



# The Galley Hill Times

Dates for the diary...

Friday, 9<sup>th</sup> June 2023

Thursday	15 <sup>th</sup> June	All Day	Year 1 Trip Tower of London
Friday	16 <sup>th</sup> June	All Day	Year 5 Trip London Zoo
Friday	16 <sup>th</sup> June	AM	Year 2 Olympics Festival
Monday	19 <sup>th</sup> June	9am	Year 1 Crystal Sharing Assembly
Tuesday	20 <sup>th</sup> June	9am	Reception Turquoise Sharing Assembly
Tuesday	20 <sup>th</sup> June	AM	Year 3 Olympics Festival
Friday	23 <sup>rd</sup> June	All Day	School Closed – Occasional Day
Monday	26 <sup>th</sup> June	All Day	Ark Farm Visit – Nursery & Quartz
Tuesday	27 <sup>th</sup> June	AM	Year 5 Olympics Festival
Friday	30 <sup>th</sup> June	All Day	Year 3 Trip Gadespring Cressbeds
Tuesday	4 <sup>th</sup> July	All Day	Year 6 Trip Food and Farming Festival
Tuesday	4 <sup>th</sup> July	2.15pm	Sports Day – Afternoon Nursery & Quartz
Wednesday	5 <sup>th</sup> July	9.15am EY & KS1 1.30pm KS2	Sports Day
Thursday	6 <sup>th</sup> July	AM	Switcheroo Day
Friday	7 <sup>th</sup> July	All Day	Reception Trip – Whipsnade Zoo
Monday	10 <sup>th</sup> July	1.45pm Dress Rehearsal, 6pm	Year 5 / 6 Performance – The Lion King
Tuesday	11 <sup>th</sup> July	6pm	Year 5 / 6 Performance – The Lion King
Wednesday	12 <sup>th</sup> July	All Day	Year 2 Seaside Day
Friday	14 <sup>th</sup> July	5pm-7pm	Year 6 Leavers Party
Wednesday	19 <sup>th</sup> July	All Day	Year 6 Trip Legoland
Friday	21 <sup>st</sup> July	9am	Year 6 Leavers Assembly
Friday	21 <sup>st</sup> July	1.55pm KS1 / 2pm KS2	Break up for Summer Holiday!

## Message from Mrs Birch

We hope you all had a lovely half term break and are now enjoying the sunshine that has at last arrived. It is hard to believe we are now in the final stretch of the academic year! As ever, there is so much planned for the next seven weeks and I feel sure it will fly by. Year 4 started the half term with excitement with their trip to the Natural History Museum on Monday and we know there are lots more trips planned, along with sports day, the Year 5 and 6 production, transitions, health and well-being day, the enterprise fair... the list is endless!

**Year 1 Phonics Screener / Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check**

Next week, we have two statutory national assessments taking place in school. The children in Year 1 will be working 1:1 with their teachers to complete their phonics screeners and the children in Year 4 will be working in small groups to take their Multiplications Tables Check. We know the children and staff have been working incredibly hard to prepare for these assessments and we wish all children the very best of luck.

### **OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning) Feedback**

Many thanks to those of you who gave feedback during Parents Evenings regarding our changes to lunchtime as we have worked on the OPAL project. We always appreciate hearing parent views and have spent time discussing the comments at length both within school and with the governing body. OPAL is an on-going project and we will continue to bring about changes as time progresses and funds / opportunities allow. We have recently opened the woodland area for KS2 children to play in during lunch time and provided the KS1 children with a scooter area. With the exception of the large sheds, which were funded by money raised by our fantastic FROGS PTA, everything we have has been donated. We are constantly looking for more resources. Currently we have noticed that the children particularly like wheeled items (scooters, balance bikes, pushchairs, suitcases) so please keep thinking of us if you have any of these ready for a new home and keep an eye out for them being given away for free on places like Freecycle!

As part of the project, there is a large number of risk assessments that have been developed over a number of years of OPAL working with schools. We follow all of these risk assessments carefully and also, through Play Assemblies and conversations during play, support the children in being able to start to consider risks for themselves.

We do want the children to have the opportunity to play outside in all weathers. When rain is particularly heavy, the children are given the option of staying inside if they prefer. We want to continue to encourage you to provide wellington boots and waterproof coats for your child. We also continue to collect second hand donations of these items to support our whole school community. As the sun is now starting to shine, please also ensure your child has a hat in school and has sun lotion applied each day.

We do currently have football taking place on both playgrounds every day. In Key Stage Two, this is supported by a coach. To ensure the enjoyment of all participating, we therefore reduce how many year groups of children can play each day. This also encourages the children to widen their play, which often leads to many children having a happier lunch time.

When we watch the children playing at lunch time with the changes we have made, we see happier more engaged children, who are developing a whole range of social and physical skills. We look forward to continuing to develop and extend our offerings for our children. As mentioned, if you can donate any items, we would greatly appreciate this. Similarly, if you work for or know of a company that might be able to support us in anyway, please do get in touch. This really is a whole community project.

### **Sharing Assemblies**

Our next sharing assemblies will be presented by Team Crystal on Monday 19th June and Team Turquoise on Tuesday 20th June. These are an opportunity for the children to share with parents about the learning they have been undertaking, followed by the chance for parents to visit their child's classroom if they wish. Parents and carers who wish to come and share in

these events should come to the school office at 9am on the appropriate day. We look forward to seeing lots of you there.

## **Sports Day**

Our Sports Day, for the vast majority of the school, will take place on Wednesday 5th July (weather permitting!). The children in Early Years (morning / all day Nursery and Reception) and Key Stage One (Years 1 and 2) will have their event in the morning, starting at 9:15am. The children in Key Stage Two (Years 3 to 6) will have their event in the afternoon, starting at 1:30pm. As last year, the children will all participate in some round robin events, followed by some running races. The children will have all had the chance to qualify for a place in the running races in school and only the finals will take place on the day. This is due to time constraints. Following some fairly significant injuries in the past, there will not be any adult races at our sports day. This is a day for the children to compete.

Parents and carers are welcome to come and watch the event but we do ask you to vacate the school site promptly in between the two sessions so that we can ensure that we can safeguard the children over lunch time. We will have the coffee van that attended our Coronation Party on site again, providing refreshments for the adults. Any items purchased for children should only be given to them after school please to enable them to focus on their sport activities.

Children can come to school wearing their P.E. kits that day. They should have their usual bottoms and a top to represent the colour of their House team (Red for Dahl, Blue for Horowitz, Yellow for Wilson and Green for Rowling). If you are unsure which team your child is in, please speak to their class staff.

A separate sports day will take place for our children in afternoon Nursery and Team Quartz. This will be at 2:15pm on Tuesday 4th July.

## **Occasional Day**

Just a reminder that Friday 23rd June is our occasional day. The school will be closed for everyone on that day.

# **Well done 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.

**Emerald:** *Grace D*

**Ruby:** *Amy-Leigh R*

**Coral:** *Lucy P*

**Opal:** *Sonny C*

**Sapphire:** *Stanley L*

**Onyx:** *Somaia N*

**Amethyst:** *Neve O*

**Topaz:** *Layah C*

# Celebrate

Well done to *Isla C* in 3 Ruby who was awarded a trophy for being Boxer of the Week at her boxing club. Great work Isla!

*Maddie B* also in 3 Ruby took part in the Cheer City Summer Games with her cheer squad, Scarlet, and they won second place! Fantastic Maddie! Keep up the good work!

Well done to *Grace D* in 3 Emerald who has been awarded her Level 1 Beam Award at gymnastics. Brilliant Grace!

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

### EARLY YEARS STAR OF THE WEEK

#### GARNET

*Sawen D*

#### TURQUOISE

*Aylin A*

Star of  
the  
Week!

#### NURSERY

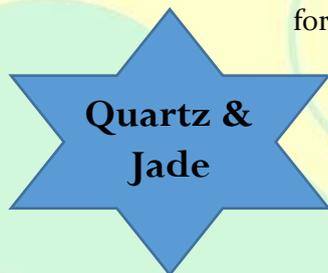
*Kiyoshi-Li M*

**ATTENDANCE**

Green is for classes with attendance above 95%, Amber for classes with 90-95% and Red for classes with attendance less than 90%.

	Red	Amber	Green
Quartz			100%
Nursery Amber	87%		
Reception Garnet		92.3%	
Reception Turquoise			95.2%
1 Jade			100%
1 Crystal			95.3%
2 Diamond		93.9%	
2 Pearl		93.2%	
3 Ruby		93.3%	
3 Emerald			98.7%
4 Coral		91.7%	
4 Opal		91.9%	
5 Onyx			95.9%
5 Sapphire			96.3%
6 Topaz		92.7%	
6 Amethyst		92%	

Well done to \_\_\_\_\_ for winning the attendance award this week!



**HOUSEPOINTS**

**Rowling**

**Horowitz**

**Wilson**

**Dahl**



AND THE  
WINNER  
IS.....

**Wilson!!**