



# Galley Common Infant School NEWSLETTER

Issue 17  
January 2024

Dream, Believe, Achieve

## STARS OF THE WEEK

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

Class 1 - Sailor and Eva  
Class 2 - Myla  
Class 3 - Riley and Isla-Rose  
Class 4 - Gracie and Millie  
Class 5 - Emmie and Reece  
Class 6 - Junior and Carlton

## ATTENDANCE

Well done to Class 2 who have achieved 97.14% attendance this week.

Class 1 - 95.56%      Class 3 - 93.57%  
Class 4 - 96.67%      Class 5 - 93.70%  
Class 6 - 92.08%

**Our DfE target is 96%**  
**Whole School Attendance this week is 94.84%**

## SCHOOL NEWS

**Phonics Meeting** - Thank you to the year 1 parents that came along to the phonics meeting on Wednesday. If you could not make the meeting, some information has been sent home today.

## 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](#)

[www.galleycommoninfschool.co.uk](http://www.galleycommoninfschool.co.uk)

## DIARY DATES

### January

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 24th May

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

**Reading In School Week** - Next week is our reading in school week, and we have invited parents into school to read with their child and to have some fun in the hall with some reading activities.

Year 2 - Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> - 9.00am - 10.00am

Reception - Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> - 9.00am - 10.00am

Year 1 - Friday 26<sup>th</sup> - 9.00am - 10.00am



**Valentine Disco's** - A letter regarding the Valentine disco's has been sent home today. Please purchase your tickets on ParentMail before Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> February. Thank you.



Tel: 02476 392219

## 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](mailto:safeguarding2107@welearn365.com) You can also speak to a member of the Social Care Emergency Duty Team on 01926 886922.



### WELCOME TO THE FAMILY INFORMATION SERVICE NEWSLETTER



Tuesday 16th January 2024

In this week's Family Information Service newsletter there is information about the Peer Mentoring Support Service, a Kind Communities - Kind Food event, Energy Savers Week 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](mailto:fis@warwickshire.gov.uk), calling 0800 408 1558 or finding support on [www.warwickshire.gov.uk/childrenandfamilies](http://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](#).

### [Family Information Service Newsletter](#)



## 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.

## OUR SCHOOL RULES



1. Listen Carefully

2. Take Care



3. Try your best



### Mental Health in Schools Team (MHST)

#### Tips For Wellness:

### GIVING TO OTHERS

Giving to others has a positive effect on our mental wellbeing. When we do things for people in our lives, feel-good chemicals are released into our body which can increase our mood, self-esteem, and happiness. This also reduces stress. It can even help us live longer!

Giving means putting yourself in someone else's shoes, thinking about what they might need, and acting to help them in some way.

Sometimes small things can be just as effective as big gestures. Try helping others for a week and see if it makes a difference to your own wellbeing

- Holding a door open
- Smiling and saying hello
- Checking on someone who is alone
- Picking up something that someone has dropped
- Listening to someone who needs to talk
- Helping to do chores around the house
- Making a cup of tea

**Top Tip: Don't over-do it. Giving must start with yourself. You can only give your time and energy to others if you have enough left for yourself.**

#ThanksKids recognises the efforts and kindness of children and young people, and thanks them with personalised #NHSStars certificates. If you know a child or young person that deserves recognition for going above and beyond, don't wait, nominate! [thankskids@covwarkpt.nhs.uk](mailto:thankskids@covwarkpt.nhs.uk)

MHST are available to support you and your school throughout the school year including term time and school holidays. Please contact your school's Mental Health Lead for information and advice.

Tel: 02476 392219

## 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](mailto: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](mailto: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