



Newsletter

Giles Junior School

"Achieving excellence through Leadership"

**Autumn
Term
Friday 15th
November
2019**

Giles Junior School News

We certainly packed a lot in this week! We started our week with a wonderful Remembrance Assembly where all the children explained how they had made poppies in every class. Mr Kent sent in some wonderful photos and the feature can be seen in The Comet.

Then we embarked on a series of Open Mornings which were very well attended. Thanks to all of you that were able to attend. The children are always extremely proud to show you their work and it was great you could spend time in their classroom.

We had a visitor from Canada who was filming two Lighthouse schools in England. He was so impressed with the specific work we do relating to emotional bank accounts. We will look forward to sending a link to the video out when it has been edited.

Mrs Arris has started work with the school council and we will be asking the children to help review road safety outside our school and see what advice we can give at drop off and pick up times, to make sure residents are respected and drivers are able to access roads without going around vehicles who are stopped on double yellow lines or pausing to let people in or out. I am aware that it is difficult to get a space directly outside school and would like to thank those of you who take the time to "park and stride" and keep the roads a little less congested around our busy site.

We had a visit from the lady at Magic breakfast who couldn't believe how organized we were. She was particularly impressed with the "Bagel Leaders" who help this run smoothly every morning. Thank you to Larry, Amber, Reggie, Allen, Kade, Max and Malavika for helping us. We will look into adding more toppings soon ... Marmite and cream cheese were the top suggestions.

Miss. Whitby
Headteacher

Kittle Photo Orders

**All photo orders need to be in school by today,
Friday 15th November 2019!**

Thank you if you have already done this or ordered direct online.

Healthy Snacks

As a healthy school we hope that parents can support this by being aware of the snacks which they send in with the children. We have recently had sessions run by a company where they helped children look at food labelling and understanding the sugar content of particular foods. Packaging can be conflicting - something which might look healthy can have a very high sugar content and is not considered a healthy snack. Chocolate covered snacks and anything containing nuts are not allowed as snacks.

Collection after Clubs

Any child that attends an After School Club or Smiles at Giles must be collected by an adult.

Lone walkers will NOT be allowed to go home on their own. This is due to it becoming dark much earlier now.

Celebrating Pupil Success

We are thrilled that Freya has been awarded a "Super Badger Award". This is the highest award possible and has meant that Freya has achieved 13 badges relating to first aid. It is a great comfort to know that Freya has this knowledge under her belt - or sewn on to her arm!

This is quite a special achievement and we would like to comment how proud we are of the commitment that Freya has shown to be awarded in this way.



Autumn Term Dates 2019 (These could be subject to change)

Parents Evening (5.00-7.30pm)	Mon 18th Nov	17:00 - 19:30
Parents Evening (3.30pm-6.00pm)	Wed 20th Nov	15:30 - 18:00
Mixed Table Tennis Tournament for Year 5 & 6	Wed 20th Nov	TBC
Year 5 & 6 Mixed Tag Rugby match @ Giles	Thur 21st Nov	15:15 - 16:45
Year 5 & 6 Boys Table Tennis match @ Giles	Thur 28th Nov	15:15 - 16:30
Christmas Fayre	Fri 29th Nov	TBC
Rock Steady Concert	Mon 2nd Dec	14:30 - 15:00
School nurse in for Weights and measures for Year 6	Tue 3rd Dec	All day
Parent Drop in Session	Wed 4th Dec	09:30 - 11:00
Year 5 & 6 Girls Table Tennis match @ Giles	Thur 5th Dec	15:15 - 16:30
Occasional Day - SCHOOL CLOSED	Fri 6th Dec	all day
Year 4 Dress Rehearsal	Mon 9th Dec	09:30 - 11:00
Year 4 Christmas Performance	Wed 11th Dec	17:00 - 18:30
Year 3 & 4 Boys Football match @ Round Diamond	Thur 12th Dec	15:15 - 16:45
House Reward Afternoon	Mon 16th Dec	all day
Year 4 Merit Assembly (Invitation only)	Tue 17th Dec	09:00 - 09:30
Year 3 Merits (Invitation only)	Wed 18th Dec	09:00 - 09:30
Christmas Lunch Day	Wed 18th Dec	Lunchtime
Mr Sapsed Dance & Drama Production	Wed 18th Dec	17:00 - 18:00
Year 5 and 6 Merit Assembly (Invitation only)	Thur 19th Dec	09:00 - 09:30
Year 3 Christmas Carol Concert	Thur 19th Dec	14:15 - 15:00
Games Day	Fri 20th Dec	All day
Last day of term - Early finish	Fri 20th Dec	14:00 finish

Year 4 Swimming

This term we have Year 4 Costa Rica & Zambia having swimming lessons.

The weekly donation we ask for is £4.10 or 4 installments of £14.35 (1 in September, 1 in October, 1 in November and the last one in December).

Thank you so much to those parents/carers who have contributed towards these payments so far. If we do not receive enough contributions towards your child's swimming lessons then we will have to unfortunately cancel the sessions.

Next term we have Year 4 Australia & Zambia having lessons. A letter will be going out about this before the end of term.

Sports Report

Our Table Tennis squads had an amazing performance in the annual SSFT Under 11 Table Tennis Tournament held at Barclay Academy last Thursday.

They played really well throughout the morning and brought medals and trophies back to school.

Our Girls have won the trophy again for the 4th time in the last five years, whilst our Boys came 2nd, only losing in the final after a dramatic rematch.

Well done to all of you!



Parents Evenings

Parents' Evening

will be held on

Monday 18th

November from

5.00pm-7.30pm

and Wednesday

20th November from 3.30pm-6.00pm. Hopefully

you all have booked in your appointments.



There will be books on sale as The Travelling Book

Fair will be there for both evenings, so please bring along some cash! There are £1 book tokens available at the Book Fair for every child.



School lunch taster sessions in the Dining Hall with our School Cook will also be taking place on both evenings.

You are invited to Giles Junior School

Christmas Fayre

Giles Junior School, Durham

Road, Stevenage

Friday 29th November 2019

3:15pm – 5:15pm

Santa's Grotto – Choir – Tombola –
Refreshments – Popcorn – Crafts by our
children & much more

If you are interested in having a stall please contact

Mrs Allcock-Green :

sallcockgreen@gilesjm.herts.sch.uk



Good news!

The milk bottle lid collection has resulted in a new wheelchair for the local family know to Mrs Faulkner. Thanks to all your help collecting these. We couldn't have done it without all the extra support.



Parent Support Drop In Wednesday 4th December 2019

Our first Parent Support Drop-In this year will take place on **Wednesday 4th December at 9am in the 'Smiles at Giles' After School Club room.**

This is a friendly informal group, for parents of children with any kind of additional need, to come and have a chat, share issues or ideas and ask questions. Come along for a coffee and a chat. Children are welcome.

Mrs Chappell - SENCO & Assistant Head Teacher

Free Session at 360

We have been lucky enough to have a FREE session booked for all families, from Giles Junior School, at 360 softplay in Stevenage. **Our school is booked in on Thursday 21st November from 3.30pm** (all children must be accompanied by an adult).

Children will need to be wearing their school uniform and the accompanying parent must show the letter from the school. The letter will be going out today to all children.

A big thank you to FOG for arranging this and thank you to 360 giving back to the community!



Free Books for Schools

Please look out for the tokens in The Sun Newspaper for free books for schools. We need to collect 3,500 tokens! The tokens are being printed from 23rd November through to the 18th January! Thank you for your support.



Reminder - Year 4 Greek Workshop

The workshop will be running on Thursday 28th November and we have asked if children can come into school wearing Greek costumes (if they want to). If you need another copy of the sheet of costumes ideas please ask the school office. £5 donation towards the cost of the workshop can be paid through the School Gateway or by bringing cash into school.

Can you help change the life of a bereaved child?

Did you know that ?

- 1 in 29 school aged children are estimated to have been bereaved of a parent or sibling during their childhood and this will have a lasting impact on their lives. The death of other close relationships can also have a significant effect on their lives
- Many children and their families tell us how difficult it can be to find support
- Stand-by-me provides life changing support for bereaved children and young people in North Herts & Stevenage through its group programmes to help prevent lasting difficulties.

Can you help us change things ?

- Do you have a background in Education, Health or Social Care
- Are you interested in being trained to be a group programme volunteer worker?
- Do you want to gain new skills and help your community?

We are looking for new volunteers to help us run our Group Programme

- Each Stand-by-me volunteer receives 22 hours initial training to ensure they feel confident to support the bereaved children and young people in our groups.
- Volunteers will receive 90 minutes supervision per month (term time only)
- We ask our volunteers to commit to 14 half days per year for 2 years

We are holding an information event on

Weds 27th November

5.30pm to 8pm

Starfish House, 3 North Rd, Stevenage, SG1 4AT

To find out more or to request an application pack

Email: info@stand-by-me.org.uk



15-21 November 2019



SPACEHERTS@GMAIL.COM

WWW.SPACHERTS.ORG.UK

SPACE ASD and Tourettes

TUESDAY 26TH NOVEMBER 2019

**KIDS EAST HUB
DIVOT PLACE (OFF HAMELS DRIVE),
HERTFORD, SG13 7SP**

**10AM - 12PM
FREE**



**SOPHIA SAVIDIS-MACRIS
ASD and Tourettes**



Do you know the difference between an autistic stim and a Tourette's tic?
Sophia talks about the events that led to her discovering she is autistic, developing Tourette's in her teens and the impact this had on her.

Come to this talk to find out what makes her tic!

We have limited places available

Please email: spacehertsevents@gmail.com with your request

Your place will only be confirmed once you have received an email from the SPACE team

SPACE is a charity supporting Parents/Carers in Hertfordshire of children and young people on the Autistic Spectrum, ADHD or related conditions

We meet up once a month (term time only)

at each of these locations across Hertfordshire:

Bishop Stortford, Cheshunt, Croxley Green, Hatfield, Hemel Hempstead, Hoddesdon, St Albans, Stevenage, Ware and Welwyn Garden City



SUPPORTING FAMILIES IN HERTFORDSHIRE - AUTISM, ADHD, RELATED CONDITIONS

A DSPL2 free daytime workshop for parent/carers

Delivered by ADHD/Autism Specialist Trainers from ADD-vance



DSPL2 are pleased to present

Managing Anger and Anxiety for Parent/Carers

This 2-hour workshop is designed to meet the needs of parent/carers to help them build on existing skills in supporting children with ADHD and/or Autism

The workshop will take place between 10 am - 12 pm on
Wednesday 27th November 2019
at
**The Oak Suite, Peartree Spring Primary School
Hydean Way, Stevenage SG2 9GG**

To book, please email d.hansen@peartreespring.herts.sch.uk
Places are limited, so please do book early to avoid disappointment

Please note that this course is only open to Stevenage, Knebworth, Datchworth, Benington, Walkern, Aston and Graveley parent/carers

DSPL | Delivering Special Provision Locally
Achieving quality outcomes

A DSPL2 free evening workshop for parent/carers

Delivered by ADHD/Autism Specialist Trainers from ADD-vance



DSPL2 are pleased to present

Understanding ADHD for Parent/Carers

This 2-hour workshop is designed to meet the needs of parent/carers to help them build on existing skills in supporting children with ADHD

The workshop will take place between 6 pm - 8 pm on
Wednesday 27th November 2019
At
**Moss Bury Primary School, Webb Rise
Stevenage SG1 5PA**

To book, please email d.hansen@peartreespring.herts.sch.uk
Places are limited, so please do book early to avoid disappointment

Please note that this course is only open to Stevenage, Knebworth, Datchworth, Benington, Walkern, Aston and Graveley parent/carers

DSPL | Delivering Special Provision Locally
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A DSPL2 free daytime workshop for parent/carers

Delivered by ADHD/Autism Specialist Trainers from ADD-vance



DSPL2 are pleased to present

Understanding Sensory Needs for Parent/Carers

This 2-hour workshop is designed to meet the needs of parent/carers to help them build on existing skills in supporting children with sensory differences

The workshop will take place between 10 am - 12 pm on
Wednesday 20th November 2019
at
**Moss Bury Primary School, Webb Rise
Stevenage SG1 5 PA**

To book, please email d.hansen@peartreespring.herts.sch.uk
Places are limited, so please do book early to avoid disappointment

Please note that this course is only open to Stevenage, Knebworth, Datchworth, Benington, Walkern, Aston and Graveley parent/carers

DSPL | Delivering Special Provision Locally
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CHRISTMAS BRASS BAND CONCERT

**WELWYN GARDEN CITY BRASS BAND
Saturday November 30th at 7.30pm**

**A Bunyan Baptist Church Event
Basils Road, Stevenage SG1 3PY**

**Tickets on the door
(Adults £7.50, children free)**

In Support of Bridge Builders Christian Trust

www.bunyan.org.uk - [Bunyan Baptist Church - events@bunyan.org.uk](https://www.facebook.com/Bunyan-Baptist-Church-1172179)

