Galleywood Infant School

Monday 16th February 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you are enjoying half term- despite the cold, a little sunshine is a treat!

We were sorry just before half term to say goodbye to two lovely members of our team.



Mrs Debora Tesfu has worked part time since January 2025, last year working in a job share role in Squirrels class and this year working alongside Mrs Merry-Bowley with Hedgehogs children. We wish Mrs Tesfu all the best as she leaves us to take up a post working 4 days a week at Trinity Road Primary School.

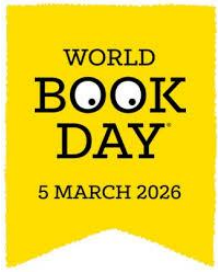
Mrs Sayers returns from her maternity leave after half term and will be resuming her job-share role in Hedgehogs class.



Mrs Natasha Evans joined our admin team in February 2025 and since that time has responded to many hundreds of phone and email messages, found answers to your questions, cared for poorly children, and undertaken with a smile the multitude of other tasks that are part of the office role. Children, parents and staff will miss her a great deal. We hope that both Debora and Natasha will stay in touch and visit us. Best wishes for the future!

Next half term is very short, only 5 weeks, and we have a number of exciting events happening!

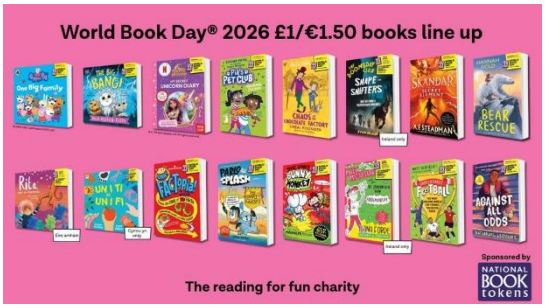
World Book Day



An introduction to World Book Day (5th March) will be included in assembly on Monday 23rd February and your child will bring home a World Book Day voucher. These can be used as part payment towards a book of your choice in a book shop (value £1) or can be used to purchase one of the special £1 books, written by famous authors for World Book Day.



This year schools were able to apply to be a World Book Day bookshop, and I am delighted that we have received a large box of the special £1 books, which will be on sale at playtime and after school from Tuesday 24th February. We have a limited number of each title and school stocks cannot be replenished. However, if you miss a chosen title, the £1 books are available in local bookshops until 13th March. We hope this new venture gives everyone the chance to read and enjoy some new books! Check out the choices online at: https://www.worldbookday.com/books/





On World Book Day we are inviting children (and staff) to come dressed as a book character, as we share some of our favourite books and stories in all classrooms. Year 2 children will have dance in the afternoon- Miss Katie is happy for children to participate in their costumes if they wish.

World Book Day Book Swap!



Have you got a book that used to be a favourite, and now somebody else could enjoy?

Bring your book(s) to school on Thursday 5th March and the Year 2 children will sort them for our book swap on Friday 6th March in the afternoon. Everyone will have the chance to choose and take home a new book to read- there is no cost for this, just bring, swap and enjoy 😊

Topsy Turvy day!

GIPA have planned a "Topsy Turvy Day" when children can have fun by bending some of our school rules for a day!



Children do not need to wear uniform or their usual school shoes; they can have temporary tattoos, nail varnish and crazy hair styles for the day if they wish!
You might want to wear odd socks or even your pyjamas, and you can bring a small cuddly toy if you want to.



Fruit will be available as usual, but on Friday 27th Feb children may wish to bring their own snack for breaktime. This could be a biscuit or cake, fruit of their choice or crisps but should not be sweets and must **not contain nuts.**
On our Topsy Turvy Day we will allow squash in water bottles if you wish, and you could have your pudding first at lunchtime!



Of course, children will need to stick to our three Galleywood Infant School rules:

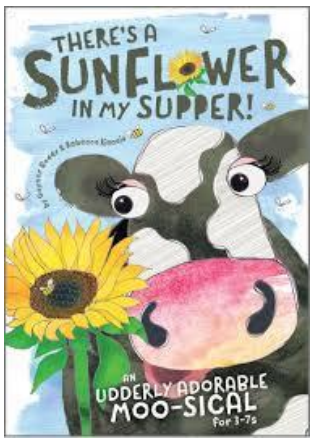
- We keep ourselves and other people safe
- We look and listen to learn
- We look after everyone and our school

We are asking for a donation of **£2 from each child** towards our visiting theatre production of Pinocchio on Friday 20th March, which GIPA kindly fund for all our classes. Contribute on Parent Pay, or bring donations to your classroom on the day.



Thank you, we hope everyone has fun!

Infant Music Festival



Year 2 classes are busy learning the songs for "There's a Sunflower in my Supper", which they will be performing with 6 other schools as part of the week-long Chelmsford Infant Music Festival.
On Tuesday 17th March our Year 2 children will travel by coach to Christ Church in London Road, Chelmsford, and take part in a workshop with over 100 children from other schools. Some of our children will be singers, some dancers and some actors, all joining with other Year 2 groups to tell the story of Daisy the Cow.
Parents are invited to join us from about 2:15pm to watch the collaborative performance- a link for buying tickets will be sent to all parents as soon as we receive it after half term. We are planning to perform this mini-musical for our Year 2 families on Friday 27th March at 10am, when Galleywood children will take all the roles and visitor numbers are not restricted. Please save the date! 😊

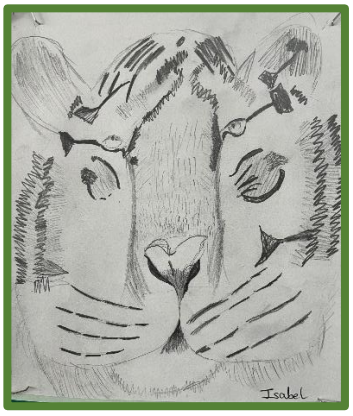
Celebrating some Wild learning!

It was lovely to welcome so many visitors to our Workshare afternoons, where children were keen to show you their dances, storytelling and art work. Our curriculum has again inspired some wonderful writing and creative work, which parents of children in Yr1 and Yr2 will be able to see at our parent consultation evenings on Monday 23rd and Wednesday 25th March.













The Essex SEND Local Offer Roadshows for all schools



The roadshows are back. These are for parent/carers to visit and ask questions about SEND.

- Monday 9 March - Harlow
- Wednesday 11 March - Chelmsford
- Tuesday 17 March - Basildon
- Sunday 22 March - Braintree
- Wednesday 25 March - Colchester
- Saturday 18 April - Brentwood

The roadshows are for parents/carers of children with SEND aged 0-25. No booking needed, just drop in. For further information about what to expect from a roadshow and who will be there visit the local offer website. Please share with families you support.

PE days for the second half of the spring term are:	
Squirrels and Rabbits	Wednesday, outdoor PE and Thursday, dance
Owls and Hedgehogs	Monday gymnastics and Friday outdoor PE
Foxes and badgers	Tuesday indoor PE and Wednesday Forest Fun

School opens after half term on Monday 23rd February at 8:40am