



Galley Common Infant School

NEWSLETTER

Issue 16
January 2024

Dream, Believe, Achieve

SCHOOL NEWS

HAPPY★NEW★YEAR

Happy New Year, and welcome back to the Spring Term. We hope that you had an enjoyable and safe holiday.

Welcome - We would like to welcome our new Teaching Assistants, Miss White, Miss Healey and Miss Borisova. Welcome also to our new Student Teachers, Mrs Ward, Mr Sohal and Miss Saul.

Lateness - Could we please remind parents that school begins at the following times:

8.40am for Reception children and **8.45am** for children in KS1.

Please be on time.

The school gates will be locked at 8.50am. If your child arrives at school after this time, please take them to the main reception gate and call the school office. You will then be asked to complete a late log form.

Children who are consistently late will be contacted by Mrs Salmon, our Learning Mentor to see if there is any way that we can support you and your child in getting to school on time. Thank you for your support.

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE

Well done to Class 1 who have achieved 99.54% attendance this week.

Class 2 - 94.64% Class 3 - 98.21%
Class 4 - 94.91% Class 5 - 95.83%
Class 6 - 98.96%

Our DfE target is 96%
Whole School Attendance this week is
96.97%

www.galleycommoninfschool.co.uk

DIARY DATES

January

- Mon 15th** **Deadline for school applications for new to reception 2024 and new to year 3 children.**
- Tue 16th Full Governor Meeting - 5.30pm
- Wed 17th Phonics Screen Check Meeting Year 1 parents - 9.00am
- Thu 18th Coffee Morning - 9.00am (Lost at School)
- Mon 22nd Reading in School Week
- Tue 23rd Year 2 Reading morning 9.00am - 10.00am
- Thu 25th Reception Reading morning 9.00am - 10.00am
- Fri 26th Year 1 Reading morning 9.00am - 10.00am
- Wed 31st Year 2 Expectations meeting - 5.00pm - 6.00pm

February

- Wed 7th Reception Valentine Disco - 3.10pm - 4.30pm
- Thu 8th KS1 Valentine Disco - 3.15pm - 4.30pm
- Fri 9th Class 4 Assembly - 2.30pm

Teacher Training Dates

Friday 26th May

[Warwickshire School Term Dates 23/24](#)

STARS OF THE WEEK

Well done to the following children, who have been chosen "**Star of the Week**"

- Class 1 - Joshua and Clancy
Class 2 - Byson
Class 3 - Joseph and Alisha
Class 4 - Mustafa and Niamh
Class 5 - Finley and Louie
Class 6 - Amari and Evie

Tel: 02476 392219

HEALTHY SCHOOLS

Year 2 Parents - Please ensure that you have applied for a school place for your child's new school for year 3. All applications must be submitted before **15th January**. Any applications after this date will be classed as a late application which could mean that your child does not get a place at their preferred school.

New to Reception - If you have a child that is due to start school in Reception in September, please ensure that you have applied for a school place before **15th January**.

Thank you.

Coffee Morning - We will be holding a coffee morning on Thursday 18th January at 9.00am in the school hall. Mrs Newman will be talking about our new Lost at School project, and Joanna Cooper from Warwickshire County Council will be here to answer any questions that you may have about the project. We look forward to seeing you there.

Reading In School Week - We will be holding our reading in school week from Monday 22nd January - Friday 26th January. Parents are invited into school to read with their child and to take part in some reading activities. A letter has been sent home with more information.

VACANCIES

We currently have a vacancy for a Receptionist/Office Administrator. If you would like further information, please use the link below.

[Receptionist/Office Administrator](#)

OFSTED - Following our recent Ofsted inspection, please find below the link to our new Ofsted report. Thank you.

<https://www.galleycommoninfschool.co.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=365&type=pdf>

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.

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.



OUR SCHOOL RULES



1. Listen Carefully



2. Take Care

3. Try your best





RISE MHST

Mental Health in Schools Team (MHST)

Parent/Carer Tips:

Supporting your child with positive friendships

It can be difficult to see your young person struggling with friendships and to know how to support them.

Top tips for speaking with your child about friendships:

- Be available to listen
- Avoid making assumptions or placing blame
- Don't diminish how they are feeling
- Try not to rush to solutions



It can be useful to discuss with your child what a positive friendship looks like:

- Being able to be yourself with someone and have fun
- Being able to trust someone and be honest with each other
- Respecting each others boundaries
- Listening to each other and being kind

It can be helpful to:

- Share your own experiences of friendships
- Modelling good friendships and positive talk about others
- Have conversations about how they can be a good friend
- Enable new friendship opportunities



A guide to supporting young people with their friendships



WELCOME TO THE FAMILY INFORMATION SERVICE NEWSLETTER

SPECIAL EDITION



Thursday 4th January 2024

Welcome to the special edition of the Family Information Service newsletter. We understand that a lot of families are worried about the impact of the increasing cost of living. These worries, along with the additional pressures of Christmas, can have an impact on our relationships.

This month's special edition focuses on reducing parental conflict.

[Family Information Service Newsletter](#)



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