

Galleywood Infant School

Monday 8th July 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

The summer term is whizzing past and we have some exciting events to tell you about, as well as some recent ones to report.



Children's Challenge sports day

Last year it took us 3 attempts to find a dry day for our sports day, so we were delighted that all the outdoor activities and races could go ahead on 18th June. Thank you to families for supporting this, to Mrs Sayers for organising the activities and to all of the teachers for being outside at 8am setting up!

Reading Shed

The school council have been waiting patiently to launch the long-awaited reading shed. Their book sale in April raised over £200, which enabled us to buy some amazing bean bags and seating for this area. June Gould, our former Chair of Governors came on 21st June and with the support of the school council, and cheers from the entire school, the reading area was opened.

Mrs Gould has been a teacher and headteacher, and has visited many times to help with reading and to monitor reading activities in the classrooms. Children in Year 2 were delighted to show her how much the children at our school love reading books, children's newspapers and comics.



Pupil Forum

This year for the first time Galleywood Infant School has joined the Chelmsford Teaching Schools Alliance Pupil Forum, where school ambassadors from 16 schools come together to share their ideas and celebrate the great work School Councils do within their respective schools.

The theme for this year across all 16 schools was "Safe and Well", and schools were invited to choose an aspect of the wider theme: we chose Positive Mental Health. On Tuesday Ada and Toby went to Pontlands Park to give a 5-minute presentation about what they have achieved.



They spoke clearly, answered questions they were asked by the audience and enjoyed being our Galleywood Infant School ambassadors alongside lots of much older children. We felt very proud of them! Please pop and see the board in the hall for more details about what we have done this year and plan to do next.

The reading shed has been part of our plan to make playtimes more fun. Toby and Ada also talked about the 10K challenge, which is keeping everyone active, and the friendship bench, which was

painted by the school council, helped by Mr Macadam. Apparently, he made one of the handprints- can you find which one?



Reports and Open evening

Reports and summary reports were sent home on Friday 5th July. We have not included a paper questionnaire this year, but will send a few questions in an online survey following our Open Evening on Thursday. We very much like to hear your comments, views and suggestions as we write our development plans for 2024-2025.

On **Thursday 11th July** you are invited to come back to school with your child to see and celebrate their most recent work. The school and classrooms will be open between **4-6pm** and you can arrive at any time via the front entrance. Your children will enjoy showing you how much progress they have made! This is a chance for you to talk to your child's teacher and for children in Foundation Stage and Year One to visit their new classrooms. Classes for 2023-24 are being organised and children will spend two afternoons, 9th and 16th July in their new classrooms with their new teachers.

Class teachers will prepare a welcome letter for children to take home after the second visit with photos of their teachers and the class team, so that families can become familiar with names and faces ahead of the new term.

GIPA update from Kathy Morris, GIPA chair

Despite the rain on Saturday 'Galleyfest' went ahead and was a huge success, raising in excess of £2,000!

This is a huge amount of money for the school and GIPA would like to thank everybody who gave their time to organise the event, whether it was in planning or cutting cardboard hands, donating items for the raffle or for us to use on the day, giving up time to help on the day and to those who came and enjoyed the day with us. Every single one of you make this happen for the children! There were lots of very happy little faces running around with their newly braided hair, and friends queueing up to play each other on the Dual which was a lovely addition this year!



We would like to give a special thank you to the following;

- ❖ William H Brown who sponsored 'Galleyfest' - £120 in return for the advertising boards that went up and we are looking forward to continuing a partnership with them in the future.
- ❖ DJ Jon who kept us entertained on Saturday free of charge, we look forward to partying with him again soon!
- ❖ Hans @ The Chelmsford Brew company let us have the bar setup free of charge
- ❖ Currys Chelmsford, donated the Nintendo Switch light for our lucky winner!

- ❖ Pirate Bay Golf Maldon for the family entry ticket!
- ❖ Louise, our paramedic, thank you for your continued support of our events!



If you would like to join in the fun then please join us at 8pm on Thursday 11th July where we will be holding an AGM at school to elect and approve new roles within in the committee, it would be lovely to see some new faces there.

Summer Holiday Reading Challenge



Marvellous Makers launched on **Saturday 6th July**. Children heard about this in assembly last week and should have brought home an invitation to take part.

<https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk>

The scheme is free to all children - all you need to do is visit Galleywood library or another local library to join. For more information see the youtube link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=62gH-edhju4>

Celebrating One World Many Colours!

The children have had such a fabulous year of learning within this theme. As part of our current Green theme all the children took part in a dance workshop with Miss Katie on Thursday, and a drumming workshop using Djembe drums we have borrowed from Great Baddow High School led by Mrs Barnes on Friday. We have been learning a fun rainforest song in our Thursday assemblies, and the children would love to perform for a visitor from your family on Friday 12th July at 2:15. Please arrive from 2:10 and go to the outside door of your child's classroom. We look forward to seeing you and sharing cake!



Drums and dancing,



rainforest songs and stories,



cake to share!

So that the school looks really colourful for our celebration, children (and visitors) are invited to wear their favourite colours on Friday! There will be NO foundation stage PE on Friday and tennis club will be re-scheduled too (a further e-mail to those affected, will be sent home).

Date reminders so that you don't miss anything!

July 2024

- Monday 8th - Yr2 children to St Michael's to meet their new teachers 2-3pm
- Tuesday 9th - Class changeover afternoon for Foundation Stage and Yr1, 1:15-3pm
- Thursday 11th - Open Evening and meet your child's new teacher 4-6pm
- Thursday 11th - 8pm GIPA AGM at school
- Friday 12th - 2:15 -3:15pm One World Many Colours Celebration
- Monday 15th - Year 2 children spending the morning at St Michael's 9:30am -12:15pm
- Tuesday 16th - Class changeover afternoon for Foundation Stage and Yr1, 1:15-3pm
- Tuesday 16th - 3:30-5pm Yr2 Leavers' party with Skittleman
- Wednesday 17th - July 12noon Leavers' lunch (Yr2 choice of menu)
- Thursday 18th - 10am Year 2 Leavers' assembly, families welcome
- Friday 19th - Miss Bosley is getting married! Celebration assembly, 9-9:30 if any parents wish to join us straight after drop off
- Friday 19th at 3:15 term ends

Monday 22nd and Tue 23rd July are training days, and the new school year opens for Galleywood Infant School and St Michael's on **Tuesday 3rd September 2024.**

Lost Property

Although we make every effort, every day to reunite lost items with their owners, we still seem to have a big pile of lost property in school. Class teams will put this outside classrooms every day this week, Tue-Fri, weather permitting. Please come and look for any items you may recognise. We have gloves and wellies that have been in school for months and children tell us they do not recognise.

Could we also ask parents to check the bike and scooter shelter- there are some scooters that have been left here for weeks. Any scooters or bikes not claimed by next Friday, 19th July, will be disposed of. Thank you.



Summer Holiday events

As well as the Library reading challenge throughout the summer, there are plenty of other free events offered during the school holiday period.

We have been notified of:

- Tuesday 30th July Play in the Park at Chelmer Park
- Wednesday 31st July Play in the Park, Jubilee Park

For more details, to book a place and to see other free play sessions around Chelmsford: <https://www.chelmsford.gov.uk/leisure-centres/where/community-sport-and-wellbeing/play-in-the-park/>



- Thursday 1st August Storytelling session at Twitten Green, 11am-12noon

