



# The Galley Hill Times

Friday, 19<sup>th</sup> May 2023

*Dates for the diary...*

Monday	22 <sup>nd</sup> May	All Day	Class Photos
Friday	26 <sup>th</sup> May	All Day	Inset Day – School Closed
Monday - Friday	29 <sup>th</sup> May – 2 <sup>nd</sup> June	All week	Half Term
Monday	5 <sup>th</sup> June	AM	Back to school
Monday	5 <sup>th</sup> June	All day	Year 4 Trip Natural History Museum
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
Monday	19 <sup>th</sup> June	9am	Year 1 Crystal Sharing Assembly
Tuesday	20 <sup>th</sup> June	9am	Reception Turquoise Sharing Assembly
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
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

## Message from Mrs Birch

We had a fantastic start to the week this week with sharing assemblies from Teams Coral and Garnet. It was a real joy to hear the children present their learning to parents and I was particularly proud of our Reception children for speaking so loudly in a slightly scary situation. The busy week for Reception continued when they went to their Sports Festival at the Sports Centre on Tuesday afternoon. I understand that the children represented the school amazingly and Galley Hill took first and second place! Well done children and thank you to all of the staff and parents who accompanied them.

## **Parent Survey 2023**

We would like to say an enormous thank you to all of the parents who completed the online parent survey that we had running just before the Easter holidays. We were pleased to receive 151 responses, which can really help us to work out what is going well at Galley Hill and areas where perhaps we need a little more focus. Your views really are important to us and we have discussed the outcomes at length both as a senior leadership team and with the school's governing body.

We were delighted to see that 97% of parents agreed or strongly agreed that their child was happy at school and 96% agreed or strongly agreed that their child feels safe. Happy and safe children are those that can learn most effectively and we will continue to strive for this to be 100%. It was also pleasing to see that 96% would recommend our school to another parent. If you were one of the 4% who felt differently, and would like to discuss this with me, I would certainly welcome this opportunity.

As well as being pleased with what is going well, we have also been looking carefully at the statements that more parents disagreed or strongly disagreed with, so we know how we can improve. 11% of parents disagreed that the school makes them aware what their child will learn during the year. Teachers do create curriculum overview statements each term and these are shared on our website. We appreciate that not everyone has the time to seek these out though so going forward, you will receive these via email. You should have already got the one for the summer term earlier this week. There is a wealth more information about our curriculum on our website: <https://www.galleyhill.herts.sch.uk/our-curriculum/> and your child's homework sheet (for children in Years 3 to 6) also focuses on something they have been learning that week outlined on it.

We are also hoping that we can further improve this area, along with 'The school lets me know how my child is doing' (which 12% of parents disagreed or strongly disagreed with) by thinking about putting on a wider range of parent workshops and by sharing more about our curriculum content and expectations in the welcome meetings that we hold at the beginning of the school year. We would hope that this will complement the two parent's evenings, written report and monthly open classrooms that are already on offer. Please also know that teachers are always happy to have a quick chat with you about your child's progress if you see them after school. If you feel you need more detail than this, please feel free to request a meeting or phone call with your child's teacher at any time.

Once again, thank you to all who completed the survey and please do keep communicating with myself and school staff going forward so we can do everything possible to provide your child with the best possible education experience.

### **Hair**

We would like to politely remind all parents of our expectations for long hair, which are published on our website:

We ask that any pupil with long hair has it tied back neatly during the school day. Hair accessories should be discrete.

### **Neurofibromatosis Day**

On Wednesday, Mrs Spooner and our children in Years 1 to 6 spoke in assembly about it being Neurofibromatosis Awareness Day. This is a condition that does impact some children in our school. By discussing this condition, the children were thinking about the fact that not all disabilities are visible and anyone can have a lot going on that we cannot see. The message of kindness for all was reinforced.

# 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.

Amber: Mark C

Turquoise: Paige C

Garnet: Olivia H

Jade: Oskar G

Crystal: Leon C & Lillianna P

Pearl: Poppy C

Diamond: Maya P



Celebrate

Well done to *Leo M* in 1 Crystal who has managed to swim his first 10 metres. Great work Leo, well done!

*Ruby C* in 3 Ruby and *Daisy P* in 1 Crystal both completed a 5k Bubble Rush last weekend. Excellent work both of you, fantastic achievement!

Well done to *Ayah M* in 2 Diamond who was awarded Gymnast of the Week this week for her work on the beam. Brilliant Ayah, keep up the hard work!

*Frankie D* in 3 Emerald has received a call back for all of her dances at the Hemel ISTD Dance Competition and came 4<sup>th</sup> in her pairs routine. Amazing achievement Frankie, 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

### CLASS PHOTOS

The School Photographers are in on Monday to take Class Photos and Year 6 Leavers Photos. Please try to make sure that you are at school on time as the first class photos will start at 9am. Thank you for your support with this.

**EARLY YEARS STAR OF THE WEEK**

**GARNET**

*Willow A*



**TURQUOISE**

*Tommy B*

**NURSERY**

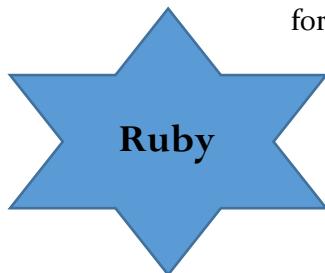
*Indigo W*

**ATTENDANCE**

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

	<b>Red</b>	<b>Amber</b>	<b>Green</b>
Quartz	86.7%		
Nursery Amber	86%		
Reception Garnet			98.6%
Reception Turquoise			95.2%
1 Jade		93.5%	
1 Crystal			96.3%
2 Diamond			96.1%
2 Pearl		94.6%	
3 Ruby			99.2%
3 Emerald			97.3%
4 Coral	86.2%		
4 Opal		94.2%	
5 Onyx		94.5%	
5 Sapphire			96.2%
6 Topaz		90%	
6 Amethyst		92.4%	

Well done to



for winning the attendance award this week!



HOUSEPOINTS

Rowling

Horowitz

Wilson

Dahl



AND THE  
WINNER  
IS.....

**Rowling!!**

