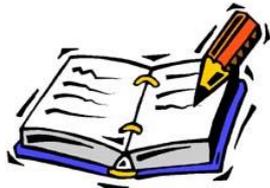




Galleywood Infant School

Friday 9th September 2016

Welcome to the new school year! We hope that you all had a great summer. It was lovely to see your summer diaries, which the children have enjoyed sharing with their new teachers and classmates.



Thursday and Friday last week were training days for our staff. On Thursday we worked as a staff team to focus on our school improvement priorities for 2016-17 - a summary of these will accompany next week's newsletter. In the afternoon there was a Safeguarding update for all staff.

On Friday we had an excellent joint training morning with the teachers at St Michael's Church of England Junior School. Mrs Rumsey and I have planned further opportunities for our staff teams to work together.



We are delighted to welcome Mrs Holden back to the Owls class following her maternity leave.

Children have settled really well into their new classes and the school feels calm and purposeful. The children look very smart in new uniforms, which help them to feel part of our Galleywood Infant School community. Thank you!

Meet the Teacher

The staff have been working hard both before and during the summer to plan your children's learning for this term, using traditional tales and our fantastic school grounds as the starting point. Please come on **Thursday 15th September at 2:30pm or 7pm** to our Meet the Teacher sessions

to hear about "If you go down to the woods...", our Key Stage 1 learning theme for this half term.

Mrs Foster and Miss Mildinhal will explain how we determine starting points for our new Foxes and Badgers. They will talk about how children are learning letters and sounds for reading, spelling and handwriting. All teachers will outline themes for the year and provide information about ways to support learning at home. We hope you can join us.



The evening meeting will be followed by a short AGM for GIPA, our parents' association, to celebrate their successful fundraising in 2015-16. This will take no more than half an hour. Further details will follow on Monday.

Dates for the year

Attached to this letter is a list of key dates for the school year, providing as much notice as possible of special school occasions.

Year 2 children will not be presenting class assemblies as they work towards two significant events, The Infant Music Festival in March and their Leavers' Assembly in July, both of which are shared with families.

Please note our **Open Mornings** for pre-school children, and pass the dates/ times to any parents you know who may be applying for places for September 2017.

Child Protection Policy

In line with the revised Government document, Keeping Children Safe in

Education Sept 16, we have updated our school policy for Child Protection, which is available on our website under News, Policies.

Helpers needed please!

This year we would like to recruit a group of parents/ friends/ grandparents to support less confident readers.

If you could spare an hour or two one day each week, morning or afternoon, we would be very grateful. Please speak to Miss



Williams or Mrs Manning so we can arrange a short information session for helpers about

the reading skills in the new curriculum.

For safeguarding reasons all helpers are required to undertake a DBS check, which the school will arrange, and will be provided with a copy of the school's safeguarding protocols.