



KEY DATES

NOVEMBER

23rd

Form II plus Readers

Carol Service Rehearsal

28th

Christmas Parties

(St Michaels Church)

2 - 3:30pm Infants

4 - 5:30pm Juniors

30th

Form II & Readers & Choir whole school pm

Carol Service Rehearsal

DECEMBER

4th

3:30 - 4:30pm

Christmas Bazaar

7th

Forms R - VI

Christmas Lunch

8th

Forms R - VI

St Michael's Church

2:15pm

Carol Service

(Pre-School shuts at 12 Noon)

9th

10 - 11am

Pre-School Party

10th

Forms R - II

Infant Christmas Parties

11th

12 Noon

End of Term

NO AFTER SCHOOL CARE

JANUARY

4th

Inset Day

Dear Parents,

It has been a difficult few weeks in school for the children, especially our older pupils, who are trying to come to terms with the events that occurred in Paris and the bombing of a passenger plane returning from an area where many of them have spent holiday time. As a staff, we have focused on the 'helpers', those people who in their darkest hours found the strength and courage to help others even if their lives were forfeited. We have also focused on the words of the Martin Luther King, 'hate cannot drive out hate, only love can do that.'

We have allowed the children to discuss their fears and we have answered as honestly as we can, ensuring that they are aware that the message given by ISIS is totally at odds with the teachings of Islam, or any other belief represented in our school community. By discussing such issues, we aim to prevent our children being drawn to radical views of any sort, and urge you as parents to be vigilant with computers and smart phones as social media is a very popular way of encouraging such views.

As clichéd as it sounds, these children are the future and we continue to strive to set them on the path where they will become valued members of society.

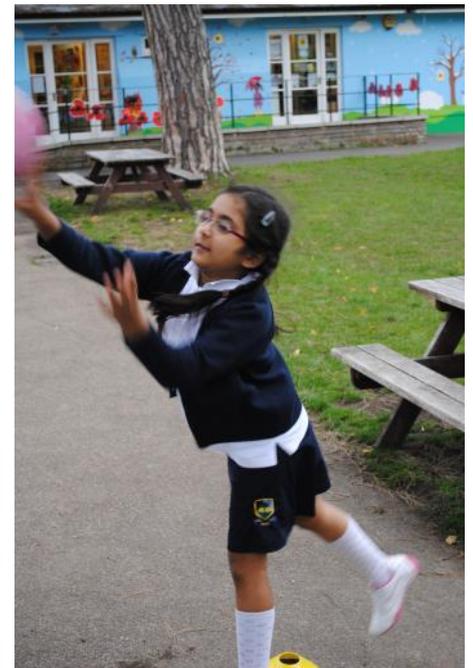
Keep safe,

Mrs S-J Gooding

Headmistress

Buddy's Big Workout

Earlier in the month, Caroline Roughley from the NSPCC came in to talk to the Infants and the Juniors about the work of the NSPCC and how we as a school can help. The children took home sponsor forms and were sponsored to complete 'Buddy's Big Workout' which took place during their PE lessons. We are yet to find out the final figure raised, but we are incredibly proud of the efforts the children made and hope that our small school can make a difference to children less fortunate than ours.



Find us on Facebook!

Our Facebook page is now up and fully operational. It's a great way to keep you informed of all our goings on and a positive way to celebrate the children's achievements. It also allows us to share more photos and video snippets than we could ever include in the Newsletter. Find us by searching for 'Gidea Park College' and 'like' the page to receive our updates.



Diwali - Form I

Form I enjoyed learning about Diwali and celebrated the festival of light. They made their own 'candles' and talked about what the festival means.



Library Trip—Form III

Form III went to visit Gidea Park Library. They travelled on foot and met the Librarian there who was called Cathy. She told the children about fiction and non-fiction books. She read the children a story and then the children all had a chance to choose their own book to take away with them to read and keep for two weeks. Form III really enjoyed the trip!

Elyssia Kehlar, Form III



We Will Remember Them

The children paid their respect to those who fought for us during the war. Pre-Prep made their own wreath of poppies, Form II made their own poppy bunting and Form I adorned their windows with poppies they made. The Junior children had a chance to reflect during assembly and all the children observed a minutes silence at 11am on the 11th November.



Museum of London Trip—Form V

Form V went to the Museum of London and had a fantastic day. The focus of the day was Victorian Britain, but the children also enjoyed looking at the other displays and areas of the museum.



Royal Gunpowder Mills Trip - Form II

The children enjoyed their trip to the Gunpowder Mills where they took part in five different activities and learnt about the life of Guy Fawkes. When they returned to school, they wrote accounts as if they were servants from that time...

'Hello, my name is Harry and I am a servant. I have to go out and chop wood so I can keep the fire going, but I don't just do that! I also have to turn the spit and I don't have a bed. I have to sleep by the fire and I don't have a chair. I have to sit on the hay bags and every day I have to go into the garden to get the vegetables for me to make the potage. This is my story.'

Henry Bartley, Form II



Town Hall Trip - Form III

The children enjoyed walking to the Town Hall in Romford earlier this week. While they were there they met the Mayor and were invited into the Mayor's Parlour which was a very special treat as this is by invite only. All the children had a chance to hold the very special mace and Tommy even got to dress up in the Mayor's robes!

The children got to see the chambers and learnt about how speaking, voting and decision making happen in the Town Hall.



Counting with Cubes - Form I

Form I have been working on their counting skills and using the cubes as a practical and tangible way of getting to grips with more complicated addition and subtraction sums.

