

Galleywood Infant School

Thursday 16th March 2017

Dear Parents,

Well done!



Congratulations to Mrs Lesley Bond for achieving a merit in her recent Food Safety Level 3 award! Whenever we have a visit from Essex School Meals Service our kitchen team are complimented for the quality and presentation of the food. The level 3 training is recommended but not compulsory; we are delighted that Lesley undertook the three day training and achieved such a high mark in the assessment. Well done!

Eddie the Penguin

Yesterday 30 children travelled by coach to Christ Church on London Road, Chelmsford to take part in the Chelmsford Infant Music Festival. The



festival takes place over 3 days and involves over 30 local schools. In our very full and pressured curriculum we are determined not to lose sight of the enjoyment children get from singing, dancing, playing musical instruments, acting, performing to an audience and working as a team. Our children did an amazing job and I felt very proud of them. We are grateful to the Year 2 teachers and to Mrs Lacey, who as always put in a great deal of time

to ensure all the arrangements are in place, that children know their words, have costumes and know the dances.

Thank you too, to Mrs Wade, who has been teaching the songs to all the children in Year 2, ready for our Yr1 and Yr2 performance on 30th March at 10am. We hope you have this date saved- everyone welcome!

Reports

Children in Year 1 and Year 2 received their annual reports on Friday in advance of the parent consultation meetings on 27th and 28th March. We hope you find these informative and helpful, and look forward to discussing each child's progress and next steps in detail before the end of this term.

Coffee Morning- save the date!

Our next Foundation Stage coffee morning on Wednesday 22nd March at 9am will focus on maths. Mrs Tindall will talk about how we aim to build very secure maths skills in



the Foundation Stage to underpin a lifetime of learning in maths. There will be an opportunity to play some maths games with your child, and to take home some ideas for paper based and online activities. Younger siblings welcome too.

Open Days 2017

We have set the dates for Foundation Stage open mornings in the autumn term 2017: These are for parents with children due to start school in September 2018. Please pass them on if you have friends or family with pre-school children in this age group. Our Open Mornings will be held on Thursday 12th October and Wednesday 15th November from 9:30-11:30am.

Mothers' Day flowers!

We hope you were delighted to receive the pots of yellow narcissi! They were planted by the children before October half term and were intended to be ready



for next Friday as a Mothering Sunday gift. The warmth of our polytunnel resulted in an early Mothering Sunday this year!

We were very grateful to Peter Seabrook, who gathered donations from a number of sources so that every child could have a pot, compost, 4 bulbs and a plastic carrier. Some of our Year 2 children are writing letters to thank the individuals and companies that made this possible.

Stay and Play

The fine, warm weather this week has been lovely and has encouraged many families to stay after school and play on the playground, trim trail, pirate ship and tree houses. You will know that I often write to remind parents that this is a privilege, and one that works two ways. I am delighted to see children active, outside, playing and laughing, climbing and having fun. However parents who stay at the end of the school day must stay near to their children, watching them carefully, close enough to see and hear their games, and ensure that all children play safely. Children on scooters and bicycles need to be supervised so that they look out for other children, and especially for toddlers and younger siblings. Please do not send children back into school unaccompanied for the toilet or for drinks. Last week school staff helped parents on three different occasions to locate children who had come back into school and become "lost". Outside doors should be closed at the end of the school day so that we can mark books, prepare for the following day, put up displays, meet and discuss learning. If your child needs the toilet, please come to the office entrance with them and you can use the toilet in the entrance hall.



Thank you

Plastic guttering

Foundation Stage teachers have asked whether any parents have any spare plastic guttering, which they would be willing to donate? Children enjoy creating structures similar to a giant marble run for cars, balls and water! Foxes and Badgers would be very grateful- thank you!

Learning about Life Cycles!

Our baby chicks are no longer yellow and fluffy! The children are watching as they grow feathers, take a dust bath and perch for much of the day. We will be able to keep the 3 female chicks in school for a few more weeks, after which they will go to live with Mrs Holden's cousin, who has a farm and over 40 hens.



Today Elizabeth's parents very kindly gave up their afternoon to bring two ewes and five lambs from Great Sir Hughes Farm so that children could see this year's lambs at close quarters. Each class had time to visit the lambs and to ask lots of questions!

Red Nose Day 24th March

We have red noses for sale at the school office for £1- all proceeds to Comic Relief. Next Friday will be a non-uniform day- please send a donation of £1 with your child next Friday so that



Friday 24 March

we can raise a good amount of money.

Please bring donations of home-made or shop bought cakes next Friday- we will be selling cakes from 3:10pm -3:45pm after school. Thank you.