



Galley Common Infant School NEWSLETTER

Issue 13
December 2023

Dream, Believe, Achieve

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE

Well done to Class 3 who have achieved 99.29 % attendance this week.

Class 1 - 98.57% Class 5 - 93.70 %
Class 2 - 97.86% Class 6 - 86.67%
Class 4 - 86.79%



Our DfE target is 96%
Whole School Attendance this week is 93.99%

Christmas Performances - What a very busy week we have had with all our wonderful Christmas performances.

We hope that everyone enjoyed their child's performance. The children and staff have all worked really hard getting the performances ready for you. Thank you to everyone that provided costumes. The children all looked fantastic. Thank you.

Christmas Post Box - The Christmas post box is now open for children to post their Christmas cards for their friends in school. Could we please ask that the child's name and their class is clearly marked on the envelope. A list of the children in your child's class is available from Mrs Arkinstall in the school office. Thank you.



Christmas Disco - Tickets are available to buy on ParentMail for our Christmas Disco.

Reception - Monday 18th December

KS1 - Tuesday 19th December



REMINDER - If your child is due to start school in September 2024, applications for your school place should be made by Monday 15th January via the Warwickshire admissions web site. Thank you.

DIARY DATES

December

Thu 14th Coffee Morning 9.00am
Mon 18th Reception Christmas Disco 3.15pm - 4.30pm
Tue 19th Helpers Assembly 9.00am
Tue 19th KS1 Christmas Disco 3.15pm - 4.30pm
Tue 19th School Christmas Dinner
Wed 20th Christmas Pantomime
Wed 20th Thrive afternoon - 2.00pm
Thu 21st Christmas buffet and party
Fri 22nd Christmas assembly at church

Teacher Training Dates

Monday 8th January 2024
Friday 24th May 2024



Christmas Bingo - Thank you to everyone that came along to the Christmas Bingo last Friday. We hope that everyone enjoyed themselves. The FOGC raised £367.83. Thank you.

Christmas Raffle - Tickets for our Christmas raffle are available to buy on ParentMail at a cost of £1.00 per ticket. We have lots of wonderful prizes to be won including a £30 voucher for the Plough Inn, Free visit to Ash End Farm, a voucher for Crown Paints and lots of lovely hampers. The draw will take place on Friday 15th December. Thank you

Jam Jar Tombola - We hope that everyone is busy decorating and filling their jam jars. Please remember to send them in to school along with £1.00 for our jam jar tombola that will be held on our Christmas party day on the 21st December.

Please hand your jars and £1.00 in by Monday 18th December. Thank you.



SAFEGUARDING

"The safety of the child is the first and paramount consideration"

Child protection concerns - If you have any child protection concerns, or wish to raise any issues, please feel free to call into school and speak to Mrs Middleton, Mrs Newman, or Mrs Salmon. You can also email safeguarding2107@welearn365.com You can also speak to a member of the Social Care Emergency Duty Team on 01926 886922.



Concerns have been raised regarding families with dogs congregating around the school gates and on the corner of Plough Hill Road and School Lane at the end of the school day. Unfortunately, this obstructs the pathway for Reception parents leaving the school via School Lane. Some children are also frightened of the dogs, particularly when they are barking at each other. Please can we ask that if you do need to bring your dog to school at the end of the school day that you consider children and their families as they leave the school. Thank you for keeping our children safe and for your cooperation.



Coffee Morning - Mrs Salmon will be holding a Christmas coffee morning in the school hall on Thursday 14th December at 9.00am. Please come along and join her and other parents. Thank you.

OUR SCHOOL RULES



1. Listen Carefully



2. Take Care

3. Try your best



HEALTHY SCHOOLS

ILLNESS - If your child is ill and not able to come to school, please telephone the school office by 10.00am to give a reason for their absence. If we do not hear from you by 10.00am, Mrs Arkinstall will be ringing you to find out why your child is absent. If your child is sick or has had diarrhoea, they should not come back into school, until they have been clear for **48 hours**.

Please **send a note** with your child when they return to school, explaining their absence. Thank you.

WELCOME TO THE FAMILY INFORMATION SERVICE NEWSLETTER



Tuesday 5th December 2023

In this week's Family Information Service newsletter there is information about Independent Travel Training, the latest SEND newsletter, Child Friendly Warwickshire's online advent calendar and much more!

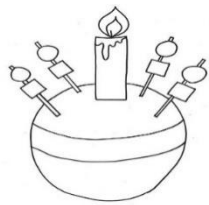
The Family Information Service (FIS) supports families across Warwickshire with information and signposting. You can get in touch with the team by emailing fis@warwickshire.gov.uk, calling 0800 408 1558 or finding support on www.warwickshire.gov.uk/childrenandfamilies. Head over to our [Facebook](#) to see where you can find the FIS team across the county this week.

If you would like to know more about FIS and where to find information and support on the FIS and SEND Local Offer webpages, book a place on an [online FIS discovery session](#).

Please click the [LINK](#) to access the newsletter.

Christmas Services and events 2023
at St Peter's Church, Galley Common

Please note, there is NO 11am service on Sunday 10th Dec 2023



Messy Church ~ Sunday 10th Dec
2.30-3.30pm in the Church Hall
All age activities, crafts and fun
+ come and make your own Christingle
(children must be accompanied by an adult)

Carol Service ~ Sunday 10th Dec 4pm
A service of readings and carols and Christingles
followed by.....



Quiet Christmas ~ Sunday 10th Dec 5.00–5.30pm
A simple time of reflection with gentle music, space, and an
opportunity to light a candle in memory of a loved one

“Midnight Mass” ~ Sunday 24th Dec 11.30pm
A traditional Christmas Eve Communion service
NO 11am Service at Galley Common

Christmas Day and 5th Sunday Service (New Year's Eve)
NO 11am Service at Galley Common
All are welcome to our morning services
at Holy Trinity Hartshill at 9.30 am on these days

Free School Meals

Schools should provide meal options for all children attending school. Meals are available free of charge to:

- All infant pupils (reception, year 1 and year 2) – known as universal FSM
- Pupils who meet the free school meals [eligibility criteria](#) – known as benefits – related FSM

If your child is in reception, year 1 or year 2, they will automatically be entitled to universal infant free school meals. However, if you do meet the benefits – related free school meals eligibility criteria, then it is advised you apply to receive additional benefits:

- [Holiday activities and food \(HAF\)](#) programme is for children aged 4 to 16, in reception to year 11, in receipt of benefits-related free school meals. HAF offers eligible pupil's access to activities and at least one healthy meal is provided during each session. The activities take place during the Easter, summer, and Christmas school holidays.
- [Pupil premium](#) is extra funding paid directly to schools for each pupil who is eligible for free school meals. It can help to fund valuable teaching and learning support to improve pupil's education.

You can apply for benefits-related FSM at any time online by clicking the following link:

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/education-learning/apply-free-school-meals>

If you have any questions or need support with applying, please contact the team by emailing freemeals@warwickshire.gov.uk or calling 01926 359189.



LEARNING IMPROVEMENT PRIORITIES 2023/2024

| KEY PRIORITIES | PRIORITY |
|----------------|---|
| PRIORITY 1. | Continue to meet the social and emotional wellbeing needs of the school community |
| PRIORITY 2. | Improve the writing practice and progress so that most children meet or exceed the expected standard for their age. |
| PRIORITY 3. | To embed the consistent approach to Learning Behaviours across the school |
| PRIORITY 4 | Maximise the capacity of the teaching team so that progress and attainment of children is maximised |

LEAVE OF ABSENCE DURING TERM TIME UPDATED INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

The Supreme Court recently reached a decision in the case of *Platt v Isle of Wight Council* which has clarified the law on unauthorised leave, including holidays, during term time. The parents of children of compulsory school age are required to ensure that they attend school on a regular basis. The Supreme Court has made clear that attending school 'regularly' means that the children must attend school on every day that they are required to do so. As such, the parents of any child who is absent from school without authorisation for any length of time are likely to be considered as committing an offence under s444 of the Education Act 1996.

Head Teachers retain the ability to authorise leave in accordance with the Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006. When considering such requests for a leave of absence, the school are obliged to act within the law. Head Teachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances relating to the application. If the leave is granted, head teachers are able to determine the number of school days a child can be absent for.

It is for the Head Teacher to decide what is 'exceptional' and it is at their discretion if the circumstances warrant the leave to be granted. The school can only consider Leave of Absence requests which are made by the 'resident' parent.

Each application for a leave of absence will be considered on a case by case basis and on its own merits.

Where applications for leave of absence are made in advance and refused, the child will be required to be in school on the dates set out in the application. If the child is absent during that period, it will be recorded as an unauthorised absence.

Failure to make an application for leave in advance will result in the absence being recorded as an unauthorised absence.

Your child's progress academically as well as socially is our shared priority



GOVERNORS

Please meet our Governors – If you need to contact the Chair of Governors, Mrs Christine Paremain, please contact Mrs Arkinstall in the school office on 02476 392219 or Admin2107@welearn365.com



Mr J Price - Chair of Governors
Mrs K Middleton - Head Teacher
Mrs Gordon - Staff Governor
Mrs C Paremain - Co-opted Governor
Mrs K Gilbert - Co-opted Governor
Mr J Parr - Co-opted Governor
Mr R Scott - Parent Governor
Mr C Joyce - Parent Governor
Vacancy - Co-opted Governor