

Galleywood Infant School

Sunday 21st April 2024



Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you had an enjoyable Easter break, welcome to the summer term! We seem to have had every kind of weather this week, rain, sun, hailstones and wind. We lasted 2 days on our summer schedule without heating, before giving in and asking Mr Macadam to put the school heating back on!

Our over-arching learning theme for this year of One World Many Colours continues with learning linked to yellow this half term. You can find details of our planned learning in each year group on our website.



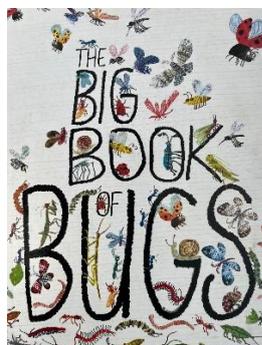
This week in Foxes and Badgers children have been hunting for mini-beasts in the forest area, making tally charts to show different numbers of mini-beasts and writing rules about how to look after mini-beasts.

In maths they have been learning to double numbers up to double 10.

In Owls and Hedgehogs children have been learning to write factual information and have written a plant information booklet naming and describing the parts of a plant. In maths they have been learning to count in steps of 2 and steps of 10. In science the Year 1 children have been outdoors observing and identifying wild and garden flowers.



In Rabbits and Squirrels classes the children have been reading and writing about bugs inspired by the Big Book of Bugs! They have been learning to find a half, a quarter and a third of numbers in their maths lessons and in art have used clay to sculpt 3D flowers. We look forward to firing and glazing these!



This week we are all looking forward to a visit from a beekeeper, to learn about how to look after bees and also about the important role bees play in the environment and in food production.

All the children will be visiting Hyde Hall for a carefully planned day of learning- if you have not yet made the requested contribution towards this trip, please check Parentpay. If you have not yet let us know whether your child requires a packed lunch, please return the electronic form to Mrs Dennis. Thank you.

If you and your child like exploring outdoors, you might want to take part in a survey for Essex Wildlife trust, working with the University of Essex, which runs until September 30th 2024.

Over the last two years, people have helped collect a whopping 55,426 wildflower observations! Each submission helps the trust to map the effects of climate change on flowering plants across Essex. It's easy to participate, just follow our three simple steps:

1. Download the free iNaturalist app, available on both iOS and Android and create your own account. Don't have a smart phone? Don't worry, you can take part on your computer too!
2. Search and join 'The Essex Bioblitz 2024' project on iNaturalist.
3. Snap a wildflower - you can do this directly through the app or by uploading your photos to the app afterward.

For more information visit: <https://www.essexwt.org.uk/get-involved/campaign/essex-bioblitz>



Book Sale!

The children are excited to start using our new reading shed with books, comics and children's newspapers available for reading at playtimes and lunchtimes. The School Council are planning a book sale to raise money for some cushions and beanbags, and also for some wall signs so that our reading zone is calm, colourful and comfortable!



Please can you help the school council with their project by

- ❖ Finding a book or two at home that you no longer need and somebody else might like to read
- ❖ Bringing a pound or two on Friday 26th April to buy some books. Most books will be priced at £1 each.

You can bring donations of books (very good condition please) to the hall on Thursday 25th April. The School Council will sort and organise them on Thursday afternoon and sell books on Friday afternoon.

Please bring either one or two pound coins (not more, so that we can ensure there will be a good selection of books for everyone) on Friday morning in a named purse or envelope.

All classes will have a time to visit the hall and choose a book/books to buy. Thank you!



Dates

There are a few additions to the comprehensive dates list we shared in March:

- ❖ Class photographs are scheduled for **Monday 13th May** in the morning.
- ❖ On **Wednesday 15th May at 6:30** we are holding a welcome meeting for the parents of children due to join Galleywood Infant School in September 2024.
- ❖ We will be holding a short meeting for parents of children in Year 2, Rabbits and Squirrels, on Thursday **16th May at 2:30pm** to explain our end of Key Stage 1 assessments. There are some changes this year which a couple of parents have asked me about and if you would like to know how and when we make our end of year assessments, then please come to the library when Chloe Needham and I will explain the process for this year.
- ❖ Staff led clubs for children in Year 1 and Year 2 will be held on Mondays this term. We have not yet decided on the choices, but the dates will be: Monday 10th, Mon 17th, and Mon 24th of June and Monday 1st July.