



# The Galley Hill Times

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2024

Thursday	11 <sup>th</sup> January	3.15pm	Open Classrooms
Tuesday	16 <sup>th</sup> January	9am-9.15pm	4 Opal Sharing Assembly
Tuesday	16 <sup>th</sup> January	All Day	School Nurses – Reception Screening
Tuesday	30 <sup>th</sup> January	9am-9.15am	2 Pearl Sharing Assembly
Thursday	1 <sup>st</sup> February	3.15pm	Open Classrooms
Tuesday	13 <sup>th</sup> February	9am-9.15am	6 Topaz Sharing Assembly

## Message from Mrs Birch

Welcome back and welcome to 2024! I hope that the new year brings good health and happiness to all in our school community and that the Christmas festivities were enjoyed by all.

Our value for the month of January is perseverance. This feels very apt for this time of year and it very important to us at Galley Hill as this value also forms part of our school vision statement. We talk regularly with the children about what it means to persevere and love to see them put it into action.

As a reminder, our vision statement is:

Our vision is to develop resilient learners who:

- Are curious about the world around them
- Have high aspirations for themselves and the wider world
- And persevere to achieve their goals.

## Communicating with School

As a school, we believe that a strong relationship between ourselves and you as parents is absolutely essential. Together, we will ensure the best possible outcomes for your child, and we encourage you to communicate with us whenever you have a concern (or something positive!) to share.

For brief, urgent messages, there are school staff on all of the doors each morning. Teachers do need to start teaching from 8:45am however, so please do not hold them up if you are late. There are also members of the school's senior leadership team on both playgrounds before and after school, who are always happy to pass on messages.

After school, teachers are available, but we do please request that you wait until all of the children have been dismissed before approaching them. This is so we can safeguard all of the children. There is also the option to phone or email (admin@galleyhill.herts.sch.uk) the school office and your message will be passed on. Please allow up to three working days for replies to more detailed emails.

If you have a concern about something, your first port of call should always be your child's class teacher. If you continue to be unhappy with the outcome, then you next need to contact the Phase Leader. All Phase Leaders are members of the school's senior leadership team. They are:

Early Years Lead (Nursery and Reception) - Mrs Oakley

Key Stage One Lead (Year 1 and 2) - Mrs Reynolds

Lower Key Stage Two Lead (Year 3 and 4) - Miss Keal

Upper Key Stage Two Lead (Year 5 and 6) - Mrs Spooner

If your problem still has not been solved, you would then speak to Mrs Birch (Headteacher), Miss Elsey (Deputy Headteacher) or Mrs Jackson (Assistant Headteacher).

Thank you, as ever to you all for your support.

### **Health and Safety Reminders**

Just a couple of health and safety reminders:

- Please be mindful when parking that there are small children trying to use the pavements around the school. Take time to park further away rather than pull up on pavements and cause a hazard to pedestrians. This is particularly on Pudding Lane where we often see drivers pull up dangerously onto the dropped kerb.
- Bikes and scooters should not be ridden on the school site (by children or adults) before or after school. There are simply too many people walking around and this can become dangerous.
- Children can use the play trails before or after school but parents hold responsibility at this time and should be supervising their child please.

Thank you for your support in keeping our community safe.

## Open Classrooms

Our next Open Classrooms is at 3:15pm next Thursday (11th January). This is a chance for you to visit your child's classroom and look at their learning both in their books and on display. Although class staff might be available for quick discussions, this is not a time for detailed conversations about individual children. If you need to speak to the class teacher in more detail, please make a mutually convenient appointment with them.

## Prospective Parent Talk and Tour

There will be a talk and tour with the headteacher for parents looking for Nursery or Reception places for September 2024 taking place at 2pm on Tuesday 9th January. Please contact the office to book a place on this tour if you are interested in attending.

A reminder that the closing date for school applications for Reception for September 2024 is 15<sup>th</sup> January 2024 and for Nursery applications the closing date is 1<sup>st</sup> March.

## Sharing Assembly

The children from Team Opal will be sharing their learning in an assembly for parents and carers on Tuesday 16th January at 9am. Following the assembly, there will be the chance to go back to the classroom with the children to look at their books and displays. Anyone wishing to attend should come to the school office at 9am.

Also this half term, children from Team Pearl will be doing their sharing assembly on Tuesday 30th January and Team Topaz on Tuesday 13th February.



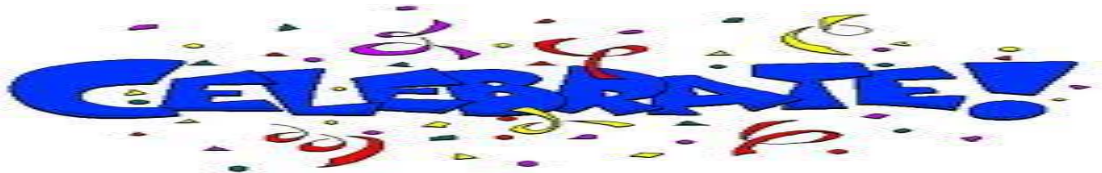
**Wednesday!**

Well done to these children who have all been selected for Well Done Wednesday to come and have milkshake and cookies with Mrs Birch.

Ruby: *Emmie-Rae T*      Emerald: *Caíomhe H*      Opal: *Connell H*

Coral: *Maya B*      Sapphire: *Zoja K*      Onyx: *Hannah W*

Topaz: *Rebecca N*      Amethyst: *Lillie H*



Well done *Helaina M* in 4 Coral who has passed her Stage 7 Ice Skating certificate. Keep up the good work!

*Tate S* in 4 Opal recently took part in the Dolphina Winter Wonderland Gymnastics competition where he won Gold for his floor routine and a silver and bronze for his vault and bar. He finished 2<sup>nd</sup> overall. Fantastic Tate, well done!

If your child has anything from outside of school that you would like to share then please email the details over to [admin@galleyhill.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@galleyhill.herts.sch.uk) and we can include them on the next Newsletter.

## Notice Board

HOUSEPOINTS - AUTUMN TERM WINNER



AND THE  
WINNER  
IS.....

Wilson!