



As you are aware we faced significant staffing issues during the COVID outbreak in November and December, but as always we are optimistic that we will be able to remain fully open for 2022. It was a big relief when new guidance issued on 02.01.22 and 04.01.22 has not impacted on plans so far for the coming term. Remote learning continues to be available via the website if your child is at home and well enough to access learning. Wishing a speedy recovery to those not yet back with us. Thank you with your support with reporting absences and your child's education.

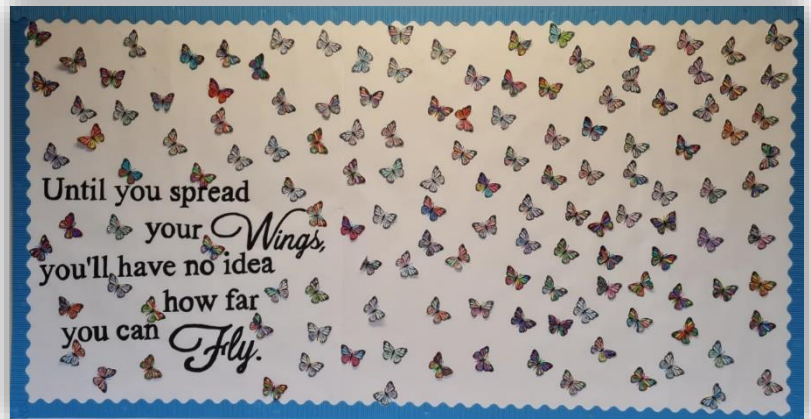
Happy New Year ! Happy New Year ! Happy New Year ! Happy New Year ! Happy New Year !

It has been lovely to welcome in 2022 with the children and staff back in school this week and seeing the children once again so focussed on their learning. We look forward to sharing more of the children's work with you later this term.

Mrs Hannaway



Suzanne Webb, MP for Stourbridge, showing Boris Johnson her winning entry for the Christmas Card Competition, designed by Kaiden in Year One



Here at Gig Mill we have chosen 'Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised' as our new phonic programme to teach early reading and spelling. We are looking forward to beginning our transition from the Letters and Sounds to Little Wandle and are excited to use the new resources with the children in the coming weeks. We aim to share more information with you about Little Wandle soon!



Thank you for your lovely comments regarding the Reception and Year One Christmas Performances....

"Just wanted to pass on a huge congratulations to the children for a fantastic Christmas show. It was easy to see how hard they had all worked and how much they enjoyed performing too. Thank you to all of the children and staff for their hard work, and to the school for enabling the performance to take place during such a dreadful time with Covid". – Year One Parent

School Census day is Thursday 20th January whilst the menu is no different to advertised, we would like to encourage as many children as possible to enjoy a school lunch on this day, as this has an impact on our school funding.

What also has a real impact on our funding is when children who may be entitled to Free School Meals put in a claim - apply here <https://www.dudley.gov.uk/residents/benefits/free-school-meals/> Please take a look and see if you may be eligible – and *thank you* to all our parents who have already done this.