



As we approach the end of our first half-term we are thankful that we have so much to celebrate. October has brought a fair amount of rain, but your children brighten our days and we are really proud of them all. It has been lovely to share this with many of you this week.

In October we have celebrated National Poetry Day, Black History Month and our Hello Yellow day for mental health. All year groups have done some amazing work on our new Relationships, Health and Wellbeing curriculum in our new "floor books".

Looking ahead in November

On Friday 5th November we will be having a mufti day to fund raise for HSA. Children are invited to come in firework colours and the green buckets will be at each entrance.

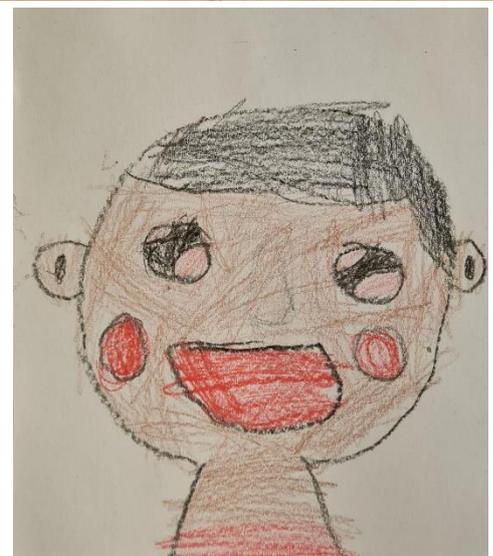
Week commencing 8th November is school values week and children will also have their second RE focus day. We will also celebrate World Kindness day and Children in Need.

Thank you so much for your support.

Mrs Hannaway



Some fantastic work from Year One



Reminder:

Children return to school on Tuesday 2nd November, as Monday 1st November is a designated INSET day.

COVID update

As you will have seen from my message last weekend school are still directly involved with COVID reporting. Weekend reporting is no longer a requirement, however for me it is important that we keep our children, staff and community safe, and get any messages out to you as soon as possible. Thank-you for supporting us.

I hope this will help clear up a few questions that some parents have asked regarding the school outbreak, as advised on Saturday.

School will only send out a letter when advised by Public Health to the class with 2 or more cases.

School will send a second letter when advised by Public Health regarding follow up PCR testing.

Since the weekend the Local Authority are changing procedures.

Please see below 'new measures' letter we have been advised to send to all parents

Dear Parent/Carer,

New measures in response to an outbreak of Covid-19

There is currently an outbreak of Covid-19 in Gig Mill Primary. As communicated with you previously, when necessary, local authorities can introduce local measures to reduce transmission in settings and help keep students and staff safe.

Therefore, in response to the outbreak in our setting, Dudley Public Health advise that the following measures are now introduced:

1. Facemasks are worn in communal areas where social distancing cannot be maintained (this applies to staff and visitors in primary schools and staff, students and visitors in secondary and colleges)
2. Any child identified as a close contact by NHS Test & Trace or Dudley Public Health (either within their education* setting or household), should undertake a PCR test. **Individuals should not attend the setting until the result is known.** If the result is positive, they should isolate for 10 full days, in line with the [guidance](#). If the result is negative, they can return to their setting and are encouraged to undertake daily Lateral Flow Tests* for 7 days after the date of the PCR test. For information on how to access lateral flow test kits visit www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests **only applicable to those 5 years of age or over*

Please note if your child has tested positive within the last 90 days they are exempt from testing unless they have new symptoms. They can continue to attend school as normal, however there maybe situations where this is not possible due to staff capacity. You will be kept informed if this arises.

You will need to inform us of your child's result on 818600 or email info@gig-mill.dudley.sch.uk If you do not undertake a PCR test for your child when requested, we can take the decision to refuse your child's attendance at Gig Mill Primary on the grounds that they could be positive. It is reasonable to refuse attendance without the PCR test result, as it is necessary to protect other pupils and staff from possible infection. Therefore, your child would be required to isolate from Gig Mill Primary for 10 days, without a negative PCR result.

We hope that you support this guidance and work with us to help avoid further spread within our community.