

Galleywood Infant School

Tuesday 4th June 2024



Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope that everyone enjoyed a lovely half term week. Families received many emails relating to events and activities in May but a full newsletter with dates and times is overdue!

In the summer term we are completing our series of learning themes based on One World many Colours, asking "How do colours make our world the amazing place it is?" We enjoyed learning about honey bees, visiting Hyde Hall, planting and painting sunflowers in our Yellow learning theme.

At Hyde Hall we collected colourful things to design a bookmark, built nests, painted flowers and made rubbings of different seed pods, we made newspaper pots and planted sunflowers, we explored the garden and tried to match all the colours we could see!



This week we have launched our final theme for 2023-24, Green. You can follow the planned learning on our school website and we would like to invite a visitor to join us on **Friday 12th July at 2:15pm** to celebrate you children's work this term. See summer dates below.

Summer term calendar dates

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| Monday 10 th June | 3:15-4pm First staff led club for summer term (also 17 th , 24 th and 1 st July) |
| Tuesday 11 th June | Year 1 parent lunch, also Wed 19 th and Thursday 27 th June |
| Tuesday 18 th June | 9:15-10:45 Sports Day (reserve date if wet: Wed 3 rd July 9:15-10:45) |
| Thursday 27 th June | 9-10am Foundation Stage Curriculum and Coffee session 6, transition to Yr1 |
| Monday 1 st July | Assembly led by Galleywood Library- Summer reading challenge |
| Tuesday 2 nd July | 6:30pm Full Governing Body meeting |
| Friday 5 th July | Reports sent home (Foxes and Badgers) and summary reports for Yr1 and Yr2 |
| Saturday 6 th July | 11:30-3pm Galleyfest -more details to follow |
| Monday 8 th July | 2-3pm Yr2 classes to visit St Michael's and meet new teachers |
| Tue 9 th and 16 th July | Afternoons with new classes and teachers for new EYFS, Yr1 and Yr2 classes |
| Thursday 11 th July | 4-6pm Open evening, celebrate your child's work this year and visit new classrooms |
| Friday 12 th July | 2:15pm Carnival Celebration, visitors welcome to celebrate our summer learning. More details and an invitation to follow- please save the date! |
| Monday 15 th July | 9:30am-12:15pm Yr 2 classes to St Michael's for the morning, including playtime. |
| Thursday 18 th July | 10am Year 2 Leavers' Assembly- families welcome. |
| Friday 19 th July | 3:15pm School closes for the summer break and re-opens on Tuesday 3 rd Sept. |

Sports Day



On Tuesday 18th June we are holding our annual sports day and hope that lots of families will join us- younger brothers and sisters very welcome. Last year's event took place in the morning; this worked very well and we have decided to continue with this timing. Every child will have the chance to take part in some throwing activities, jumping activities and races along our marked track. The activities have been selected by Mrs Sayers, our PE leader, so that every child can be successful but there is a level of challenge for everyone, encouraging children to use and develop the skills, strength and coordination they build through our PE curriculum.

The event will run from **9:15am -10:45am**. Visitors are invited to come in from 9am, entering the school site via our side gate and signing in at some tables, one for each year group, on the playground. If you have children in more than one year group, you only need to sign in once- choose the shortest queue!

Please note- visitors arriving after 9:30am will need to sign in at the office as the side gate will be locked for security and anyone who needs to leave before 10:45 will also need to leave via the school office. We hope for a dry day- our reserve date is Wednesday 3rd July, with the same timings.

Yr2 mini Olympics

As members of the Chelmsford Schools Sports Partnership, our Year 2 classes are invited each year to take part in a mini Olympics competition, which took place yesterday morning at Chelmsford Athletics Stadium. Mrs Ray and Mrs Wood were very proud of the Galleywood children's excellent behaviour and attitudes. Well done, everyone, I know you had fun!



Transition

This is always a very busy half term as we carry out end of year assessments, prepare reports and summary reports and make plans for children's transition to their new classes or new schools for September.

On Thursday 15th May we held our welcome meeting for parents of children due to start at Galleywood Infant School in September 2024. We are planning our induction and start as always by visiting pre-school settings and arranging the 4 visits to school in June and July.

This year we have made the decision not to mix Rabbits and Squirrels ahead of their move to St Michael's, so these children will remain with their current peer group for Year 3.

We usually mix the classes as children move into Year 1 and again into Year 2, giving children opportunities to work alongside different friends and widen their peer network to eventually include everyone in the year group. We use our knowledge of individual children, our observations of them at playtimes and lunchtimes and talk as a staff team to get the class and friendship groups right for everyone. We will display class lists at our open evening on 11th July, when parents will have the opportunity to visit their child's new classroom and say hello to the new teacher.

Please be reassured that the children will have lots of opportunities to get to know the staff team in their new year group and we will speak to you individually if we feel children need additional visits and photographs as part of the transition.



Thank you GIPA!

The disco on Friday 17th May was noisy and lots of fun. DJ John kept the children dancing, singing along, winning prizes and then to end the event covered us all in brightly coloured confetti from confetti cannons. We had lots of help from the brilliant GIPA team- thank you for making this event possible. DJ John will be back at Galleyfest on 6th July.



You may have spotted some new brightly coloured carpets in our classrooms- these have been funded by GIPA and much appreciated by children and staff- thank you!



Our Galleywild project was launched last year to completely renew our pond area so that children can enjoy learning about watery habitats, minibeasts that live on water and plants that grow there. GIPA fundraising has allowed us to buy a new two-layer pond liner and timber for a decking platform. Members of the GIPA committee have secured a good discount on the timber as well as donations of pond plants from Abercorn Garden Centre.

Over half term TEG volunteers have cleared the area and cut back over-hanging trees. As the spring has been so wet the water level remains high and to re-line the pond at this point would damage the habitat. However, once the new liner is in place, GIPA have also funded a hose pipe which will be dug into the field and allow us to maintain water levels during warm, dry weather. We can't wait to use this area again!

A gentle reminder to fill and return the Smartie tubes by next Friday 14th June, and an enormous thank you for your donations to our Colour raffle- the GIPA team have taken all the boxes to prepare and display them for Galleyfest 😊

