

Galleywood Infant School

Friday 1st December 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

This letter was due to come out on Monday but of course our attention has been given to the Ofsted Inspection Team this week. Thank you so much for your generous support and comments, keeping us supplied with smiles, kind words and biscuits- all very much appreciated 😊

Thank you too to everyone who completed a parent survey. I acknowledge the very tight time frame for responses- this is outside our control. However, if you wish to contribute your views and comments to Ofsted Parent view, or indeed to view the responses of other parents you can do so from our website at any time - scroll to the bottom of the front page and click on the image:



The children and staff have been amazing this week and worked incredibly hard as always. The inspection team are writing their report, which will probably not be released until after Christmas. We will of course share all the findings with families as soon as we are able to do so.



Thank you for all your contributions to **Children in Need**- we received donations of over £180 towards the BBC appeal.

Calling All Angels

Families have already received a link to request tickets for our performances of Calling All Angels on either 12th, 13th or 14th December. We have begun helping children to learn the songs, dances, lines and musical parts this week, and you should have received a letter with any costume requirements by the end of today. The children are really loving the songs!

It is important that audiences on all three dates enjoy the same wonderful performance with the same dances, speakers and musicians. We ask **all children** to come back to school at 5:30pm on Thursday evening for the sparkly final performance- the play will begin at 6pm and be finished by approx. 6:45pm. Thank you.



Help needed please!

We would like our Christmas presentation to sparkle in every way, which inevitably involves glue and glitter. Our preparations have been delayed a little this year due to our visit earlier this week. If you can help us make the headbands on Monday 4th and Tuesday 5th December your time and support would be very much appreciated from 1:15-3:15 in the demountable classroom. I shall make sure it is warm, provide tea, coffee, biscuits and chocolate- of course younger siblings are welcome to come with you. Please let us know:

admin@galleywood.essex.sch.uk or sarahmanning@galleywood.essex.sch.uk



Penguin reading challenge



Many of you have supported your child in previous years to join the Essex Libraries summer holiday reading challenges. The winter challenge is similar, and started last Saturday.

Join Lyra the penguin as she travels around the world, finding out all about endangered animals. There are 12 challenges for your child to choose from. Once they complete six of the challenges they will be rewarded with a certificate and a prize (while stocks last). The challenges support literacy skills, confidence with reading and creativity, with many of the fun challenges completable in the library.

<https://libraries.essex.gov.uk/news/winter-reading-challenge>

Lyra set off on **Saturday 25 November** and will be returning on Saturday 3 February, but you can join her on her travels at any time! You can sign up to the challenge by visiting any of the 74 Essex libraries.

Galleywood Library is open as follows:

- Monday - Closed
- Tuesday - 2pm to 5:30pm
- Wednesday - Closed
- Thursday - Closed
- Friday - 9am to 5:30pm
- Saturday - 9am to 5pm





Please can we remind parents that only drivers with a blue badge can drop off/ pick up from our school car park. We share the driveway with St Michael's and parking has always been tight due to the number of staff working in both schools.

For the safety of everyone, please avoid parking in school unless our office team have seen a valid blue badge. Thank you.

We have collected an amazing range of decorated filled jars and chocolate treats for our Christmas Fair on Friday 8th December from 4:30pm- thank you to everyone for your contributions. We hope to see everyone at the fair on Friday 😊

Don't forget to visit Elfridges in the far demountable classroom on Wednesday 6th and Thursday 7th December from 3pm. As usual, there will be a range of Christmas treats and stocking fillers on sale with payment possible by cash or card.



The prizes in this year's GIPA Christmas raffle are amazing- tickets will be on sale each day, from the entrance hall, office or playground (if temperatures improve!)

The Christmas postbox has been brought out of storage and given a sparkly facelift for Christmas 2023 (Thank you, Miss Dennis!) If children wish to bring cards for their friends, they can be posted each day for the next 2 weeks in the box near the office. Please ensure the child's name and class is written clearly so that our Year 2 post people can sort the mail and make the deliveries.



We have been asked to share this information about swimming lessons with our parent group:



D&S Swim School Ltd

Love to Swim Learn to Swim Lessons for All

**** WEEKLY SWIMMING LESSONS ****

ST JOHN'S C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL, FRIDAYS - 4-6PM (30 MIN LESSONS WEEKLY)

GREAT BADDOW HIGH SCHOOL, SATURDAYS - 12.45-2.45PM (30 MIN LESSONS)

WE HAVE 10 & 11 WEEK COURSES, FROM £25 A MONTHLY OVER 4 MONTHLY INSTALMENTS

YOU WILL REALLY SEE A DIFFERENCE, it's great for confidence building, improving technique and stamina.

*****BOOK NOW TO SECURE YOUR SPACE*****

We teach from 3 Years upwards, our classes only have 4 / 5 children in them for individual attention and to bring on their swimming ability. We have had amazing feedback.

WE ALSO SPECIALISE IN TEACHING CHILDREN WITH AUTISM AND ASTHMA

Please email dandsswimschool@gmail.com for more details

Our Website: www.dandsswimschool.co.uk