



Galley Common Infant School

NEWSLETTER

Issue 21
February 2024

Dream, Believe, Achieve

STARS OF THE WEEK

The following children were chosen as "Star of the Week"

Class 1 - Chase and Axel
Class 2 - Elsie-Lou and
Class 3 - Jackson and lottie
Class 4 - Eric and Beau
Class 5 - Jeona and Ava
Class 6 - Daphne and Oscar

ATTENDANCE

Well done to Class 1 who have achieved 96.89% attendance this week.

Class 2 - 88.93% Class 3 - 92.86%
Class 4 - 96.07% Class 5 - 96.67%
Class 6 - 94.80%

Our DfE target is 96%
Whole School Attendance this week is 94.66%

SCHOOL NEWS

We have a busy few weeks ahead of us at school, so please keep a look out for letters, and please take note of the diary dates.

Scholastic book fair - We will be holding our book fair in school next week on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. On Monday and Tuesday, the book fair will be open in the entrance hall, from 3.15pm until 3.45pm and on Wednesday and Thursday, the fair will be open until 5.45pm in the school hall, giving parents the opportunity to have a look at the books on sale during Parent Interviews. Please come along and have a look.

DIARY DATES

February

Mon 26th Book Fair - 3.15pm - 3.45pm
Tue 27th Book Fair - 3.15pm - 3.45pm
Wed 28th Book Fair - 3.15pm - 5.45pm
Wed 28th Parent Interviews - 3.30pm - 6.00pm
Thu 29th Coffee Morning - 8.55am - 9.45am
Thu 29th Book Fair - 3.15pm - 5.45pm
Thu 29th Parent Interviews - 3.30pm - 6.00pm

March

Mon 4th Mother's Day Assembly Year 1 - 9.00am
Tue 5th Mother's Day Assembly - Reception - 9.00am
Wed 6th Mother's Day Assembly - Year 2 - 9.00am
Thu 7th World Book Day
Fri 8th Non-uniform (Easter Eggs)
Wed 13th School Photographs
Thu 14th Coffee Morning
Fri 15th Class 3 assembly
Fri 15th Red Nose Day
Fri 15th Easter Bingo
Mon 18th OAP Assembly
Tue 19th Helper's Assembly
Wed 20th Easter Assembly - St Peter's Church
Wed 20th Easter Fun Day
Fri 22nd Toy Day - Last day of term

April

Mon 8th School Opens for Summer Term

Teacher Training Dates

Friday 24th May

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

Parent Interviews - Will be taking place on Wednesday 28th and Thursday 29th February. If you have not yet made an appointment, please call the school office. Thank you.

Coffee Morning - We would like to invite parents to our coffee morning on Thursday 29th February starting at 8.55am until 9.45am. This will be hosted by RISE who will be speaking about "Emotionally based school avoidance". Please come along and join us.

Staff News - On Monday 26th September we will be welcoming Miss Doherty to Galley Common Infant School. Miss Doherty will be taking over from Mrs Arkinstall in the school office. Mrs Arkinstall will be taking on the role of Business Manager and will now be working part time. Please bear with us over the next few weeks whilst Miss Doherty becomes familiar with the school. Thank you.

Goodbye - Next Friday, we will be saying goodbye to Mrs Beardmore. Mrs Beardmore has been at the school for 8 years, working in the school office and then more recently a Teaching Assistant. We wish Mrs Beardmore the very best of luck, we are going to miss her.

Goodbye - On Monday 4th March, we will be saying goodbye to Mrs Peakall. Mrs Peakall has been with the school for just over a year, working in Class 6. We also wish Mrs Peakall the very best in her new job.

After School Clubs - There will be no after school clubs on Wednesday and Thursday, due to the parents evening in school.

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.



Online Safety

Fortnite - this has an age rating of 13 (teens) and should be monitored when children are playing this by parents. For further information please see below:

<https://galleycommoninfant.ovw4.juniperwebsites.co.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=107&type=pdf>



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

The Highway Code / School Keep Clear Signs / Zig-Zags/ Double Yellow Lines:

Warwickshire Road Safety Partnership would like to remind parents of The Highway Code. The Highway Code states: "You **MUST NOT** wait or park, or stop to set down and pick up passengers, on school entrance markings." (Highway Code rule 238, Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984.)

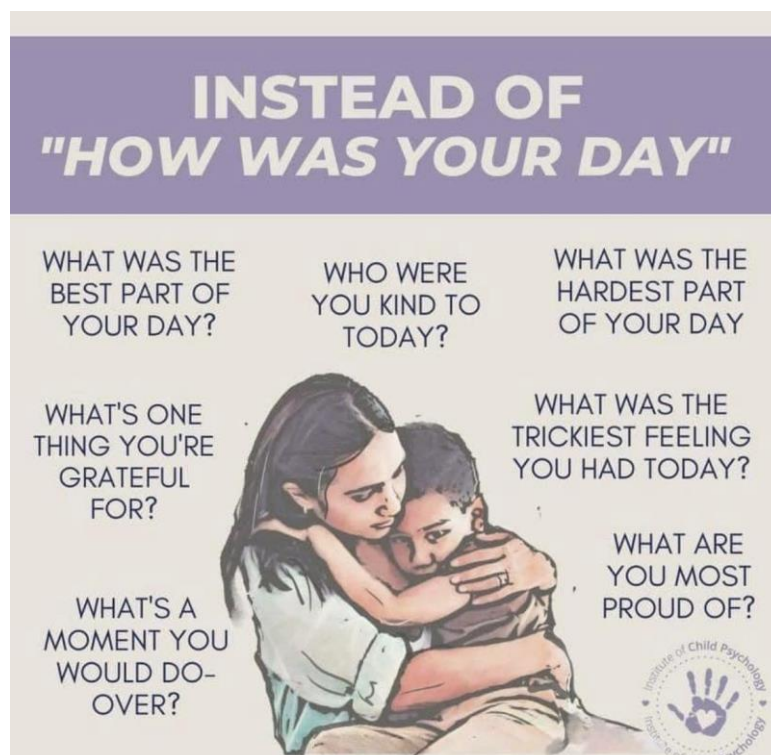
School Keep Clear markings mean no stopping during the time and days specified on adjacent or nearby signs. The markings help prevent vehicles from parking near or in front of school entrances, to ensure safe access for children and parents.

Please park safely, legally and considerately and away from the school gates.



THRIVE

It's often difficult to find the right words when talking to your child about their day. Here are some great thought provoking questions to help encourage your children to discuss and express their thoughts and feelings throughout their day. Ensuring your children feel heard, validated and connected 😊



WELCOME TO THE FAMILY INFORMATION SERVICE NEWSLETTER

Tuesday 20 February 2024

In this week's Family Information Service newsletter there is information about training sessions on how to spot the signs of child exploitation, the school admission process, stopping smoking in pregnancy 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](#).

[Family Information 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, Mr John Price, 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