Galleywood Infant School

Tuesday 13th May 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

After nearly 7 years as Finance Officer at Galleywood, Faye Dennis is moving to a new school from 2nd June. I know that all the children and parents will miss Faye just as much as the staff and governors. She is very skilled at managing all aspects of school finances, which is why she has accepted an enhanced role at Trinity Road Primary School, managing a much larger budget as well as line-managing a bigger admin team.

We wish Faye every happiness and success in her new role. Faye will continue as an associate governor (as long as time allows) and visit days to her new school this half term, mean that Faye will be back in Galleywood probably once a week this summer to train our new Finance Officer. Faye's last official day will be Fri 23rd May.

It is lovely to see families making the most of the good weather to enjoy our outdoor play equipment and MUGA at the end of the school day. However, if you wish to stay on site, please note the following:

- When there is an after-school club using the playground, usually multi-sports on Mondays and tennis on Fridays, children who are not in the club should NOT be on the playground or running past to access the MUGA. On Mondays and Fridays, we ask you to please stay on the front lawn near to the pirate ship and spider climber. This is for the safety and security of your own children as well as those participating in the club.
- From 5pm every day the outdoor play equipment will be available to the children in the YMCA wrap-around club and at this time the two school gates will be closed and locked by YMCA staff. Again, this safeguards the children at YMCA and ensures that the only adults on the school site are YMCA staff, or parents arriving to collect a child. Thank you.

GIPA events

On Friday GIPA are holding their disco from 3:15-5pm. Children from all year groups are welcome to attend, buying tickets via parent pay or from the school office.

To coincide with the disco, we have made Friday our non-uniform day, when we ask children to bring contributions for our summer colour raffle. In assembly this morning I showed the children my colour raffle shopping: examples of things in each colour that children and families might love to win! Please bring toys, games, sweets, biscuits or treats that would contribute to a lovely prize. GIPA committee members will then arrange your donations to create exciting prize boxes in 8 colours!







Break the rules!

Break the rules day was great fun! We loved seeing the children's creative hairstyles, nail polish and even some pyjamas!

Eating our cakes first was a treat, but luckily, we had room for the nuggets, rice and vegetables too!

We are thrilled that children from all classes have been making regular visits to our new pond and wild area. Some of the school council helped Mr McAdam to fill some baskets with pond plants, weight them with some painted stones and put these into the water. They also put in some rocks and logs to enable tadpoles changing into froglets to get out of the water as their legs develop.





The decking installed in the autumn by TEG and Mr McAdam is perfect for getting a good view of the tadpoles, as well as insects such as pond skaters. We are so grateful to TEG for their work last summer, and to GIPA for raising the money for all the materials including a robust pond liner, plants, baskets and wooden decking.







School Council Project

We have been researching what we need to improve our school grounds as a habitat for wildlife, and especially for birds. We looked at the RSPB website and found that we have many of the plants and trees recommended to provide food and shelter, including blackberry brambles, elder, silver birch, cherry trees, holly and oak.

We found a list of flowers that will encourage insects and birds. Today the school council took two packets of seeds and some seed trays or pots to each classroom. Let's see if we can grow some flowers the birds will love!









If we want to see a wider variety of birds around our school, we need to feed them throughout the year and in assembly last week we watched a film about some children setting up a "bird café" with a range of foods.

The School Council have a request:

Please does anyone have a bird feeder they no longer need that we could clean, fill with seed or fat balls and hang in the trees around our school grounds? You can bring them to the classroom and we will collect them before half term. Thank you.

We are planning an "I spy" wildlife trail to raise some money to buy bird seed.

We have some good ideas about where to create our "bird café" so that we can watch the birds feeding. Thank you! 😊



