Galleywood Infant School

Friday 18th July

Dear Parents and Carers,



As we reach the end of this long summer term, the staff & governor team would like to wish everyone a very happy summer break.

We hope there will be warm sunny days in July and August for us all to enjoy. Whatever plans you have, big or small, home or away, I hope you have fun with friends and family.





We are sad to say goodbye to our amazing Year 2 children and wish them every success and happiness in Year 3.

The children entertained us all with a brilliant performance of Jack and The Beanstalk yesterday morning, and had lots of fun on Tuesday at the Leavers' Party with their colourful tee-shirts and Skittleman's jokes! Our thanks to GIPA for organising this event for all the children. 😊



It is always sad saying goodbye to families we have known well for a number of years. We hope you will stay in touch, we love to hear how children who started with us are doing as they grow!

We asked the Year 2 children for their views about Galleywood Infant School and Year 2.

All our Year 2 children have completed a survey this week about their time at Galleywood Infant School	Agree	Disagree	Don't know
Galleywood Infant School has been a happy place for me	100%		
I have made some new friends in Year 2	96%	2%	2%
If I have a problem the adults help me solve it	90%		10%
Our learning has been fun and interesting	84%	2%	14%
My learning has challenged me to think hard	86%	4%	10%
My teachers encourage me to always try my best	88%		12%
I often feel proud of my work	90%		10%
Children in my class are kind and thoughtful	94%	2%	4%
The books in my classroom and the library inspire me to read	84%	8%	8%

We asked the Year 2 children for three highlights this year:



Kind and thoughtful teachers, Cudmore Grove, meeting an author, making new friends, learning new things, kite making, doing the school play, doing maths and handwriting, making the clay moon dragons, reading, my friends, puppet making, cooking jam tarts and roast potatoes, mini-Olympics, learning about Victorians, kite workshop, the history day, making a clay bird, Einstein the Penguin by Iona Rangeley, hard work, chapter books, The Night Gardener, pyjama party, art!!

Staff Farewells

This summer we are saying farewell to Kim Wood, who has been a teacher at Galleywood for 3 years. Kim is likely to need a knee operation, with a lengthy recovery period. We wish her a full and successful recovery.



We are also saying farewell to three teaching assistants who are moving on to new roles in September, Ellie Holditch, Emily Ford and Sue Easteal. We want to thank them for all they have done for children and staff at Galleywood, and wish them every happiness in their new posts.

We welcome Ciara Knights, who joins our staff team as a Year 2 teacher from September.

Kite Flying Day

We had a fantastic time making and flying kites last Thursday! The children loved getting creative with their designs and seeing their colourful kites take to the skies. It was wonderful to see so many smiles as they ran down the field with their creations soaring behind them! A big thank you to everyone who helped make the activity such a success. If you'd like to have a go at kite making at home, the instructions will be available on the school website - perfect for some summer holiday fun!

(We have also attached them to this newsletter!)







Everyone enjoyed singing Let's Go Fly a Kite- thank you to Mrs Merry Bowley and Mrs Wade for making singing at Galleywood such fun!

GIPA 2024/2025 Roundup

As the year draws to an end, it is nice to look back on a wonderful year of events that GIPA have put on for the children. From Cushion clubs, to the Christmas Fair and Galleyfest. With the introduction of the fantastic Mr Frostie, and Mothers & Fathers Day gifting, it's definitely been very busy. GIPA also hosted the year 2 leavers party with the infamous Skittleman and leavers T shirts. Not all of our events are about raising money, but a chance to give the children some more great experiences and memories of their time at Galleywood Infant school! Every child is invited to be part of each event.

This year we have been raising money to replace the Gym trail in the playground which I'm pleased to say we have succeeded!

Galleyfest raised £1981.51 this year and as a total we have raised £7947.40- amazing!

We are very sad to see Sarah leave as Treasurer, as her boys leave the Infant school, however, she leaves us in Ruth's safe hands, as we look forward to another fun filled year.

I would like to thank Mrs Manning for always being so supportive of our ideas and events, the GIPA committee and all of the members, all of the teachers and parents that help at each of our events, and Lesley for allowing us to take over the kitchen when we need too, because truly, none of it would be possible without the support of every single individual who gives their time.

Have a lovely summer, see you in September!
Kathy Morris, GIPA Chair

Summer holiday activities



The library reading challenge has started, but you have plenty of time to read 6 books and complete the challenge before September:

https://libraries.essex.gov.uk/news/summer-reading-challenge



If our Early Years visit to Hanningfield Nature Reserve has encouraged you to enjoy Forest activities outdoors, there are lots of events and activities organised by Essex Wildlife Trust, which can be booked online:

https://www.essexwt.org.uk/whats-on

Premier Education are running an activity camp at our school throughout the summer, Monday- Thursday from 9am-3:30pm.

https://www.premier-education.com/parents/venue/courses/9915/?location=Essex

Our Year 1 and 2 visit this year might have inspired some families to return to the brilliant Cudmore Grove, East Mersea. After paying for car parking the lovely grassland, woodland, beach and children's play areas with picnic benches are available all day.





Lots of free events and activities in Chelmsford, Maldon and Braintree are listed in this book



Digital Resources

📖 **Digital booklet:** Mid Essex Summer Events Booklet

Demountable Classroom update

We were hoping that our very dilapidated demountable classrooms would be replaced this summer but the process has taken longer than anticipated. I have a meeting next week and hope to have a timeline to share after the summer break!

Our office will be open on Monday 21st and Tuesday 22nd July, and then closed until Tuesday 2nd September. If you need to contact us for any reason during the summer break, these email addresses will be monitored regularly:

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

We wish our whole school community, including those leaving us and those joining in September, a very happy summer.

