



Galleywood Infant School

Wednesday 3rd May 2017

Dear Parents,

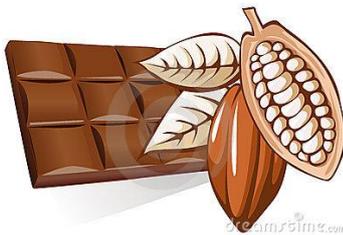
Welcome

This term we welcome Debbie Cameron to the staff team, teaching Rabbits class for the summer term whilst Chloe Williams is on maternity leave. Miss Williams' baby is due this week - we will let you know as soon as we have some baby news to share!

Sad news for Galleywood Infant School but exciting for Mrs Tindall, is the decision by Danielle and her husband Lewis to "follow a dream!" - both passionate about mountain biking, they have bought an amazing converted school on the edge of Snowdonia National Park, which is a B&B for mountain bikers. Mrs Tindall will be leaving us in July after 6 years at Galleywood- much more later about the huge contribution she has made to our school! We have been recruiting this week, as early as possible in the summer term, to secure excellent candidates and feel confident that we will have a new but equally strong team for September 2017. Details to follow in due course.



Summer Term learning



Our Themes are always carefully planned so that children across the school can enjoy similar experiences, learn at the appropriate level and benefit from the learning in other classrooms as well as their own. This half term the theme of Chocolate is providing a rich learning context for children in Year 1 and Year 2, linking closely with science and geography. Save the date: **Tuesday 23rd May at 2pm**, when we would like each child to invite a visitor to our Chocolate Cafe!

Our Foundation Stage classes are learning about animals from different habitats in their Wild Adventures theme, and had a wonderful visit to Tropical Wings last Tuesday.



Assessment information meetings

Parents with children in Year 2 will receive a leaflet this week about the National Curriculum assessment tests (SATS) in reading, maths, spelling, grammar and punctuation. Mrs Manning, Mrs Tindall and Miss Cameron would like to explain more about the tests, show you some sample materials and offer you the opportunity to ask us any questions on **Tuesday 9th May at 2:30pm and at 6pm**. We hope all parents of Yr2 children will be able to attend.

Maths workshop

We are so impressed with the children's enthusiasm to demonstrate their mental maths skills! Mrs Tindall would like to explain how we use these maths facts in lessons and show you how you can support your child to be really confident in maths, building secure skills to support them with maths right through their education at junior school and beyond. Come to a workshop on

Tuesday 16th May at 2:15pm, where Mrs Tindall will explain why recall of maths facts is so important in the new maths curriculum at Key Stage 1. There will be maths activities, both paper based and online, to take away and enjoy with your child.

Foundation Stage Coffee Mornings

Coffee mornings for this term will be at 9am on **Wednesday 10th May** and **Wednesday 21st June**. Younger brothers and sisters welcome to attend- come and hear more about the end of Foundation Stage expectations and Early Learning Goals. In June Mrs Foster will talk about how we work towards the transition into Year 1 for Foxes and Badgers.



Eddie the Penguin

The spring term ended with a wonderful performance of Eddie the Penguin. It was lovely to see so many of you enjoying the singing, dancing and acting. Our thanks once again to Miss Williams, Mrs Tindall, Mrs Lacey and Mrs Daly who worked hard with the performers, costumes, dance and art work. Thanks too to Abbey Wade who worked with the orchestra, and with singers across Yr1 and Yr2 to achieve a confident performance with a strong recycling message.



Jewellery in PE

Many thanks for adhering to our rules around earrings, removing them on PE days. We have been asked to remind parents and carers that all jewellery is to be removed for PE. Taping for any reason is not allowed under the Essex County Council Health and Safety Policy. If children can remove their earrings, we can put them in a small envelope for them to take home. However, if they cannot take their earrings out children will have to sit out of PE. With this in mind, if you intend to have your child's ears pierced it would be best to do this at the start of the summer break, allowing time for them to heal and for the earrings to be safely removed without closing. PE days this half term are:

Foxes and Badgers: Tuesdays and Thursdays

Owls and Hedgehogs: Wednesdays and Fridays

Rabbits and Squirrels: Mondays and Thursdays

Class Assemblies

In the summer term both our Foundation Stage classes will present class assemblies, sharing some of the work and activities they have been enjoying in their classrooms. Parents and other family members, including younger brothers and sisters are invited to join us for the assembly, arriving from 10:00am. Assemblies usually last 15-20 minutes and involve all the children. At the end of the assembly we invite you to stay for some refreshments with your child and celebrate their achievements. Foxes assembly is first on **Friday 12th May**, followed by Badgers on **Friday 19th May**. We look forward to welcoming lots of visitors.

Eco Race

Get set... we're taking part in The Essex Eco Race, an inter-school cycling and scooting challenge that inspire pupils, staff and parents to choose two wheels for their journey to school.

Powered by Sustrans and funded by the Bike Hub, it's free to enter and we would love everyone to be involved. We are very keen that as many children take part as possible to promote a more active and healthy way to start the day and to reduce traffic congestion in the roads around our school.

Eco Race - How does it work?

Class Score Sheets (stuck on the classroom wall) are used by pupils to circle the score relating to the way they travel to school: **5 points for cycling, scooting or walking, 4 points for taking the bus and 1 point for coming by car/taxi/moped.** This process is repeated every day for three weeks. Class Score Sheets are then collected and sent to the Sustrans Schools officer who collates the data and allocates prizes.



The next Sustrans competition for schools begins on **Monday 8th May and runs for 3 weeks.** Once again class teachers will be collecting information about journeys to school and awarding points to children who travelled in more sustainable ways.



Diary Dates

Tuesday 9 th May	SATs meeting for Yr2 parents 2:30 and 6pm
Wednesday 10 th May	Foundation Stage Coffee Morning 9am, looking at end of year goals.
Thursday 11 th May	New parents' evening for parents of children due to start school in Sept 2017
Friday 12 th May	Foxes class assembly at 10:15am
Tuesday 16 th May	Maths workshop- different games and content for each year group.
Friday 19 th May	Badgers class assembly at 10:15 am
Tuesday 23 rd May	Chocolate Cafe for Yr1 and Yr2 classes at 2pm.
Friday 26 th May	GIPA sponsored event from 2:30-4pm, with a Chocolate theme! Details and sponsor forms to follow very soon!