

Galleywood Infant School

Friday 16th June 2017

Dear Parents,



Mini Olympics

Last Tuesday children from Rabbits and Squirrels classes travelled by coach to Melbourne Stadium; they took part in sporting activities with Yr2 children from other schools. Kassadi, Macauley and Charlie explained what they had enjoyed about the morning:

“A brass band walked along and we waved our flags. Every school chose a different country and we all made flags for The Gambia because we raise money for schools there. We knew what to do because lots of leaders from Baddow Sports College helped us.”



“ It was good because we were in teams but it wasn’t actually a race- you just try to get as many points as you can. You get a point for each thing you do and then they add the points up together. You had to do things like throw a beanbag as far as you can or do five jumps side to side.”

“I did struggle a bit with glide bikes because it was my first time doing it. It wasn’t so easy if you are still learning to ride a 2 wheel bike. It was good though. We should get some glide bikes!”

Hedingham Castle

On Thursday 8th June all of Yr1 and Yr2 travelled to Hedingham Castle for a day of activities, learning about life in a medieval castle. A group of actors called “Hands on the Past” took the role of different members of the castle community so that the children could meet and talk to Lady Oxford, knights and soldiers, the cook and servants, an archer and some musicians. This week children have been making guide books and writing information text about the castle based on their exciting day. Thank you for supporting this trip, which has really engaged the children and given them a great knowledge base for this half term’s work.



Headlice

Recently there have been several reported cases of headlice in school and we would like parents to work with us to prevent the problem in the following ways:



- Keep hair securely tied back (loose hair will be tied back by office staff)
- Check hair daily when brushing/ combing and treat any infestation promptly.
- Inform the school office if you have to treat your child’s hair- we can then monitor whether it is an isolated case or more serious outbreak
- Use a special comb to ensure that eggs and lice at all stages of development are completely removed

We appreciate that when children have been treated and then the problem recurs this is very frustrating and costly for parents. If you have not seen headlice or need information about treatments visit the NHS Choices website and search for headlice and nits.

TEG volunteers

We are very grateful to a group of volunteers from TEG, the Great Baddow and Galleywood Environmental Group, who have been working in school his week. We are lucky to have such beautiful school grounds but in summer we sometimes struggle to find enough shade! TEG have been working with Miss Mildinhall to create a new willow tunnel in the Early Years garden, planting willow whips in the spring and now 8 struts, which need to root before they can be bent into shape to form a tunnel in the autumn.

Miss Mildinhall has been collecting evidence towards the Woodland Trust Green tree awards and we are very close to achieving our gold certificate! Well done!



Outdoor learning

Children in Foxes and Badgers classes have been enjoying the chance to learn outdoors. The strawberries growing in the trough will soon be ready to pick!



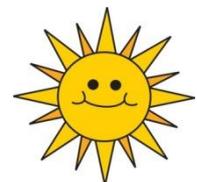
Have you noticed the beautiful sweet peas in our entrance hall? They have been grown in our polytunnel with the help of Peter Seabrook and volunteers from Galleywood Horticultural Society. Children in Foundation Stage classes have been helping to pick sweet peas and take lettuces to the school kitchen.

In their Friday Forest School sessions the children have been working together to explore a sensory trail and picking raspberries to make butterfly feeders.



Sun protection

We are enjoying the beautiful warm weather and hope it continues. Please remember to apply sunscreen to your child before coming to school and ensure they bring a water bottle and sun hat. Whilst sunglasses may look cool they do not protect children in the same way as high factor sunscreen and a hat or cap to cover their head. Thank you.



Chocolate Challenge



Once again we managed to choose one of the warmest days of the year, and to send most children home covered in sticky chocolate! A huge thank you to Kesh and Lisa, and to all the volunteers who helped to set up and run the activities. We would like to give a final total for the chocolate challenge- please send any outstanding sponsor money to the office early next week. Thank you!

Diary dates this term

Wednesday 21st June 9-10:30am Foundation Stage coffee morning for Foxes and Badgers parents and carers. The focus will be on transition from Foundation Stage to Yr1.

Saturday 1st July is our summer fair from 12noon -3pm with a Mad Hatter's Tea Party theme. This is a joint event with St Michael's Junior School. See the GIPA Facebook page and flyers for details of how to help and support us. GIPA and SMASH Campover from 4pm on Saturday to noon on Sunday.

Thursday 6th July at 1:15pm is our Children's Challenge, an afternoon of sporting activities and races on the school field. Your child will take part in races with their class and have the chance to collect points for completing various challenges. We would love parents and families to join us and support the children. Yr6 pupils from St Michael's help us to set up and run the activities.

Friday 7th July Foundation Stage children receive their reports, children in Yr1 and Yr2 receive a summary report and results of any National Assessments.

Friday 7th July GIPA Moving on Disco for all classes with games and entertainment.

Saturday 8th July Galleywood Games from 11am-2:30pm. Last year this event, part of the Galleywood Festival, was held in Jubilee Park. This year it will be on our school field. Families are invited to bring a picnic, take part in some familiar sports and perhaps try some new ones. There will be refreshments to buy and parking available on St Michael's playground. See flyer to follow!

Thursday 13th July is our open evening from 4:30-6pm. This is an opportunity to visit your child's current class and see the progress they have been making since the spring term. Parents with children in Foundation Stage and Year 1 will be able to visit their child's new classroom and meet the teacher.

Tuesday 18th July all children spend the afternoon in their new classrooms with their new teacher.

Wednesday 19th July at 9:15 we have an assembly to say good bye to Mrs Tindall and Mrs Holden.

Thursday 20th July at 10am the Year 2 children will present their leaving assembly as a celebration of their time at Galleywood Infant School.

Thursday 20th July at 3:10 pm school closes for the summer break.

Friday 21st July is a non pupil day- staff will be working in school.