

## Galleywood Infant School

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> February 2022



Dear Parents & Carers,

Last Friday we reached the end of a tricky half term managing ongoing Covid related absences among both children and staff. We are hoping the worst of this long running pandemic is behind us as we now learn to live with Covid and manage the risk.

This half term children have been thinking about how homes have changed over time. Our Foundation Stage children went for a walk in the local area to see many different kinds of homes. All classes had the chance to examine real artefacts borrowed from Chelmsford Museum and also from the schools' library service, provoking questions about what items might have been used for, and what a modern-day equivalent might be.

On 25<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> January we had fabulous workshops run by History Off the Page, when children learned about the many different roles and tasks involved in running a large Victorian house. We are very grateful to the many parents who came to help with the activities, supporting the children to explore and talk about household objects and experience some aspects of life as a Victorian child. On the afternoon of each day the children took part in a Victorian music hall, with groups performing songs, acts, dances or poems for the audience. The children looked amazing in their Victorian costumes- a huge thank you for taking the time to find or make these, they really added to the day.



**A Victorian school room**



**Learning how to clean the house**



**Learning to lay the table for dinner**

Our next learning theme asks the question, "Who did you belong to?" with a focus on children's toys at different points in the past. Staff have been exploring lofts and cupboards - please let us know if you have some old toys you would be happy for us to borrow. Thank you.

The GIPA committee organised our first cushion club for two years on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> February, when lots of families joined us to enjoy a film with popcorn and pizza, raising £297! Look out for tickets for the next film night on 4<sup>th</sup> March.

We hope you had fun with GIPA's Valentines themed bags - the sale of these generated a profit of £240 towards our Pirate Ship project. Thank you to all the committee members and helpers who spent time planning, organising, packing and distributing the bags.

Although there is still a little more to raise, we have now placed the order for our Pirate ship so that hopefully children will be able to enjoy it this summer. It was a very ambitious project and has taken a huge amount of work but I know it will be a brilliant legacy for children in Galleywood for many years to come. As soon as we have an installation date, we will begin the countdown!



## PE Days for next half term

As you know we offer children a range of different PE activities across the year, with the teaching of PE skills organised into 6 week blocks. For the next half term, February until Easter, PE days will be as follows:

Foxes and Badgers: Forest schools on Monday and indoor PE on Thursday (no change to this)

Owls and Hedgehogs: Outdoor PE on Tuesday and dance on Thursday

Rabbits and Squirrels: Gymnastics in the hall on Wednesday, outdoor PE on Friday.

We ask that if children wear earrings, these are removed on PE days. Thank you.

### Forthcoming events:

Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> February School re-opens following half term break

Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> March Curriculum and Coffee morning for Foundation Stage parents, 9-10am

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> March GIPA Cushion Club 5:30-7pm

Friday 11<sup>th</sup> March Reports out for all children in Yr1 and Yr2

Monday 21<sup>st</sup> and  
Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March Parent consultations for children in Yr1 and Yr2, 3:30-6pm  
Appointments bookable online from 4<sup>th</sup> March- email link to follow.

Friday 25<sup>th</sup> March The Secret Garden drama production- details to follow

Friday 25<sup>th</sup> March GIPA Bingo night- details to follow

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> April Term ends, Easter break from 2-18<sup>th</sup> April.

### Term dates for 2022-2023

If you are booking summer holidays it might be helpful to know that the first day back for all children will be Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2022 as we will be taking Thur 1<sup>st</sup> and Fri 2<sup>nd</sup> Sept 2022 as staff training days. The school holiday sheet for Galleywood Infant School and St Michael's C of E Junior School is attached and also on our website for reference.

Just a reminder that Monday 21<sup>st</sup> February is a non-pupil day and we will look forward to seeing everyone back in school on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> February. The office will be open on Monday 21<sup>st</sup>.

