



# Galley Common Infant School

# NEWSLETTER

Issue 18  
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 - Caspar and Olly  
Class 2 - Evelyn  
Class 3 - Lily and Poppy  
Class 4 - Anaya and Peyton  
Class 5 - Iga and Thea  
Class 6 - Hugo and Willow

### ATTENDANCE

Well done to Class 2 who have achieved 97.86% attendance this week.

Class 1 - 90.00%      Class 3 - 91.43%  
Class 4 - 93.70%      Class 5 - 91.85%  
Class 6 - 90.00%

**Our DfE target is 96%**  
**Whole School Attendance this week is 92.55%**

### SCHOOL NEWS

**Reading in School** - Thank you to all the parents that have come along to our reading in school event this week. We know that the children enjoyed welcoming their parents into school, and we hope that you found the morning informative and fun as well.

**Valentine Disco's** - Please remember to purchase a ticket on Parentmail if your child would like to attend the valentine disco. Tickets should be purchased by Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> February.

Reception - Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> February 3.15pm - 4.30pm  
KS1 - Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> February 3.15pm - 4.30pm

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

### DIARY DATES

#### January

Wed 31st Year 2 Expectations meeting - 5.00pm - 6.00pm

#### February

Thu 1st Writing Information Session - 9.00am  
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  
Mon 12th Half Term Break  
Mon 19th School opens for 2<sup>nd</sup> half term  
Wed 21st Mobile Planetarium Visit - Year 1

#### Teacher Training Dates

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May

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

### 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** - We would like to say welcome to Mr Oomer who will be joining us on Monday as our new Sports Apprentice and Teaching Assistant. We are sure you will join us in welcoming him to our school.

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 23rd January 2024

In this week's Family Information Service newsletter there is information about Parent Mental Health Day, Register My Appliance week, Warwickshire Libraries 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](#)

## OUR SCHOOL RULES



1. Listen Carefully

2. Take Care

3. Try your best



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

## THRIVE

### PHRASES TO CALM AN UPSET CHILD

- #1. I'M LISTENING.
- #2. I CAN TELL THIS IS HARD FOR YOU.
- #3. IT'S OKAY TO BE SAD!
- #4. LET'S WORK THIS OUT TOGETHER!
- #5. IT'S OKAY IF YOU WANT TO BE ALONE. I'LL BE RIGHT HERE WHEN YOU'RE READY TO TALK.
- #6. THAT WAS A SCARY SITUATION! ARE YOU OKAY?
- #7. I HEAR YOU.
- #8. CAN YOU HELP ME UNDERSTAND WHAT'S WRONG?
- #9. I KNOW IT DOESN'T SEEM FAIR. CAN YOU TELL ME ABOUT IT?
- #10. I LOVE YOU AND I'M HERE FOR YOU.

## RISE MHST

### Mental Health in Schools Team (MHST) Tips For Wellness:

#### CONNECTING

One way to feel connected is to identify with those who share the same interests, hobbies, passions and beliefs. This may be through attending social groups, with friends at school, sports and extra-curricular activities, employment, religious groups or events.

It is also possible to feel connected with people who you may not share similar interests with. When we feel seen, listened to and our opinions are considered, we feel a greater sense of belonging and connectedness.

#### How to feel connected

- 1- Asking questions to find out who shares similar interests with you (e.g. what is their favourite film or sport?)
- 2- Sit next to somebody new in class!
- 3- Share your favourite activity/hobby with a friend to enjoy together
- 4- Listen to others - paying attention to details can support the connection between two people
- 5- Reach out to somebody you may not have connected with for a while - send them a text!

Trying new things is a great way to discover interests we may have never known we had! There are bound to be other 'first timers' there, who may also be nervous.

#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.



# Wellbeing Award for Schools



## Welcome

This year, we will be working towards achieving a national award called the Wellbeing Award for Schools (WAS). This award looks at how well we promote the emotional wellbeing and mental health across the whole school community, including pupils, parents and staff.

## What is emotional wellbeing and mental health?

Emotional wellbeing describes your **mental state** - how you are feeling and how well you can cope with day-to-day life. Emotional wellbeing is essential for us to function and be happy.'

'Mental health is defined as a state of well-being in which every individual realises his or her own potential'

Mind, 2018

## With good mental health...

Your child will...

- build up **resilience** with confidence and self-esteem
- be able to express a range of emotions and talk about them freely
- have **ambitions** to achieve and succeed
- build and maintain **good relationships** with others
- feel **included** and engaged with the world around them

## Why work towards this award?

Evidence shows that positive mental health is of central importance to learning and attainment and it is part of our school ethos to support the wellbeing of pupils, parents and staff. Those with positive mental health are able to achieve their improved academic outcomes and continue to thrive throughout their adult life.





**OUR CAMP COMMITMENT**

- ✓ Up to date DBS Checks
- ✓ First Aid and Safeguarding Trained
- ✓ SEND Specialist Staff
- ✓ HUGE Range of Activities
- ✓ Offsite Nature Trails and Park Visits
- ✓ Competitions & Prizes

**MICHAEL DRAYTON, NUNEATON**

- ✓ Mon 12th - Fri 16th February 24
- ✓ 9am - 4pm
- ✓ 4\* - 12 year olds

Full Day	*Siblings	Half Day
£15	£12.50	£5



\*4 YEAR OLDS: HALF DAYS ONLY

**POSITIVE IMPACT**  
Foundation

**BOOK YOUR PLACES**

[pifoundation.pembee.app](https://pifoundation.pembee.app)

**YOU NEED:**

- Suitable Clothing
- Plenty to Drink
- Lunch & Snacks
- Medical Information

@ThePositiveImp1    
 The Positive Impact Foundation    
 @pifoundationcic

## 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