Galleywood Infant School

Friday 12th September 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to school



A very warm welcome to everyone, families who are new to our school, families returning after the summer break and those returning to Galleywood Infant School with a younger sibling. Although we have had building work and Premier Sport camps, the school building never feels complete without all the children and it was lovely to welcome everyone for full days this week. The children have settled really well and all parts of the school feel calm and purposeful. Now that all internal pipework, radiators and electrics are almost complete, we are working to refresh and replace displays for the autumn term.

Staff news

This term we welcome Miss Knights as the new teacher of Squirrels Class, and welcome Mrs Paxton and Miss Morris to our classroom support teams. We will be updating our photo-board both in the welcome area and on our website in the next few days. We are delighted they have joined our Galleywood team, welcome the additional skills and knowledge they bring, and hope they will be very happy here.



Welcome to a new year of learning!



On **Thursday 18th September** at 2:30pm we invite parents and carers to a short meeting, about 40 mins, to hear about the learning that is planned for your child this year and how you will be involved to ensure your child has the most successful year possible. Teachers will give a short talk mapping out the learning themes that are planned across the year for children in Foundation Stage, Year 1 or Year 2. You will hear how our learning journey fits together, how areas of learning will link, how expectations build from term to term and about how you can support your child to have a brilliant year.

You are welcome to bring younger siblings, and grandparents would be very welcome to attend if they are due to collect your child on that day. Please arrive through our front entrance to sign in. We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible on 18th September.

Names please!



Thank you for working so hard to ensure that your child has smart uniform. There are lots of lovely new lunchboxes and water bottles. Whilst your child will usually recognise their own items, it really helps us when items are **clearly named** as we can make sure children have all their belongings at the end of every day.
Class teams always have a quick check of cloakroom areas at home time, so help us to reduce lost property this year by jotting a name onto every item. Please make a special effort to name active wear, as many black or navy hoodies or sports tops look the same! You can use a permanent marker such as a Sharpie, or purchase name stickers, which usually seem to last through the year. Thank you for your help with this- I hope we can save you money!

We have a large supply of nearly new uniform, which we would love to redistribute! Please email us with the items you would like, together with the age of the child and we will endeavour to have this ready in the school office for collection by the following day. Uniform@galleywood.essex.sch.uk
Please wait a few weeks before bringing us any more uniform - we have limited storage!

Nut allergies



Again, we have several children in school who would have a severe reaction if they were to come into contact with **nuts in any form.** For some children this could simply be touching a surface that a child has touched after eating a food containing nuts. For the safety of these children, please do not include the following in lunches:

- **Peanut butter sandwiches**
- **Chocolate spreads (even those without nuts, as we are unable to test)**
- **Biscuits, cereal bars or granola bars containing nut pieces**
- **Cakes or biscuits containing chopped nuts**

This list is not exhaustive and some food items you would not expect are labelled as containing traces of nuts. Please check packaging or speak to us if you are unsure. Thank you.

School dates 2025-26

Our key dates for this school year, 2025-26, are now ready and have been checked with St Michael's. Please add key dates to your calendars and check the Term and Holidays sheet when booking holidays to avoid unauthorised absences.



The first meeting of GIPA, Galleywood Infant Parents Association is on Thursday **18th September at 7:30pm** in school. Everyone is welcome to attend as all parents are members of GIPA. If you are new to our school, or new to GIPA, please come along- you will hear about our plans for the year with no pressure to join our committee, or the working parties who often meet separately to plan each event.

Galleywood Parish Council Litter Pick



Galleywood Parish Council have asked us to publicise their next litter picking event on Saturday 20th September from 10am-12noon.

Families enjoy this event, outside in the fresh air helping to keep Galleywood cleaner, greener and a lovely place to live!

Contact details

Sometimes it can be difficult for parents with work commitments to speak with a member of staff if they have a question or concern. We are always happy to return phone calls to the office, 01245 472686, or If you wish to contact your child's class teacher by email, a message sent to admin@galleywood.essex.sch.uk will be forwarded for a response.

If you wish to contact me directly about any matter, I am always in the playground at the start of the school day and usually after school. I am available via email: sarahmanning@galleywood.essex.sch.uk