1.00
Wrist bands – £1.00
Reflectors - £0.50p
Zip Pulls - £0.50p

Paper poppies, as always, will be available for a donation of your choosing.

Thank you for your support.



Office Reminders.

If your child is absent from school, please ensure that you call the absence line **every day** your child isn't in school to comply with our safeguarding procedures.

If there is a change to normal pickup, please let the office know **before 2.30pm** in order to give ample time for the message to get to your child's class.

Wishing you all a lovely half-term break and we look forward to seeing everyone back in school on Tuesday 5th November (Monday 4th is an INSET day)

As the weather is now quite unpredictable – please can we ask that all children bring a suitable coat every day for breaks and lunchtime.

Christmas Dates for your Diary

5th December – Nativity - KS1 Hall – 10.00am & 2.00pm
10th December – RW (Rainbows) Nativity - 2.15pm KS1 Hall
11th December – RDS (Stars) Nativity – 2.15pm KS1 Hall
12th December – RCa (Sunshine) Nativity – 2.15pm KS1 Hall
13th December – Year Two Christmas Concert 10.00am & 2.30pm – KS2 Hall
17th December - Christmas Dinner Day
17th December - Macmillan Coffee Morning – KS1 Hall
18th December - Christmas Party Day – (Wear something festive)
20th December - Christmas Carol Concert – KS2 playground at 1.30pm



Autumn Term 2019

INSET: 2nd September
Term begins: 3rd September
Half-term: 28th Oct – 1st Nov
INSET: 4th November
Break up for Christmas: 20th Dec

Spring Term 2020

INSET: 6th January
Term begins: 7th January
Half-term: 17th February – 21st February
Break up for Easter: 3rd April

Summer Term 2020

INSET: 20th April
Term begins: 21st April
Half-term: 25th May – 29th May
Break up for Summer: 17th July
INSET: 20th July

E-safety- for advice and information for parents:

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/> <http://www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers>
<http://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>
<http://parentinfo.org/page/for-schools>

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