

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2015



Dear Parents,

We were pleased so many children enjoyed the chocolate challenges last Friday. Sunshine was a bonus, but it made for some messy chocolate games as the afternoon went on! A huge thank you to Julia, Mel, Jo, Nicola, Steph, Åsa, Kesh and Greg for organising and setting up the activities. If you didn't receive a sponsor form there are some in the school entrance.

We have finally emptied and counted all the coins from the Smartie tubes, with some help from the children in Rabbits class. The grand total was almost £485, a fantastic achievement- well done and thank you!

### In memory of Stuart Blunden

Please make a note of this date and help Stuart's family and friends to raise a really good amount of money for two wonderful charities. Donations of crockery for smashing can be brought to the entrance hall. Bottles of wine or spirits would be welcomed for the adult raffle, and bags of sweets, any variety, for a children's raffle. Thank you.

### Hockey

This term our Year 2 classes have been learning hockey skills on Tuesday afternoons. If your child has enjoyed these lessons and would like to play some more hockey there is a hockey club every Friday in Chelmer Park, Beehive Lane from 6-7pm. There is no joining fee; children just pay £1 to take part in the weekly coaching session. Children need to wear casual clothes and trainers.

Teacher Led Clubs for children in Yr1 and Yr2 will be on Tuesdays in the summer term- this is so that children who attend Basketball and Science clubs will have a chance to take part. The first club is on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> June; letters to choose a club will be sent out on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> June.

### Curriculum Plans

A reminder that Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June is a non-pupil day, with children returning to school on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> June at 8:50am. Our training day will be an opportunity for all the staff to work together and design 6 curriculum units for 2015-16 with learning themes to inspire children in all year groups. We will be using feedback from the children and staff about the most successful aspects this year and looking for new ways to use visits and visitors, both real and fictitious, to make learning fun.

### Home Learning

The school subscribes to Bug Club, Abacus Maths, DB Primary and Espresso in order to provide access to a wide range of learning activities for your children at home. Login details for these sites are in your child's Reading Record book- please ask a member of your child's class team if you are experiencing any difficulties with these sites, or login details have been lost. We know that Bug Club is used well and need to ensure our other subscriptions provide value for money!

Mrs Tindall and Mrs Holden have added new activities to DB Primary linked to our next topic!

The poster is for a 'Family Fun Day & Football Tournament' held on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> June from 11 am to 5 pm. It features a large soccer ball in the center with the text '11 am - 5 pm', 'Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> June', and 'FREE ENTRY'. To the right of the ball is a smiling sun and the text 'In memory of Stuart Blunden'. Below the ball, there is a list of activities: 'Children Play Zone', 'Plate Smashing', 'Raffles - Books & Toys', 'Bar - BBQ', 'Face painting - Sweets', and 'Bouncy Castle - Games'. At the bottom left, the venue is listed as 'BADDOW SPARTAK - SANDON SPORTS & SOCIAL CLUB, WOODHILL ROAD, CHELMSFORD CM2 7SE'. At the bottom right, there is an illustration of children playing on a bouncy castle. At the very bottom, it says 'Raising Money For:' followed by logos for 'YO-YO' and 'headfirst'.

### Forest Schools

After half term Foxes will be doing Forest Schools on Tuesday morning and Badgers on Friday mornings. Offers of help always very welcome. Squirrels class will have Forest Schools every Tuesday afternoon, beginning on 2<sup>nd</sup> June and ending on 7<sup>th</sup> July. The children will need to bring a long sleeved t-shirt/ jumper, long trousers and a pair of old trainers or wellies. Again Mrs Shiels would love some parent helpers from 1:15-3pm.

### School Crossing Patrol

We have been asked to advertise a vacancy for a School Crossing Patrol Operator for St Michael's Junior School and Galleywood Infant School from September 2015.



For more information contact:  
Please contact the Working for Essex team stating job number WE-EC18473 on:  
**0844 800 6685** or [www.workingforessex.com](http://www.workingforessex.com)

### News from The Gambia

Today children in Yr1 and Yr2 hosted Chocolate Cafes for parents and friends to celebrate all the work they have done this half term. Chocolate bars, truffles and lollipops were shared with visitors and over £200 was collected in donations for our Gambian schools. We will let you know the final total soon and of course Mrs Read already has some plans for this money!

On her last visit Mrs Read visited a school not far from Bansang in Kerewan, where the children have little more than a basic school room. She took an alphabet, made by our Yr2 children, which is now used daily to help Gambian children learn English.



As all children in The Gambia learn to read and write in English, Sue is very keen for this remote community to have their own library. Money raised by children in Galleywood Infant School will pay for a craftsman to install shelves, a floor and some furniture as well as paint the walls. In September we will again be asking families for books they no longer need to stock Kerewan library. We will also pay the wages of a librarian to help children find reading materials and keep the books in good condition. Sue will be visiting each class after half term to show photographs from her recent visit.



This is the library at Kerewan and the headmaster hearing from Sue Read about the artists from Galleywood who made their school alphabet!

### Half term events

**St Michael's church** will be holding their next **Messy Church** event on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> May at 4pm and welcome all ages to take part in crafts and stories.

**Galleywood Library** will be holding a Pirates and Princesses event on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> May- see below.

**Pirates and Princesses  
half term fun**

**Galleywood Library**  
Tuesday 26 May, 2 – 4pm  
in conjunction with Galleywood Children's Centre

**Meet our Princesses & Pirates for an afternoon of  
fun activities and craft. Come in fancy dress.**

Further information from Galleywood Library on 01245 259042

