

Galleywood Infant School

Monday 6th September



Dear Parents and Carers,



A very warm welcome to everyone, whether you are new to our school, returning after the summer break or returning with a younger sibling. Many of us work in school on and off through the summer, but the school building never feels complete without the children and it was lovely to welcome you all last week. The children have settled really well, delighted to see one another after the 6 week break, and all classrooms feel calm and purposeful. I am grateful to the staff who have worked hard over the summer to refresh and renew spaces for learning and play- thank you!

Roof project

I have met again with the builders this morning; the project is proceeding well and they will make good use of the settled dry weather expected this week. On the days when no deliveries are expected we can accommodate 6-7 staff cars on site, which should ease parking along Barnard Road a little.

New staff

This term we welcome Miss Ford, who is working as a teaching assistant in Yr2, and Mrs Bailey, who is working across the two Year1 classes supporting learning and leading catch up groups. Towards the end of the summer term we also appointed Mrs Emerick-Law as a part-time learning assistant, Ms Ampadu as a kitchen assistant and Ms Osborne as a midday assistant. We welcome them all to our staff team and hope they will all be very happy at Galleywood.

Meet the Teacher

Next **Thursday 16th September** we would like all parents to come to a short meeting, no longer than 30 mins, to hear about the learning that is planned for your child this year and how you will be involved to ensure your child has the most successful year possible. Teachers will give the same short talk at **2:30pm** and **5:30pm**. You are welcome to bring younger siblings and if you have no alternative child care, then your child can sit quietly with you for the 5:30 meeting. Please arrive through our front entrance to sign in. We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible next week.

Covid risk assessment

Although many Covid-19 regulations were relaxed from 16th August, we are still required to have measures in place to prevent/ protect against transmission of the virus in and around school. Continued use of lateral flow tests twice weekly by all staff, handwashing and sanitising, additional cleaning at mid-day and ventilated classrooms are all firmly embedded and detailed in our new risk assessment- see school website. The school is no longer responsible for contact tracing following a positive test but we are required to notify the Local Authority of any staff member or children who receive a positive PCR test so that cases can be monitored across the county. Please continue to keep us informed, and to note if/when any symptoms develop as this is significant in determining whether any children or staff contacts will be advised to take a test.

Change of school holiday dates

We were advised during the summer break that due to the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebration in June 2022, when there will be an additional bank holiday, the summer term in Essex schools will end on Thursday 21st July rather than Friday 22nd July, as previously notified. We have updated our holiday dates sheet, attached with this newsletter and on our website, to help you make plans for next summer!

