

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are enjoying some brilliant learning this term as part of our Galleywood whole school theme:

"How do colours make our world the amazing place it is?"

Our curriculum this year was inspired by the book One World, Many Colours by Ben Lerwill.

Lots of parents accompanied us to the allotments, where we were very excited to spot pumpkins amongst a wide range of other fruit, vegetables and flowers.



The delicious cooking smells changed from day to day as children made and tasted pumpkin muffins and in Year 2 pumpkin pesto spread on bread. The children agreed it was delicious! Today I am sure I could smell pumpkin soup.....?



Yr1 and Yr2 classes had a brilliant visit to Parklands Farm this week, starting in the grain barn and then seeing and making drawings of the huge tractors and the combine harvester used to cut the wheat and barley.



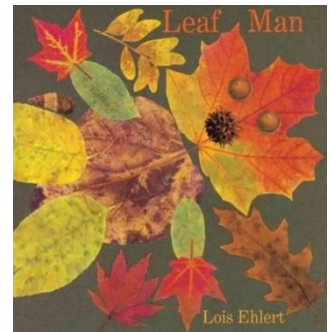
We then explored a field where borage had been harvested and looked at the tiny seedlings that had started to grow as soon as a little rain fell. Mrs Willett invited the children to see what insects and bugs they could find under stones and even in the soil. I am very grateful to Christy Willett and Jane Gowers, as well as Julie and Richard from the Chaplin Close Allotments for offering our children these memorable visits and experiences as part of their learning.

Parent Consultations

We are looking forward to sharing your child's work when we have our autumn parent consultations on Monday 16th and Tuesday 17th October between 3:30-6pm. Please use the link sent today to book a 10-minute appointment with your child's teacher.

Natural Art workshops

We seem to be enjoying a lovely autumn, and as part of our year of colours we would like to invite a family member to come and join us as we work in groups to collect and make pictures with natural materials inspired by the beautiful book 'Leaf Man' by Lois Ehlert.



Foxes and Badgers will be making some pictures outside on **Tuesday 17th October between 2-3pm.**

Rabbits, Squirrels, Owls and Hedgehogs will be making some pictures first thing on Wednesday morning, between **8:50-9:50 on Wednesday 18th October.**

We would welcome help from everyone, parents, grandparents or friends, whether you are artistic and creative or just enthusiastic and happy to join in! All children will take part in the activities and we know it is not easy for working parents to get time off, especially with half term coming up.

We are hoping to build our pictures outside so that the materials can be returned to decompose where they fell - this is important for the plants, minibeasts and birds that live around our school. Photographs of our creations will be displayed on the school website and shared via Tapestry.

School Council

We have a new School Council with two representatives from each class in Yr1 and Yr2. Foxes and Badgers will elect some children to join this group in the spring term.

The school council have met with me and will be talking with their classes about whether we would like a friendship bench in our playground, and if so what would it be like, and where should it be sited?

They helped me to set up some photos to show what kindness looks like at Galleywood Infant School.

We talked about setting up a trail to encourage children to be more active - what should we include? Where could the trail go and what signs will we need? The new School Council also have some ideas of their own which they would like to ask the teachers, the governors and Mrs Dennis about!



Chelmsford Science Festival

Some families have visited the Chelmsford Science Festival in previous years and really enjoyed the variety of activities on offer.

<https://www.aru.ac.uk/community-engagement/community-events-listing/chelmsford-science-festival/arufamily-science-days>



For children who might find the event overwhelming, there is a calmer session from 9-10 each morning. Tickets are free and families can stay as long as they like. See the website for details.

Essex Local Offer Roadshows

Are you the parent/carer or family member of a child with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)? Do you have questions about accessing support in your area or questions about SEND support available in Essex? Would you like to link up with other parents in your area?

If you do, please come along and see us at the Roadshow. There will be representatives from Essex Family Forum, SENDIASS, as well as representatives from the education teams and local support groups. The roadshow is a drop-in event with no need to book.

Find out more about the roadshows on the Essex Local Offer website

<https://send.essex.gov.uk/i-think-my-child-needs-help/essex-local-offer-roadshows>

Half term is coming up and there are some activity sessions arranged across Essex for children with additional needs- please let friends know who might be interested. To book: <https://sendsensation.co.uk/>

October Half Term

MONDAY 23RD OCTOBER - FRIDAY 27TH OCTOBER 2023

UNDER 8 YEARS



	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
BRAINTREE	SENtre: Pumpkin Party 9.30-11.30am	HAPPY HILL: Holiday Club 10am-3pm WAIT LIST	HAPPY HILL: Holiday Club 10am-3pm WAIT LIST	HAPPY HILL: Holiday Club 10am-3pm WAIT LIST	HAPPY HILL: Holiday Club 10am-3pm WAIT LIST
CHELMSFORD			SENtre: SENtre Yoga 10.30-11.30am SENtre: Para Spooky SENsory Dance 11.00am-1pm		
MALDON					
COLCHESTER	ART: Woringford Holiday Club Morning Session 10am-12.30pm ART: Woringford Holiday Club Afternoon Session 1pm-3.30pm	ART: Woringford Holiday Club Morning Session 10am-12.30pm ART: Woringford Holiday Club Afternoon Session 1pm-3.30pm SENtre: Pumpkin Party 10am-12pm SENtre: Para Spooky SENsory Dance 11.30am-1pm	ART: Woringford Holiday Club Morning Session 10am-12.30pm ART: Woringford Holiday Club Afternoon Session 1pm-3.30pm	ART: Woringford Holiday Club Morning Session 10am-12.30pm ART: Woringford Holiday Club Afternoon Session 1pm-3.30pm	ART: Woringford Holiday Club Morning Session 10am-12.30pm ART: Woringford Holiday Club Afternoon Session 1pm-3.30pm
TENDRING	MISTLEY KIDS CLUB: Holiday Club 8am-6pm WAIT LIST	MISTLEY KIDS CLUB: Holiday Club 8am-6pm WAIT LIST	MISTLEY KIDS CLUB: Holiday Club 8am-6pm WAIT LIST	MISTLEY KIDS CLUB: Holiday Club 8am-6pm WAIT LIST SENtre: Pumpkin Party 1-3pm	MISTLEY KIDS CLUB: Holiday Club 8am-6pm WAIT LIST



<https://sendsensation.justgo.com>



Due to high demand, a wait list system is in place

COLOUR KEY Mistley Kids Club SENtre
ART Happy Hill Essex Disability4Sport

Early Years Foundation Stage Coffee Morning

It was lovely to see so many people at the coffee morning yesterday. We hope you found this helpful and will use our school dates list to make a note of the half termly sessions. Mrs Foster and Miss Bosley are always happy to adapt the content of these meetings to include something that parents suggest- do let us know!

Finally, don't forget that GIPA's first **cushion club** will be taking place on Friday 13th October from 5:30-7pm. Tickets are available from the office now!