



Our Vision

To inspire a love of learning

A Message from Mrs Dobson

Dear Children, Parents, Staff and Governors,

I wish you all a very happy New Year and hope that you are looking forward to an exciting term ahead. Thank you all for your beautiful cards, gifts and kind wishes you sent to me on my last day at school, I was quite overwhelmed.

Thank you

Sally xxx



- 14/01/2019 E-Safety Day
- 14/01/2019 E-Safety Information Evening
6.00 – 7.00pm
- 18/01/2019 PTA Meeting
9:00am Staffroom
All welcome

Attendance!

EVERY SCHOOL DAY COUNTS!

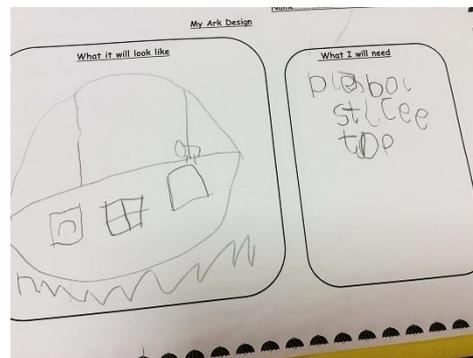
Each week we announce the attendance percentages for each class, recognising improvement and the class who has achieved the best attendance!

Congratulations to Fine Class who had 98.28% attendance the last week of Term

Foundation Stage

We have been pleased to welcome the children in EYFS back to school this week **ready for learning**. They have enjoyed telling us all about their presents and the fun they had over the Christmas holidays.

This week we have started our new topic of "Animals". The children have listened to the story of Noah's Ark and have been practising their counting in twos as the animals went into the ark! They have shown **good recall** and **enthusiasm** for the story by acting it out with the wooden ark and animals on our discovery table and outside they have been using the giant building blocks to build an ark big enough to sit in! The children have used their **creativity** to design their own ark, thinking about the materials they could use to make a boat that will float, and writing a list of what they will need. They are looking forward to making and testing their designs next week!



Key Stage 1

The children in Year 1.2 have been very busy this week exploring seasonal changes and what is changing now that we are entering the season of winter. We have been thinking about what happens to the length of days in winter, what happens to the length of the nights in winter, what we wear in winter and we have recorded what a tree looks like in winter.

In RE this term, we will be exploring 'Thankfulness' and thinking about **the importance of gratitude** (saying thank you). We have been discussing the big question – do you only have to say thank you if you believe in God? And producing a piece of work to show the different ways we can show our thanks.

In our new topic this term 'Arctic and Antarctic Explorers', the children will be investigating different explorers and their impact on our **understanding of the world**. We have found it **fascinating** learning about Sir David Attenborough.

In Art we are studying line, shape and form and have begun by experimenting with mark making and using and enhancing our pencil **skills**. We will link these skills to our topic and science in following weeks, by sketching animals and winter trees.

PTA

Our next PTA Meeting is scheduled for next **Friday 18th January at 9am** in the Staffroom.

There has been some further changes to the Core Committee.

Please come and meet them and find out some of their plans

for the rest of this academic year.

Why come to the meeting?

- * You are automatically a member of the PTA!
- * Be the first to hear about important news and upcoming events at school!
- * Have a voice in the activities and programs the PTA supports. We need your ideas!! ☺
- * Learn how our children benefit from the work of the PTA!

Your ongoing support, whether this be getting involved or just turning up and spending money at organised events.... it all helps!!!

If you are unable to attend but would like to raise a suggestion or for more information please contact us at

stgilbertsptafinance@outlook.com

Your PTA Core Committee



Please can we remind parents that we continue to have PE outside and your child will therefore need to remember their outdoor PE kit which is a navy sweatshirt or fleece, long navy jogging bottoms and trainers

Key Stage 2

What a busy start to Term 3 Year 5.6 have had! Following our trip to Duxford last term, the children have thoroughly **enjoyed learning** about their new World War II topic.

In English, they have been looking at biographies and the features. We then read Erika's story and created a class biography based on her life. The children were **fascinated** by the story and showed **great compassion** when discussing what life would have been like for her during the war and the difficult decisions many people had to face.

In Art, the children have begun to use charcoal, pastels and pencils to create different lines and tones. They look forward to using these **skills** over the next few weeks when they create their own WWII drawing based on this style.

To begin the 'Animals including Humans' topic in Science, the children enjoyed a practical lesson where they had to work in groups to draw round each other and label the different systems (and their functions) in the Human Body. We were all **very impressed** with the scientific language they used and the **thought-provoking** questions they were asking.



**On Monday we will be saying a very fond farewell to Father Mark who is retiring.
We will be celebrating his time at St Gilberts and thanking him for all his dedication
to our school.**

Key Stage 2

Well done to all of year 3/4 for a super start back to term three! All of the children have been **focussed and eager to learn**.

This week year 3/4 have fully immersed themselves in our new topic – Pirates! They have looked at lots of different roles that pirates have on the ship and how they could be ranked. They were **interested** to know all about the bounty and treasure and how the pirates roamed the seven seas, stealing other vessels. The children have **enthusiastically started to learn** a selection of sea worthy songs from the production 'Pirates vs Mermaids'. They are so catchy, we wouldn't be surprised if you have already heard one or two being recited at home! ('Ooo Arrr Me Hearties!')

In English, the children have gone back in time once again to the Victorian Era. They have been looking at specific language that gives the reader clues as to when the story is set. We have also been looking closely at new vocabulary that we have come across within texts, using dictionaries to check the definition and building our own sentences using the new vocabulary. Each class has a new vocabulary alphabet so that they can add their own **interesting words** and use them in lots of lessons. Whilst reading at home, if you come across a new amazing word, why not look it up yourself? We would love to share these in class and add them to our **wonderful working walls**.



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