Galleywood Infant School

Monday 7th July 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

The end of the summer term is approaching and we have some exciting events to tell you about, as well as some recent ones to report.

Children's Challenge sports day



With a little early morning rain to refresh the grass, we were able to go ahead with all the outdoor activities and races on 24th June. Thank you to families for supporting this and to all of the teachers for being outside at 8am setting up!

Mini Olympics

On Monday 30th June both Year 2 classes travelled by coach to Melbourne Athletics Stadium for the annual mini-Olympics event organised by Great Baddow Sports Partnership. With a forecast for extreme heat, the organisers made a few adjustments to the morning, installing gazebos for shade around the track at the start of each activity and seating children in the main spectator stand to start and end the morning. As always it was a lot of fun, capably overseen for our event by young sports leaders from Beaulieu Park School.

Our children had lots of support from friends and family, and we were very proud of everyone for their willingness to have a go at new games and activities, support for one another and brilliant behaviour. At the end of the morning points are added together by the sports leaders, and Galleywood were second overall including bronze medals for Ella and Eliza, as well as a gold medal for highest scoring boy for Mason! Well done to everyone 😊









Reporters from Rabbits class told me:

The best bit was riding the toys. You had to bounce and then my horse, Midnight, moved along (Emma)
I loved doing the parade when we walked round the track waving our Gambia flags. There were other countries like UK, France, Italy and Kenya. (Henry)
I liked the race where we did 5 jumps and then side to side. After everyone had done the race we got into teams and did a relay. You had to high 5 the next person on your team. (Fred)

Pupil Forum

For the second year we have been part of Chelmsford Teaching Schools Alliance Pupil Forum, where school ambassadors from 12 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 12 schools was "The Environment" and schools were invited to choose whether to focus on the school, local or world environment for their project.

Raya and Eliza went to Pontlands Park on 2nd July to take part in a morning of activities and give a 5 minute presentation about what our school council have been working on. 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 corridor for more details about what we have done this year and plan to do next.

Eliza and Raya talked confidently about working with Mr Macadam to put some plants in the pond, collecting and filling bird feeders to create our bird café and the school council's plans to get a night vision camera so that we can see if any foxes or hedgehogs visit our school after dark! We heard some brilliant ideas from other schools to think about for next year.





Reports and Open evening

Reports and summary reports were sent home on Friday 4th 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 2025-26.

On **Thursday 10th July** we would love families 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 2025-26 are being organised and children will spend two afternoons,8th and 15th 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

'Galleyfest' on Saturday 21st June was a really fun event, sunny and buzzing with families and children of all ages! We are awaiting final figures once all the expenses have been processed.
We would like to thank everybody who gave their time to make event successful, whether it was donating items for the raffle, giving your time to help on the day or supporting the school by enjoying the day with us. Every single one of you make this happen for the children! GIPA work very hard to achieve a range of activities so that there is something for everyone. The Lego room was a very popular new addition- thank you to Michelle Cracknell for making this contact, which I hope will become a regular part of Galleyfest.

We would like to give a special thank you to the following people:

- William H Brown who sponsored 'Galleyfest' in return for the advertising boards. Thank you too to all the families who agreed to have a board on their property 😊
- DJ Jon who kept us entertained on Saturday, we look forward to partying with him again soon!
- Maldon Lego Brick Club for lending their Lego sets and providing prizes
- Mr and Mrs Samouelle, our paramedics, thank you for your continued support of our events!
- To our sports coaches who gave their time and brought equipment for children to try football, rugby, tennis, cricket and kick boxing even in temperatures about 30*

Throughout this year we have been raising money towards a new trim trail. We were hoping that the demountable would be replaced over the summer- this now looks to be delayed (but still happening!) so we have arranged for some companies to quote for the trim trail for an autumn installation. We hope there will be more news to share very soon!

<u>Summer Holiday Reading Challenge</u>



Story Garden runs from **Saturday 19 July to Saturday 6 September.** Children will hear about this in assembly on Thursday and will bring 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, another local library or sign up online to join.

Children will join our wonderful characters, created by the brilliant children's illustrator Dapo Adeola, whose stunning illustrations bring the Story Garden theme to life; creating an enchanted world where children can find magical creatures, plants and flowers to inspire their next reading adventure. Meet Sola, Jake, Robyn, Priya, Jess, Rhys and Jamal





We have loved our learning theme "How high is the sky?"

Please come and help us to make and fly kites on Thursday morning from 9-10am, and hear us sing "Let's go fly a kite" from Mary Poppins!

Dates for the rest of this term:

❖ Mon 7th July	Year 2 classes to St Michael's Yr6 dress rehearsal: The Lion King
❖ Tue 8th and 15th July	Class change afternoons for EYFS and Yr1 children (sport with Mrs Gowers for our Year 2 classes)
❖ Wed 9th July	Yr2 parents meeting at St Michael's Junior School
❖ Thur 10th July	Make a kite workshops, all classes 9-10 am
❖ Thur 10th July	Open Evening to see work and meet teachers, all classes, 4-6pm
❖ Fri 11th	Year 2 classes visit Friday Celebration Assembly at St Michael's
❖ Mon 14th July	Rabbits class spend morning at St Michael's Junior School
❖ Mon 14th July	Rabbits class to meet their Yr3 teacher with parents 3:20-4:20
❖ Tue 15th July	3:30-5pm Leavers' Disco, Rabbits and Squirrels classes
❖ Wed 16th	Year 2 Leavers' lunch, menu chosen by Yr2
❖ Thur 17th July	10am Yr2 Leavers' Assembly, visitors very welcome. Please stay for refreshments on the front lawn after the assembly.
❖ Fri 18th July	3:15 School closes for summer break, final newsletter.

Monday 21st and Tuesday 22nd July are training days, and the new school year opens for Galleywood Infant School and St Michael's Junior School on **Wednesday 3rd September 2025.**

Lost Property

Although we try each 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.

Summer Holiday events

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





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/