

Galleywood Infant School

Saturday 1st October 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week has started to feel like autumn, with the children needing warm coats for some playtimes, and running around in short sleeved tops a couple of hours later!

Farewell and thank you, Miss Searles

Yesterday we gathered to give some cards, gifts and our very best wishes to Rachel Searles, who has worked at Galleywood for 10 years as a teaching assistant, midday assistant and catch-up tutor. Rachel will be employed through the NHS to support mental wellbeing for children and young people between 4-18yrs and studying with UCL to become an Educational Mental Health Practitioner. Rachel's start date was delayed by NHS and our new Foxes and Badgers have benefitted as we managed to keep her for an extra 4 weeks. We wish Rachel every happiness in her new role and hope she will visit when she can.



Queen Elizabeth II



This week we received delivery of the books promised to every primary school pupil in June 2022, to commemorate the occasion of Queen Elizabeth's Platinum Jubilee. Unfortunately, the delivery received in July contained only a small number of books, but we have now been able to distribute these lovely books to families of children in Year 1 and Year 2. The pages contain a huge amount of detail and historical information about our former Queen and her long life of service. They are really beautiful books to explore, read and treasure with your children- we hope you enjoy them too!

Phonics sessions

Our daily phonics and reading sessions using Little Wandle for Letters and Sounds are now fully up and running in Foundation Stage and Year One classes. Three training sessions for parents have been led by Chloe Needham and Faye Dennis has added a Little Wandle tab to the home page of our website. This will enable parents to access lots of video clips and information. Parents will have the chance to ask further questions at our parent consultations on 17th and 18th October- look out for an email on Monday 3rd October inviting you to book a meeting with your child's teacher.



Harvest Project

During the week beginning Monday 10th October we will be making a Harvest food collection, collecting items for Chelmsford Food Bank. This organisation depends on the local community for donations and also for volunteers, in order to help families experiencing difficulties. We will talk to the children about their work in assemblies this week and begin to collect items from next Monday. Thank you for your support. Chelmsford Food Bank has advised us that the items they need most at present are:

- Tinned rice pudding
- Packets and boxes of instant mashed potato
- Coffee in small and medium jars
- Sponge puddings
- Sweets and chocolate bars
- Shampoo, hand wash or shower gel
- Deodorant
- Nappies, size 5 and larger



FS area

Mr McAdam has started the improvement work in our Early Years garden, installing an area of decking and then creating a covered pergola. Children in Foxes and Badgers have enjoyed watching and chatting with him this week. Please take care and supervise younger siblings carefully in this area whilst the works are underway. Thank you

Open mornings for September 2023 admission

Parents with a child due to start school in September 2023 will be able to make an application via www.Essex.gov.uk between 7th November 2022 and 15th January 2023. We offer two open mornings, this year on Thursday 13th October and Tuesday 15th November, both from 9:30-11am. Parents do not need to book for these sessions, but there are details on our website of six additional small group tours, which parents are able to book via the school office. Please pass this information to anyone you know who might be interested in a place at our school for next year.

Teacher-led clubs

An e-mail was sent home earlier this week, inviting parents of children in years 1 & 2 to sign up for a free teacher-led club, running for 5 weeks, starting on 6th October. If you have not yet signed up for a club, please can you follow the link previously sent home or contact the school office, who will be able to assist you.

Well done to our Stars of the week- check our website for details of our Galleywood Learning Stars. Foxes and Badgers classes are being introduced to each of the stars this half term, finding out how they help us to be successful learners.



Try Hard Trevor

Rabbits: Thiyara and Ava
Squirrels: Sophia and Rivie
Owls: Henderson and Mollie
Hedgehogs: Elsie



Simon Spider

Rabbits: Kosara and Alfie
Squirrels: Evie and Jacob
Owls: Scarlett and Jesse
Hedgehogs: Pippa, Darcy and Teddy

