

# Gosforth East Middle School News



Autumn Term 1

2025



# A Warm Welcome



A new year and new people! Year 5 are settling in well with their new teachers and new classrooms. They have got used to how things work and where to go.

Ava U Year 5 said, “I love English and I like I that I can go all the way around the school! The Telly Tubby are also really fun!”

Emily VW Year 5 said, “I like that we can go to the library at break and lunch because in my old school we had to stay outside.”

By Isobel VW

# Open Evening

This October, we opened our doors to people who are considering choosing our school for their next academic chapter. We showcased our amazing school in many ways. First Mr Stout gave a talk, then people were allowed to explore the school.

There was lots going on – so many activities for people to enjoy. People could meet Anna and Elsa from our school production. In DT we had keyring making and in the library people could make bookmarks or complete a ‘Guess the Book’ activity!

Many pupils helped out at the evening and made it a great time! A visitor even commented on how confident and informative our helpers were—even the new year 5s!

By Oscar



# TRIPS, CLUBS AND OPPORTUNITIES!

A new year in GEMS , with lots of exciting opportunities, clubs, trips and so much more to look forward to! In GEMS we offer a wide variety of clubs for you to choose , from football to yoga, from art to litter picking at a lunch time!

*Here at GEMS,  
we open lots of  
doors for you to  
choose from !*

## Interviews

*Here I am going to interview some people about their views on which clubs they recommend:*

*“Watercolour club because its really peaceful and really fun.” Isobel VW*

*“I would really think about joining choir as because you get to express your voice and sing.” Emily VW*

*“My friend does Girls After School Football club and seems to really enjoy it so I would recommend*

By Saskia

## Frozen Jr Rehearsals

Any Disney fans out there would be delighted to know that the rehearsals for the next GEMS school production, Frozen Jr. the Musical, have already begun! Previous productions include Moana, High School Musical and Madagascar. The school performances have always been a highlight of the school year, and each one is better than the last.

*“It's a bit nerve– wracking but also good.” - Eva L, Y6*

*“You get to chat and have fun.” - Ellie M, Y8*

*“I like the school shows because you make new friends.” - Eliza D, Y8*

By Lily L

# BSL Club

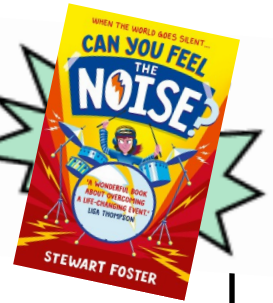
BSL is British Sign Language and my club is all about learning sign language! You can learn lots of new things.

I want to help deaf people that don't have any hearing devices to communicate! I also want to help people with their GCSEs when they are older. The club takes place in Mrs Rudd's classroom. It's on every Friday with me, Sophia and Eleanor.

The club is for EVERYONE— teachers, pupils, hearing people and deaf people! All years are allowed.



By Daisy Y5



# Drama Club

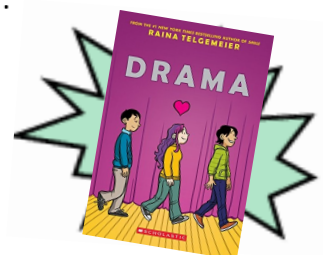
Drama is a club ran by Mr Hodgson on Monday afternoon from 3:20 to 4:20pm! We do games, shows and other fun things. The show we were going to start was Alice In Wonderland and I was going to be Mad Hatter or the White Rabbit.

## Reasons to Join:

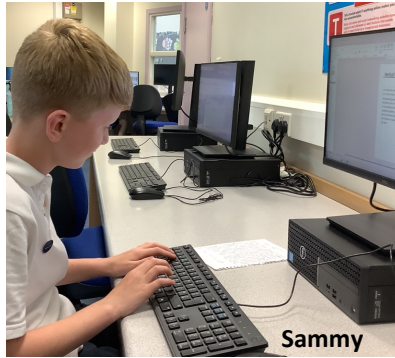
- Number 1 it's fun and you can meet new people if you just joined.
- Number 2 you get a lot of time to practice whatever you're doing so you can make it perfect.
- Number 3 you get to become a director and an actor for at least 1 hour.
- Number 4 you become a better actor so you can audition for musicals.
- Number 5 you get to sing, dance and act.
- Number 6 it gives you memories.

• This is why you should come to drama. If you want come, ask Mr Hodgson.

By Elsie B



# Meet Press Club



Everyone in the club has been working so hard this term to do our GEMS Newsletter after school on a Monday 3:30pm to 4:20pm with Miss McFall.

By Ava U Y5



# Y8 Arran Trip!

Y8 Arran Trip!

From the 20th to 26th September, a group of 23 Year 8s went on a week-long trip to the Isle of Arran. We did lots of outdoor activities and it was really fun.

Arran is one of the 3 brilliant trips you get to go on in Year 8. We did gorge walking (walking in streams), orienteering, and abseiling, as well as exploring rockpools and long scenic walks. I was really scared to do abseiling, but everyone in our group did it!



My favourite part was King's Cave, which is a really big cave with ancient carvings all over it. Also the food was amazing!

By Lily L Y8



# THE ALLOTMENT TRIP

The Allotment trip was very nice. We met these nice people called Gaven and Jenny they told us about how they grow their food at the Allotment. Here's some people to tell us how they did at the Allotment:

"I liked seeing all the plants." Sammy R Y6

"I liked the funny humour from Gaven." Emily VW Y5

"I enjoyed learning about different plants, vegetables and fruit." Isobel VW



# ORIENTEERING TRIP

*Some pupils were visiting exhibition park to do some orienteering.*

They travelled with Mr Jordan and Miss Bhatt by metro and did about 5 minutes of walking to get there. They had maps and had to find clues to whereabouts the little cards were.



Everyone who went really enjoyed it and found it a real break from lessons. Sometimes, you had to do some looking around as it wasn't easy to find. You were in groups of 4 and either did a speed, enrichment or quiz.

You went around the park without a teacher but people were always around to help. The year 8 sports ambassadors were there for the whole day leading some activities. Lots of different schools were there doing it as well. Some groups needed a pack lunch and some didn't. Some pupils left at 8:30am to get there and some went in the afternoon. All of the children who participated needed a coat and suitable shoes. I am sure they could tell you all about it.

By Ava U Year 5

# Opal play

*In school we are very lucky to be able to access OPAL (which stands for Outdoor Play And Learning). We are very privileged to have Mrs Wilson and Mrs Skelton in the school who can buy us new toys such as skateboards, scooters, suitcases and much more. By Zoe 6ER*

Opal play at GEMS is really important because breaktimes are our breaks that we need to enjoy. The other day Miss Wilson did a assembly all about it. Firstly, we have the Tely Tubby hills. Lots of us enjoy these. To be able to enjoy them we need to stay safe. The rules for them is to not push or pull people on them and don't ride the scooters or skateboards on them.

We have trees to climb as well. We can only climb them if it has tape on. Don't hang on thin branches as they could snap. At Gems we also have scooters. You can only ride the ones with tape round. We can also have go carts, skateboards, and suitcases which follow the same rules as the scooters.



A new thing we have got are the giant beanbags. Please do not use them as punching bags. They are perfect for relaxing and sitting around with friends. Opal ambassadors have been announced. GEMS says a big thank you for those who applied. Just a reminder that the meetings are Thursday lesson 4 . There is still some applications so if any year 8's or other years want to be an opal ambassador please apply.





We also have football as part of our Opal play. We have just got eight new goals . We play football in our years. Years 5,6,7 and 8 all have their football playing spot on the field. The school footballs are clearly labelled Opal Play. If the grass is wet a lot of people like to play football in the court that we have also got new tarmac and lines on.



When we have finished playing with the equipment it must go back where it should be. Suitcases, school scooters and go carts go in the sheds by your bikes and scooters. Skateboards go by the shed near the field. It is labelled skateboards. Before school we don't just get out these things, we leave them until break.



If you want to play football or go on the field when it is raining or when the grass is wet, GEMS have plenty of wellie racks. You could also bring a pair of old trainers in as well. Please keep having fun and keep enjoying your break times. By Ava U Year 5

# ADHD As-

Mrs Armstrong gave a very important assembly about ADHD. ADHD is very important and we must pay attention to those who are affected by it.

ADHD can present in different ways:

- Inattention: A persistent pattern of difficulty paying attention, being easily distracted, daydreaming or needing many reminders.
- Hyperactivity: Feeling restless, fidgeting, having trouble sitting still constantly “on the go”
- Impulsivity: Acting without thinking, interrupting others, having a difficulty waiting for a turn and making rash decisions.

It is important we encourage those who have ADHD to keep going and have movement breaks if they are feeling stressed. Make sure you appreciate what ADHD is and hope you understand more about ADHD.

Mrs Armstrong recommended a fantastic book called ‘ADHD Rapped up’ by famous TikTok influencer Mr G, which was kindly donated to our school by Beth. Lily in year 8 is going to help develop our library’s neurodiversity collection. If you have any book recommendations, please see Mrs Armstrong, Lily or Miss McFall.



**MEET MR G (Jamie Gilbert)**

**Monday 27th October**

**1pm at Waterstones, Newcastle!**

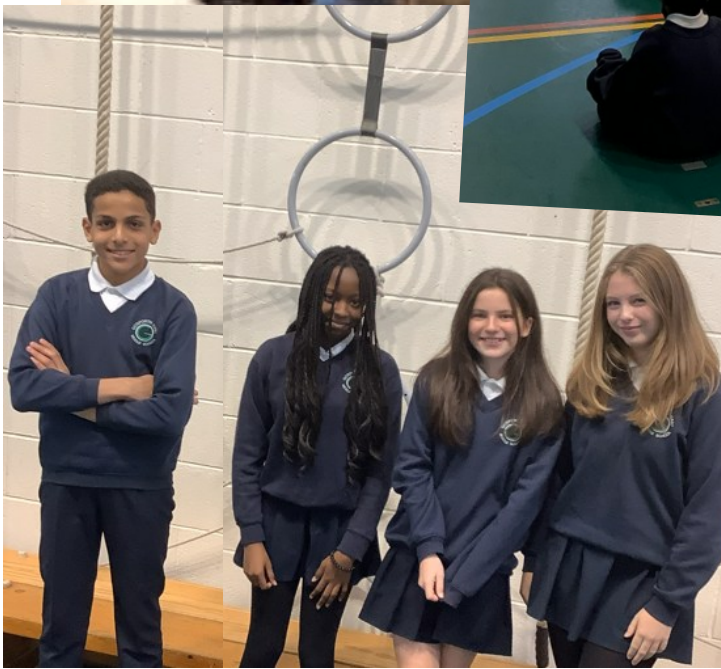


By Isobel Van Wyk 6HT

# House Captains

It is a new year, which means new House Captains represent their respective house and look after it. Any student in Year 8 can put themselves forward to become a House Captain, but make sure you are ready, because it is a BIG job!

House Captain Elections took place on Friday 17th October. All houses gathered to listen to the candidates for their houses speak. After all speeches had taken place, pupils and staff were given slips to decide who they thought would be the best person for the job—not an easy decision!



Darling elections in the gym. Ahmed, Crystal, Caitlyn and Darcy.

## CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEW SCHOOL HOUSE CAPTAINS:

Darling  
Captain Ahmed  
Vice Darcy

Davison  
Captain Harriet  
Vice Taylor

Stephenson  
Captain Vesper  
Vice Mia

Robson  
Captain Ayla  
Vice Claire

*“Everyone did a great job, winner or not, and I am very pleased that they had the courage to put themselves forward for the roles.” Miss Pink.*

By Alex I 7KH

# The Pearl of Africa

This month the Pearl of Africa Choir came in. They did an amazing performance and a great work shop. Let's see what some people thought about the workshop and performance...

We learnt some really interesting stuff like learning another language .

EMILY VW

I think it was very cool to be a part of something like that because we don't really do lots of stuff like that

ISOBEL WV



"I didn't do the workshop but I saw their amazing performance in assembly and ate lunch with the choir they are so nice and have some great stories." AVA U



The Pearl of Africa didn't just come to give us a show they came so they could raise money for the Pearl of Africa Child care so they brought bracelets, purses and much more! And in all the money they raised came to over **£3000**! So a big thank you to all those who donated money or bought merchandise from one of their stalls.

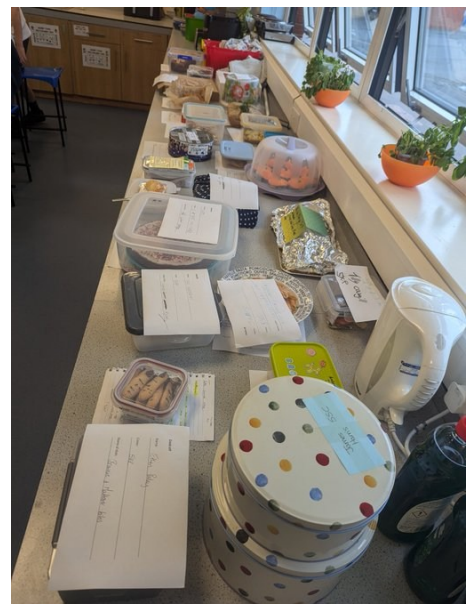


[www.pearlof africa.org.uk](http://www.pearlof africa.org.uk)

## Year 5 Cook Off

WOW!

Year 5 really impressed us with their food entries in the cook off this term!





# Sports News



## Year 7 Boys Football

Mr Maloney took the reigns at the helm of the team for the first time this season, on Thursday 2nd October. In their first matches of the season the Year 7 team won against Junior High 3-0 and drew a highly competitive game against Gosforth Central 1-1. The top scorer after this game was Ayden. By Sammy

## Year 6 Girls Football

A massive congrats to the following people for making it onto the year 6 girls football team:

Rose G      Abby S  
Saskia W    Eloisa R  
Amy B      Eleanor H  
Olivia B     Zoe M  
Elsie BH    Amelia B

Their first match took place at Gosforth Academy on the 16th of October, and they played extremely well. C,MON GIRLS! Zoe and Amelia will tell you all about it...

By Saskia wood

At Gosforth Academy we started our match at 3.40pm. We played four matches but one was a friendly. We played against Redhouse Farm, Central and Gosforth Junior High school. The score for the first was 2-1 to us, then 1-1 then 4-0 to us! It was a fun experience being able to play with our friends competitively against other schools. Rose was the team captain!

By Zoe M and Amelia B.



## Year 8 Girls Football

We played three matches on Tuesday against Great Park Academy, Walbottle Academy and Excelsior Academy. We won one and drew two. We will play more games throughout the season, our next set of three matches against other schools will take place next half term.

By Emily G (Captain) and Evie T (Vice Captain).

## American Football Media Day

The American football team went to Kingston Park for a media day and it was for the Minnesota Vikings (a proper American football team) we did different time drills and got to see what it was like, how fast we could get and there were prizes at the end. Those with the best times out of all the schools got to wear the sunglasses that players would wear during a proper match.



Everyone signed a flag that will go back to America in Minnesota Vikings locker room. We went into their locker room at Kingston Park.

In the afternoon, half the teams played matches and the other half did different position training: Quarter back, running back, wide receiver and defence. We swapped round other teams to play matches for the other half of the afternoon.

Even though we already had the shirt, we got the shorts and socks so we have full Vikings kit now.

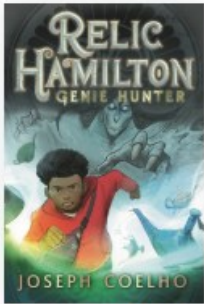
We have the championships tomorrow back at Kingston park. This depends if we go through to the next round of the American Football all under 13 tournament.



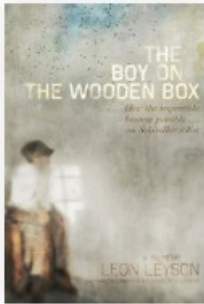
By Oscar J Y8

# ONLINE LIBRARY

## Recently Added:



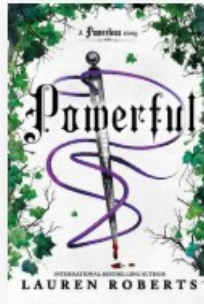
Relic Hamilton, Genie H...  
by Joseph Coelho  
★★★★☆



The Boy on the Wooode...  
by Leon Leyson  
★★★★☆



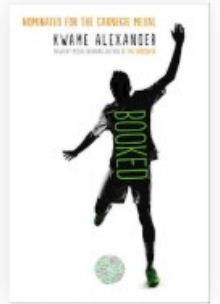
Gloam: A Times Childre...  
by Jack Mackay  
☆☆☆☆☆



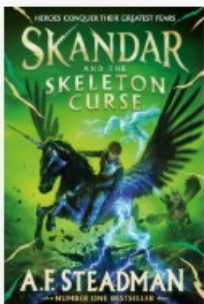
Powerful: TikTok made ...  
by Lauren Roberts  
★★★★★



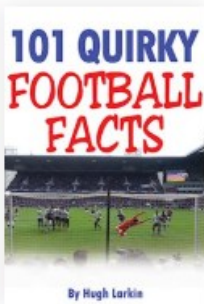
Now  
by Morris Gleitzman  
★★★★★



Booked  
by Kwame Alexander  
★★★★★



Skandar and the Skelet...  
by A.F. Steadman  
★★★★★



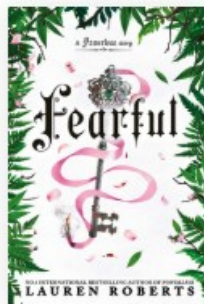
101 Quirky Football Facts  
by Hugh Larkin  
★★★★☆



The Book of Stolen Dre...  
by David Farr  
★★★★☆



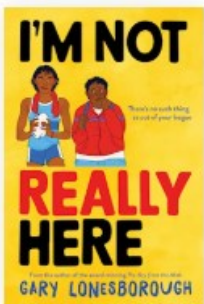
Lightning Strike  
by Tanya Landman  
★★★★☆



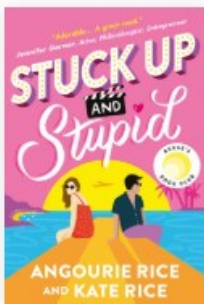
Fearful: The must-have ...  
by Lauren Roberts  
★★★★★



Rebel Fire  
by Ann Sei Lin  
★★★★★



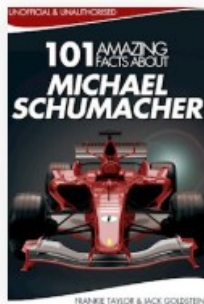
I'm Not Really Here  
by Gary Lonesborough  
★★★★☆



Stuck Up and Stupid: Re...  
by Angourie Rice  
★★★★☆



Big Book of WHO Rising...  
by Sports Illustrated Kids  
★★★★☆



101 Amazing Facts abo...  
by Jack Goldstein  
★★★★☆



Skandar and the Spirit ...  
by A.F. Steadman  
★★★★★



Rebel Skies  
by Ann Sei Lin  
★★★★★

[gosfortheast.eplatform.co](https://gosfortheast.eplatform.co)

Log-in details:

Username: *your library pin code*

Password: *books*





This summer, we challenged our pupils to dive into the world of stories using our online library! Whether they were reading ebooks or listening to audiobooks, everyone had the chance to explore exciting adventures — and even rate their favourites along the way! If pupils preferred not to use the online library, they could still show how much they'd been reading in other creative ways!

**First Place: Jason**

**Runners-Up:**

**Lily**

**Ivy**

**Roma**

**Aerin**

**Congratulations to everyone who took part!**



**Visit our Online Library!**

[gosfortheast.eplatform.co](https://gosfortheast.eplatform.co)



# Library's Week and National Poetry

Multiple students took part in the open mic in the library to celebrate

National Poetry Day and Library's Week. People rapped, sung and even recited poems. 'Hand on the Bridge' by Michael Rosen—a poem Miss McFall taught us in library lessons – was a popular choice and people loved doing the actions too. A special thanks to Daisy, Heidi, Sophia and everyone who took part!

By Nell L and Elsie G Y6



## Library's Week Competition

The Task: Show Love for our Library in a creative way.

Main Prizes:

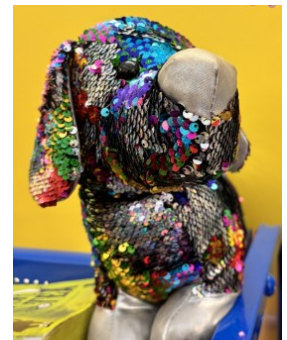
- Win Sparkles' TWIN, cousin or Uncle. (Sparkles is our library dog FYI)
- £5 book voucher

### Winners:

**Sparkles: Marlee, May P, Isobel V**

**Book Vouchers: Ivy L and Aerin H**

**Runners-Up: Daisy G, Elsie G, Amara C, Ruby G and Emma S**



# Poetry Competition

The Task: Write a poem about a dream you have  
Prize: £5 book voucher!

## Winners:

**Sophie B, Sebastian Y5, William**

## Runners-Up

**Emily M, Eve and  
Seva S**

# Autumn Book Fair

Our Autumn Book

Fair arrived in October! It was open every lunchtime for a whole week and was bustling with excited pupils every day!



We raised **£1029** for Scholastic and they have gifted us with book vouchers worth **£514.50** in return!

**Thank you to everyone who came along to browse or buy books!**

# Light your SPARK

The SPARK! Book Awards are held annually each year, and they have been getting the participation of over 80 schools since 2020.

We have taken part in it for the past 3 years. One year, we one the SPARK! School of the Year award, and this year we were a runner-up! In the SPARK! Book awards, there are many different categories, including Picture Fiction, 7+, 9+, 11+, and Non-Fiction.



Over 50 books in each category are longlisted down to 12 books, and then shortlisted even further to only FOUR. Then schools take part in a vote to decide the SPARK! Book of the Year for each category. Come back next newsletter for the next instalment.

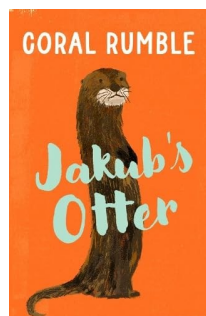
By Alex I 7KH

## 2024-2025 Winners:

7+



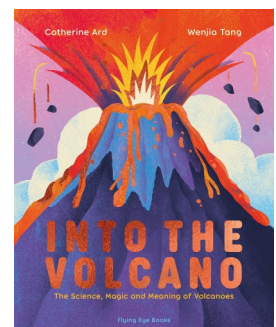
9+



11+



Non-fiction

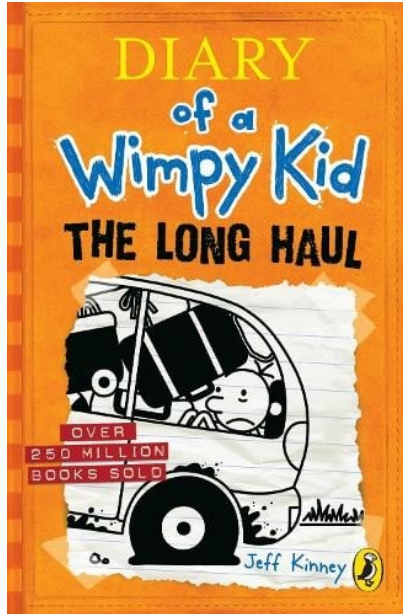


## - - - Exciting News! - - -

Miss McFall had been chosen to be on the 9+ Spark Book Awards shortlisting panel! This means she gets to read and carefully choose books to narrow down a longlist and then a shortlist in each category. Make sure to ask her all about the awards!

# RECOMMENDED READS

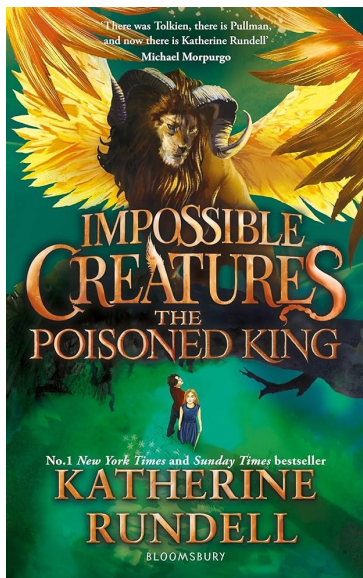
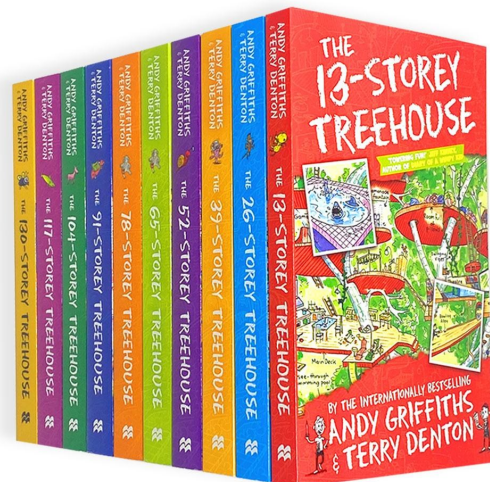
The long haul, a magnificent story book. A book about a boy who just entered his summer brake but as usual he had no holiday



planned. So I would want to know what books you would recommend.

Personally, I'm not a big fan of books, but when I read my first wimpy kid book, it was amazing. I think the first one I read was diary of a wimpy kid hard luck. But the main reason I'm reading a lot in GEMS is because my sister read a lot when she came the school. So I will now keep up the legacy. By Zani y5

I recommend the 13-storey tree house books because they are very good and have something for everyone. Sammy R 6ER



This is the highly anticipated second book in the impossible creatures series. It is about a princess called Anya, whose father is accused of murder, and Christopher, a boy from our world, and a very small dragon with a big ego. By Lily y8

# Football Theatre Trip Competition

Choose **one** writing task to do then enter it to Miss

Thompson by Friday 23rd of October [last day of this half term]. She is usually in room 12.

1. You are the manager of your favourite football team [or your own personal team ]. Create a game plan on how they can win their next game
2. Write a fan letter to your favourite football player.  
What would you like to ask them ?  
What would you tell them about yourself?
3. Create a poster to support your favourite football team. Think about what kind of slogan you could use to help support your team .
4. Write your own football chant or song to support your favourite football team . A chant or a song is similar to a poem.

You can either send your work to Miss Thompson in an email or bring in a printed / written copy for Miss Thompson.

The trip takes place on the 14th of November

## **SORRY, ONLY FOR YEAR 8**

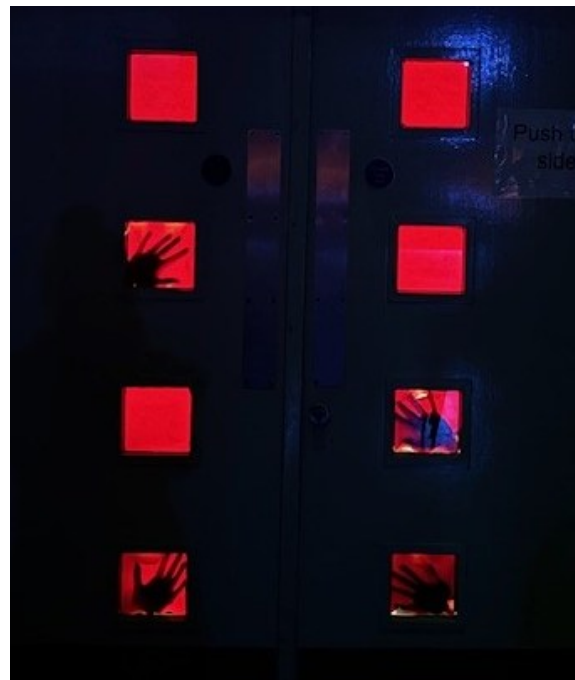


By Lola

# Halloween Assembly: **THE THREE KNOCKS**

One Monday morning, Gosforth East Middle School had a spooky assembly hosted by Mr Adcock. He told the pupils that the other day he went into the school attic and found a mysterious box up there. Inside there was a creepy old diary by a head teacher from 1825. He read some of the extracts from the diary to the pupils.

Suddenly, there were a mysterious three knocks and handprints appeared on the doors! The hall went really, really noisy from all the screams and shouts. Someone left the hall because they were so scared. Mr Adcock told everyone to turn around to the back door and say, "Spirits be gone."



There was big bang, and everyone turned around to see the ghost of the librarian Mrs Crowthorne (Miss McFall) wearing an old fashioned long black skirt and a black jacket with spooky makeup and black lip stick. She was making a signalling hand gesture telling Mr Adcock to come towards her.

Mr Adcock unlocked his inner fairy and floated off in pose 28 after Miss McFall. They came back on stage to tell everyone that it was made up and it wasn't real.

However, when we try to talk about the assembly, Miss McFall is adamant she was at a doctors appointment that morning and missed the whole thing...

*"The whole hall was dark with the windows blacked out.*

*Mr Adcock told a spooky story about an old diary that he found in the attic. Thankfully it was fake. Or was it ..."*

*Sammy*



By Amara C, Eleanor H, Lauren S and Lucy M Y6

# Pumpkin Competition

This term, GEMS held a pumpkin carving competition where the winner won a wheelbarrow full of sweets. There were so many great entries but there could only be one lucky winner. The pumpkins are displayed at the entrance to the school. By Sammy



A message from the judging panel: We have been blown away by the number of entries to our first ever pumpkin carving competition. There were over 50 entries across all year groups. The high levels of quality, originality, effort and enjoyment have made this an incredibly difficult decision for our panel of judges.

We want to congratulate all of the children for their hard work and whilst we can only select a small number for prizes, we hope that they had as much fun carving them, as the judges had looking at them. It has been joyous to see the interest that the pumpkin patch has created over the past few weeks and so many children have commented on the high quality of the carvings.



Best Craftmanship - Erin 6HT  
Most Original - Seb - 5CF  
Most Creative - Charlotte C 5SC  
Scariest - Layton 6NG  
Best in Y5 - Jay 5CF  
Best in Y6 - Charlie 6NS  
Best in Y7 - Sienna 7RCO  
Best in Y8 - Ophelia 8 KS



Well done again to everyone and Happy Halloween!

## Halloween Disco

This year our school is hosting a spooktacular Halloween disco! There will be fun games and great prizes! Each ticket comes with a hotdog and drink.

By Aerin



# Halloween Disco

We have had some spook-tacular characters getting the school ready for our scary Halloween disco! Make sure to read our next instalment to read all about it!



## Cosy Club: Ghost stories

Cosy club meets on Thursday mornings in the library. It is usually a nice, relaxed club for reading, but the past few weeks it's been more like Creepy Club. We have been sitting in the dark (electric) candlelight, trying our hardest to scare our friends with our best ghost stories. Some of my favourites include strange noises in the night, mysterious dark figures and creepy monsters impersonating family members.



HAPPY  
HALLOWEEN!

By Lily Lynch

# Dead Writers Tales

**WARNING!** may be too creepy

By Aerin Harris

## Lumber Jack's Hut



Once upon a dark oak forest, the sun set as quick as a Lumber Jack grew lost. The warm glow of the sunset had now faded into one of winters darkest nights. The lumberjack told himself as his feet crunched on the autumn leaves: It's just a f...forest... He got a lantern out of his scruffy pocket while shivering with fear. Once it was lit, an old oak hut was in sight. As the temperature dropped to  $-1$  degrees, the lumber jack had no choice but to go inside. As the door creaked open, all the birds launched into the sky. Inside the hut, a fire was lit and a small table laid. A red velvet armchair with a few scratched cushions.

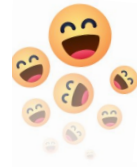
A spring breeze blew away winter's storms, and everyone was safe to stroll into the forest. Eventually people began to get worried about the lumberjack's absence. The lumber jacks wife, Anne, came searching armed with only a copper lantern. She strolled for about an hour until her lantern poofed out it's last flame. She felt wood under her feet and and a door in front of her trembling hands. She pushed through. Her face was suddenly illuminated by candlelight and she could hear a fierce fire crackling. Then she looked to the armchair, but there was someone in it. "finally!" she exclaimed running to hug her husband. He opened his eyes but they were luminous purple. As he groaned out of the chair, he edged towards Anne who dashed into the shadows of the mysterious forest. A month later, they found Anne's bloody remains. On a near by tree three words were scrawled in luminous purple ink:

THE PURPLE



MURDERER

# Funny News



Many people did not like the milk they tested in food tech.

One person tried to smell the goats milk but accidentally inhaled it leading to milk pouring out of her nose.



By Oscar and Sammy

## Wordsearch

G M Q O J K Y W F F R H P G S  
E Z R E M S M Y T W I H V W Y  
O H Y W C Q K W R S E E A G S  
G F Z U A N R P T N O D O B O  
R L N I R T E O Y O D L H R I  
A N D R C R R I Y H O S Q M K  
P I J J T Y C A C N P T S K O  
H S I L G N E C H S Q D M V S  
Y E M S D A G C T L Z D O D O  
J T B M A Y E R Z R Q O K I M  
T P G N I T U P M O C O Y A K  
R R F H T B X J V X R F T W D  
D Q A U U P K H G C Y H P P T  
X X J S N W E C V I S M F E W  
A J Y B D M C J R S M Y D T Q

Art

science

maths

English

computing

DT

History

food technology

Geography

PE