

Galleywood Infant School

Friday 19th January 2018

Dear Parents,

Happy Retirement, Jacky and Sandra



By now many of you will have called in or phoned the office and spoken to our new team. We would like to welcome Dawn Brown, our new Finance Officer. Dawn has lots of finance experience to bring to Galleywood and she is quickly learning other aspects of her new job, such as cushion club tickets, lost property and blocked drains! Rachel Brailsford has joined the admin team and will be working 12-3:30 on Thursdays and Fridays. We hope they will both be very happy at Galleywood.

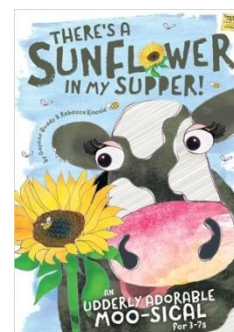
Jacky Fraser and Sandra McSweeney have not exactly retired yet- they have both been in school training Dawn Brown, Carrie Reed and Ceri Gray in aspects of their new roles.

The installation of our new Spider Climber was delayed but has now been completed. Sovereign advised that the safety surface would take a little longer to harden due to the damp conditions but it is now safe to use. Please make sure you supervise your child very well so that everyone can be safe and have fun! Thank you GIPA ☺

Term Dates

Please check and note these key dates on your new 2018 calendars:

- **Friday 2nd February** is Hedgehogs Class Assembly at 10:15
- **Friday 9th February** is Owls Class Assembly at 10:15
- Monday Feb 12th-Friday Feb 16th is half term week
- Our Book week runs from **Monday 26th February** - details to follow but advance notice that Thursday 1st March is World Book Day and we will be inviting children to dress up if they wish!
- Foundation Stage Parent Consultations take place on **Wed 7th Feb 5-7:30pm. and Thur 8th Feb 3:30-6pm**
- Yr1 and Yr2 Parent Consultations take place on **Mon 19th March 3:30-6pm and Tue 20th March 4:30-7pm.**
- There will be a music festival presentation of "There's a Sunflower in my Supper" on **Thursday 29th March at 10am** involving all children in Yr1 and Yr2. Visitors welcome- details to follow.



- Term ends on **Thursday 29th March** at 3:10pm and the summer term begins on Monday 16th April at 8:50am. The calendar has been updated on our website to include the additions.



When Ofsted visited on 17th October 2017 the inspector felt that our staff and Governors had a clear and accurate picture of both the things our school does well and the things we need to improve.

Cindy Impey, HMI, agreed with the actions we had already identified to improve outcomes in reading.

So what are we doing to ensure that all children make the very best progress in reading?

- ❖ All children read with an adult at least 3 x each week. In Yr1 and Yr2 children have 2 group reading sessions of 20-25 minutes (called Guided Reading) and one individual session with an adult.



- ❖ Children read every day in their phonics and English lessons. They read to find information in lessons such as geography, history, science and RE.

- ❖ Children enjoy reading with their older and younger peers. Story time each Thursday is spent sharing books and stories with another class.



- ❖ With 180 children using our school reading books they do get a bit battered over time. Thank you for mending them sometimes! Just before Christmas we spent £1,200 on new reading books, some for the library and some for group reading in classrooms.
- ❖ We have opened Mrs Honey's Swap Shop, where children can bring a book they no longer need and swap it for a new one. You

can keep swapping for a new book every day if you wish!



So what can families do?

- Read to your child every day. Evidence shows over and over again that this is the very, very best way to help your child become a reader and a writer.
- Help your child find a book somebody else would enjoy, and bring it to the swap shop!
- Find and use your Bug Club login- it is in your child's reading record, or ask the class teacher. Read and reread favourite books, collecting bugs for good answers!
- Find a time that works for your family for your child to read at home and try to do this at least 4 times a week.
- When you read together at home the aim is not always to finish the book- it will help your child more to stop and talk about what you have read so far to make sure they fully understand the book.
- Make sure children are in school and ready for guided reading to start by 9am.

