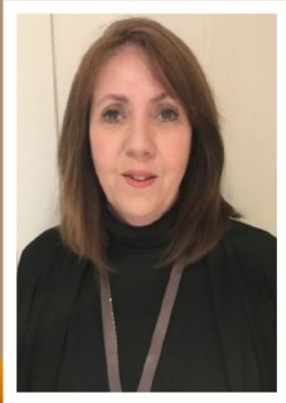




October 2023

NEWSLETTER



Dear Parents & Carers

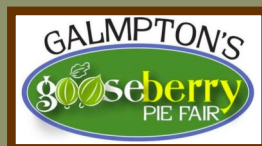
Welcome to our first newsletter of the 23/24 academic year! A special welcome to all our new families. We're delighted you've chosen Galmpton as your child's school and we look forward to a long and close relationship with you!

Do take time to read our half termly newsletters. We always try to include learning opportunities from classes as well as other events and interesting news. At the end of the newsletter, you'll find dates for the term too.

Thank you for all your support this half term. It's been wonderful to see all the children settle so well in their 'upgraded' classrooms! We've some super learning this half term so do take a look.

Mrs K Burns

Headteacher



A huge thank you to the Galmpton Gooseberry Pie Fair Committee who have kindly donated £300 to our School from the profits of their 150th fair in July.

We intend to use the funds towards IT equipment for the children.

FROGs AGM

The anticipated changes to the committee members have taken place following our AGM in mid September. Before notification is made of the new appointees, however, we must give a very sincere vote of thanks to Kirsty Emmins for her outstanding work as Chairperson and to Alice Johnson who so ably supported her as Treasurer.

They are succeeded by Anne Groarke and Samantha Kinghorn who are now Co-Chairs of the PTA, whilst the former teams up with Louise Harcarova-Geary to share the Treasurer duties. Alison Coopman has agreed to become our Secretary.

Fund raising events are always being planned and, to this end, we held a 'meet & greet' at the Railway Inn for Reception parents which was not only a great success but also a lot of fun for the children with face paints and crafts. Our next event will take place on Bonfire Night at Lupton House on 5th November, and then onto our Christmas Fayre on Wednesday 13th December.

For the remainder of the planned FROGs events please refer to the dates page at the end of this newsletter. We are always very pleased to hear from anyone who can help at any of our events. If you feel able to get involved, you would be most welcome.



Attendance Data for the period 6/9/23—12/10/23

Whole School	97.26%
Year Group	% Attendance
Reception	98.24%
1	96.95%
2	99.42%
3	94.87%
4	97.32%
5	96.79%
6	97.61%

Well done to **Year 2** who have achieved the highest attendance this half term!



We are pleased to offer a visit for parents/ carers of children who are due to join Reception Class in September 2024.

Available dates and times are:

Friday 3rd November 2023 at 9.30am
 Friday 3rd November 2023 at 4.00pm
 Wednesday 29th November at 5.00pm



To book your place, please call the school office on **01803 842628**



[Click here for our Admissions Policy](#)

Welcome to Reception

The Reception class have settled well into school life at Galampton. This half term we have been learning all about 'What makes us special?' and 'How can we keep ourselves healthy?'. The children are making a video to explain the importance of healthy food choices, exercise and looking after our teeth. We are also opening a 'healthy café' with healthy foods made by the children.



Y2 Geography Bus Tour

As part of our Geography learning enquiry, "Why do people come to Torbay on holiday?", Year 2 went on a bus trip. We hopped on the double decker bus and travelled around Torbay. On our journey, we stopped at Babbacombe Downs and Meadfoot Beach to look at physical and human features around the Bay.



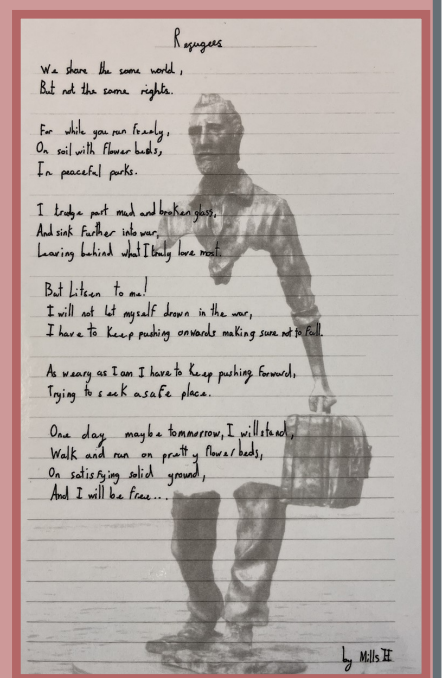
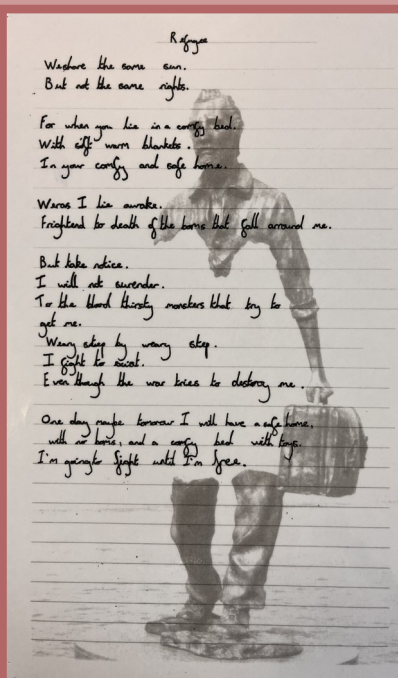
Y5 Spanish Workshop at Churston Grammar

Our first group of Year 5 children went to Churston Grammar on Tuesday 26th September to attend a Spanish Workshop. They were fantastic ambassadors for the school and really enjoyed their experience. Not only did they learn lots of new Spanish, they were also able to come back and teach the rest of Year 5 what they had learnt too. The rest of Year 5 are looking forward to attending the Workshops in the Spring and Summer terms.



Year 4 Coffee & Poetry

Year 4 held a Coffee and Poetry afternoon on the 22nd September. We had been learning about how we could make a difference for Refugees as part of our learning enquiry. Thank you to all the Parents who came along to support us and read our fabulous poetry about the challenges that face refugees in our country. We managed to raise a whopping £184 that we donated to Beyond Borders, a refugee charity that supports asylum seekers and refugees in Devon.





Y6 had a fantastic trip to the Zoo this half term to undertake Geography fieldwork for their learning enquiry around climate change. They investigated the links between endangered animals across different climate zones and how climate change has caused a decline in species across the globe. Their task during the day was to explore as many different animals as they could, record their conservation status and link it to climate change. Pictured below, are the giant tortoises; we found out they are affected by climate change as the increase in temperature is causing more females to be born than males, which obviously will have a worrying knock-on effect on their populations in the future! Y6 were all fabulous ambassadors for our school!



Year 1 have been working on their Geography skills and have been thinking about 'What can we learn from a map?'

We looked at where Galampton is located, the physical and natural features, what a compass is and the directions that it shows.

We all went for a village walk around Galampton, where we identified natural and physical features. We loved seeing all the different houses, fields, big trees, the village Pre-School and the local pub.

When we returned to school we created a map of all the features that we thought a visitor to Galampton would like to see and visit.



Sensory Workshop



The Galmpton SEND Family Group met together on Wednesday 11th October for the first session of the year. Sasha and Sarah from the Occupational Therapy team (Children and Family Health Devon) delivered an informative and practical session on understanding and supporting sensory needs.

Parents and carers were given a range of practical strategies to take away and the feedback was really positive from all those who attended.

Our SEND Family Group is an all-inclusive, welcoming group that meet together once a term. If you are interested to know more about us and our sessions, please contact jessica.fisher@acexcellence.co.uk



Y5 trip to Dawlish

The children in Year 5 ventured to Dawlish Warren on Wednesday 11th October. The children were challenged to compare the area of Dawlish to Libya to help them understand why Libya was more vulnerable to flooding, despite both places being coastal. The children were brilliant role models whilst out representing Galmpton. Well done Year 5





In advance of a successful safeguarding audit and the delivery of an online safety session to school families, the children completed a questionnaire and the results have been compiled below (our youngest years R and 1 completed theirs as a class rather than individually) :

	Whole School Feedback			
	Very Sure	Mostly Sure	Unsure	Not Sure
I feel happy in school	40.8%	54.1%	4.1%	0.9%
I feel safe in the playground	70.1%	27.7%	2.7%	0.0%
I have some good friends in school	87.6%	9.6%	2.2%	0.4%
Other children look after me on the playground	54.1%	38.8%	5.9%	1.8%
I know how the wellbeing warriors can help me	55.9%	38.9%	3.6%	1.3%
I feel safe in school	66.9%	27.9%	3.2%	1.8%
There is someone I feel I can talk to in school about my concerns	51.8%	43.5%	2.7%	1.8%
I feel listened to about my concerns	49.0%	45.4%	4.1%	1.3%
I have regular opportunities to share how I'm feeling	42.6%	51.8%	4.1%	1.3%
I feel safe from bullying	38.5%	54.1%	4.1%	3.2%
I know who to tell if I am feeling bullied or someone is unkind to me	83.0%	12.8%	2.7%	1.3%
I learn about keeping safe in school	89.4%	8.2%	1.8%	0.4%
I know how to keep safe online	83.4%	11.9%	2.7%	1.8%
I feel confident that adults will deal with bullying	53.0%	41.4%	3.2%	2.3%
I feel safe outside of school	51.3%	43.5%	3.6%	1.3%
I know what to do in the event of a fire	79.3%	13.7%	5.0%	1.8%
I feel pupils at this school are nice to each other and look after one another	65.1%	27.0%	6.8%	0.9%
I feel I am treated fairly and equally at school	72.8%	17.9%	5.5%	3.6%

TORBAY COUNCIL

Attendance Improvement Service
2nd Floor Electric House
C/o Town Hall, Torquay, TQ1 3DR
Email: attendance@torbay.gov.uk

Academic Year 2023 / 2024

Dear Parents & Carers

Each year the Local Authority is expected to communicate with all parents of children attending a school in Torbay, to remind you of Torbay Council's policy in relation to school attendance. This letter is NOT a concern about YOUR child's attendance. We are encouraged to send it, so that all parents and carers understand the framework. This letter is sent out from your child's school on our behalf. If your child's school have concerns about your child's attendance, they will contact you directly.

Over the last year, the majority of families have ensured that their child attended school regularly and enjoyed the benefits of being on roll at one of Torbay's schools. If your child has not received unauthorised absences, I would like to thank you for your continuing commitment to your child's education. However, we all need to continue to work together to make sure that all children attend school as much as possible, so that any gaps in their learning can be quickly and efficiently filled. I would urge you to communicate with your child's school should there be any problems with your child's attendance. As soon as a problem with your child's attendance is identified, the sooner that parents and schools can work together to overcome the barriers for your child, the better.

Parents / carers have a legal duty to ensure their child, who is of compulsory school age, receives an efficient, full-time education. Therefore, if your child has no unauthorised absences and their attendance is at 96% or above, you are giving your child the best chance to achieve their potential. If parents / carers fail to ensure their child's regular and punctual attendance at school, they are committing an offence, unless the absence has been authorised by the school.

We acknowledge that some absence, for example illness, is unavoidable. However, any requests for avoidable absences from school (including holidays) can only be agreed by the school in advance, so it is therefore essential that you apply to the school in writing as far in advance of the absence as is reasonably possible, using a form supplied by the school. Please be aware that a school can only grant leave in exceptional circumstances. The Department for Education guidance states that "leave is unlikely to be granted for the purposes of a family holiday as a norm."

In situations where a child accumulates 10 or more sessions of unauthorised absences (one school day is made up of two sessions) within any six-month period, parents / carers will make themselves liable to receiving a Penalty Notice per parent / carer, per child. If a Penalty Notice is issued, it carries a penalty of £60 if paid in full within 21 days, or £120 if paid in full after this time but within 28 days. Part or late payments cannot be accepted and there is no legal right to appeal the Penalty Notice once it has been issued. If a Penalty Notice goes unpaid, this is likely to result in Court proceedings being instigated for an offence of failing to ensure regular school attendance, contrary to Section 444 Education Act 1996. Upon conviction of such an offence the maximum fine of £2500, or a maximum 3 months imprisonment, can be imposed.

Please note: only one Penalty Notice will be issued in any two-year period. This means that if a Penalty Notice is paid, and the child accumulates a further 10 sessions of unauthorised absence within the following two years, this will result in the parent / carer receiving a summons to Court for an offence contrary to S444 Education Act.

If you are considering taking your child out of school, you are reminded to read both your child's School Attendance Policy (normally on the school website) regarding avoidable absence in term time and the Local Authority's Penalty Notice Code of Conduct, which can be accessed at: www.torbay.gov.uk/attendance.

Yours faithfully



On behalf of the Attendance Improvement Service

Galmpton Primary School

Calendar Dates

Wed 1st November	Bags 2 School Collection
Sun 5th November	Lupton House Fireworks
Mon 6th & Weds 8th November	Parent/Teacher Meetings
Weds 8th November	Flu Immunisations in School
Fri 10th November	Y6 Leading worship
Fri 17th November	Children In Need Day
Friday 17th November	PTA meeting after School
Wed 22nd November	School Nurse, Y6 & YR height and weight measurements
Fri 24th November	Y5 Leading Worship
Fri 1st December	Y4 Leading Worship
Tues 5th December, 8.55am	Christingle Service-info to follow
Tues 12th December, 6.00pm	EYFS & KS1 Nativity Performance info to follow
Weds 13th December	Christmas Lunch, Christmas Jumper & FROGS Christmas Fayre 2.30—4.30pm
Thurs 14th December, 6.00pm	KS2 Christmas Carols @ Churston Church
Fri 15th December	End of Term