



Galleywood Infant School

Tuesday 17th April 2018

Dear Parents,

We hope that everyone had a wonderful Easter break. The weather could certainly have been sunnier and warmer, but we are hoping for the spring temperatures that have been promised over the next couple of weeks so the children can make the most of our play equipment and school field.

Summer Term Learning

The Ugly Bug Ball learning theme is well underway, caterpillars have been ordered for every classroom and Mrs Wade is teaching us the famous song!

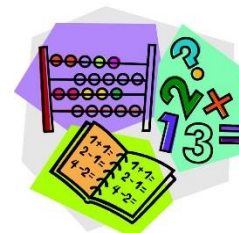
We hope you found the reports and parent consultations for children in Yr1 and Yr2 really helpful. I know many of you have been working hard with your children, following up the meetings and responding to the targets we have set. Please arrange a time with your child's teacher if you would like to have a follow up chat after school one day.

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 and the Yr2 teachers would like to explain more about how we use and carry out the tests, show you test materials from previous years and offer you the opportunity to ask us any questions next **Tuesday 24th April at 2:30pm and at 6pm**. We hope all parents of Yr2 children will be able to attend one of these sessions.

Maths Workshop for Year 1 Parents

Children in Year 2 have been working hard on their mental maths challenges all year and we have been delighted to present Seahorse, Caterpillar, Dinosaur and Ladybird certificates in assembly.



Owls and Hedgehogs have just started their challenges and Mrs Ray would like to explain how the challenges work and how we use these maths facts in lessons. She will show you how you can support your child to be really confident in maths, building secure skills to support them with maths right through Year 1, Year 2, the junior school and beyond. Come to a workshop on **Wednesday 25th April at 9am**, where Mrs Ray will explain why recall of maths facts is so important in the maths curriculum at Key Stage 1. There will be maths activities, both paper-based and online, to take away and enjoy with your child.

Keeping up with the children in English

We are working with Adult Community Learning to offer a 4 week course, Keeping up with your child in English. The course will run from 9:15-11:15 in our demountable classroom, starting on Thursday 3rd May. Your child/children will come and work with you for part of the morning. Details to follow.

This course is aimed at parents, grandparents and carers of children and offers adults information about the structure, teaching methods and content of the literacy curriculum so that they can support their children's literacy learning at school.

Foundation Stage Coffee Mornings

Coffee mornings for this term will be at 9am on **Wednesday 16th May** and **Wednesday 27th 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.



There's a Sunflower in my Supper



The spring term ended with a wonderful performance of There's a Sunflower in my Supper. It was lovely to see so many of you enjoying the singing, dancing and acting. Our thanks to all of the Year 2 team, who worked hard with the performers, costumes, dancers and colourful displays. Thanks too to Abbey Wade who worked with the orchestra and with singers across Yr1 and Yr2 to achieve a confident performance. It was lovely to see so many parents, grandparents and friends, and to welcome Mrs Read, Mrs Fraser and Miss Belmar among the audience. The children will plant some sunflowers this term to attract a variety of bugs and wildlife- we would love to see pictures of any sunflowers you manage to grow at home!

Nursery Open Day

Woodcroft Nursery School are holding an Open Day on Saturday 28th April from 10am-1pm. You are welcome to visit the Essex County Council Nursery School, which offers provision for children between 2-5yrs. They also now offer wrap around care from 7:45am-6:15pm, term time only. For details visit their website www.woodcroft-nur.essex.sch.uk

Messy Church

The next Messy Church at St Michael's Church Galleywood is on Saturday April 28th at 4pm. The Messy Church story will tell us that, while Jacob slept he dreamed of a great ladder stretching all the way to heaven. Come and enjoy the story, painting, craft and games.

Food at the end of the afternoon.

Find us on [facebook.com/messychurchgalleywood](https://www.facebook.com/messychurchgalleywood)

Future dates, **June 23rd** and **Sept 29th**.



Support for Parents

The Children's Society will be running a free group for parents over an 8 week period at St Michael's C of E Junior School. They are holding an afternoon tea next Monday 23rd April from 1-3pm . You are very welcome to drop in for a chat, a cup of tea and some cake. Michelle McCreddie from The Children's Society will talk about her role and about the support they can provide for children of all ages and their families.

For more information and to book a place please contact Sarah Manning at the Infant School or Catherine Cullen at St Michael's.

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 10am. 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. Badgers assembly is first on **Friday 11th May**, followed by Foxes on **Friday 18th May**. We look forward to welcoming lots of visitors.

Teacher led clubs

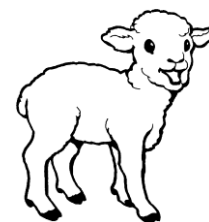
We are once again offering teacher-led clubs for children in Yr1 and Yr2 on a Thursday afternoon from 3:10-4pm. They will start next week 26th April and run for 4 weeks. Look out for the letter on Wednesday 18th April with the choices available this time.

Governors

Two of our parent Governors reach the end of their term of office in September 2018. We will be seeking two new parent Governors. If you would like to be closely involved with our staff team in securing the very best outcomes for all our children, ensuring our school serves the Galleywood community well and has strong links with pre-schools, St Michael's and other local schools, please arrange a time to speak to Sarah Manning or Chloe Williams. Thank you.

Lambing Live!

Thank you to everyone who supported the bitterly cold Lambing Day at Great Sir Hughes Farm on Saturday 17th March. £255.49 was raised for the Rare Breeds Trust.



We are very grateful to Paul and Emma for bringing a ewe and 3 lambs to school on the last day of the spring term. Each class went out onto the school field to see the lambs, to ask questions.

GIPA News

Thank you for supporting our Easter Raffle. £232.50 was raised. The next Cushion Club event is on Friday 27th April 5-6:30pm and the weekly tuck shop starts on Friday 4th May after school.



Non Pupil Days for 2018-19

We like to give parents as much notice as possible of term dates to help you plan family holidays. Our 5 staff training days for next year have been approved by our Governors and will be Tue 4th Sept, Wed 5th Sept so that term starts for all children on Thursday 6th September; the 3 remaining days will be 22nd, 23rd and 24th July 2019, so that the summer term will end on Friday 19th July 2019. Please see the term dates which can be printed from our school website and ask in the school office if a paper copy would be helpful.

Diary Dates for this half term

Thursday 19th April - Zoolab visit, Rainforest Experience for all classes

Tuesday 24th April 2:30 and 6pm - SATs information meeting for parents

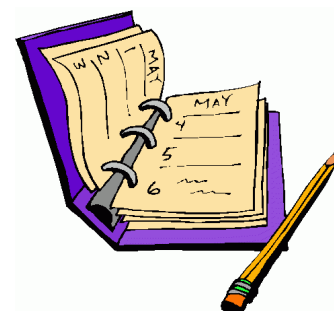
Wednesday 25th April 9am - Maths Challenge meeting for Yr1 parents

Thursday 26th April 3:10pm - Teacher led clubs start for Yr1 and Yr2 children

Friday 27th April 5-6:30pm - GIPA Cushion Club

Wednesday 2nd May - School and class photos

Friday 4th May 3:10pm - GIPA After school tuck shop begins.



Monday 7th May Bank Holiday - School Closed

Friday 11th May - Badgers Class Assembly

Wednesday 16th May 9-10am - Foundation Stage Coffee Morning

Friday 18th May - Foxes Class Assembly

Monday 21st May - Science Week begins, full details to follow!