

Newsletter

Giles Junior School

"Achieving excellence through Leadership"

Summer Term Friday 14th May 2021

Giles Junior School News

Hello!

With the recent announcement of further restrictions being lifted it seems life is returning to something like normal. This is very exciting! We have reviewed our risk assessment and agreed that many of the procedures we have in place continue to be sensible, especially in regard to keeping groups and mixing to a minimum. The one change some classes have made is to change their desks to be in tables of groups rather than in rows. We have agreed as a staff that making this change has a really positive impact on learning and means children can be more easily supported by adults who work within class as well as collaborating more readily with their peers.

We are taking some tentative steps booking events such as sports day and an end of year trip for Year 6. For now we remain cautious and hope families will continue to adhere to the guidance to avoid any extra risks of the school community being exposed to further cases which could potentially mean that a whole class is required to self isolate.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend ... not long until we can hug and eat in a restaurant! I might even do both at once!

Miss Whitby (Head Teacher)

The Giles Stork is going to be busy!

Well and truly keeping our professions secure for the future we have yet more exciting news to share! Mrs Vary is expecting a baby in Early November. Miss Keam is also expanding her family and is due to give birth in November also.

We will be sharing news of changes to staffing when we announce which teacher your child will be having next year and what class they will be allocated to. This tends to be late June which is when we begin some transition sessions for the whole school.

I am sure you will join us in congratulating Miss Keam and Mrs Vary with their exciting news!

Scooters and Bikes being walked only when on site

It has been lovely to be outside in the fresh air and sunshine at the end of the day. We have been thrilled to see the bike rack being filled with bikes and scooters of children who are riding to and from school.

We have been working hard with pupils from Giles Junior to encourage them to walk their bikes out until it is safely off site where they can ride to their destination.





We would appreciate some support from families in asking younger siblings to remember this as well. They can certainly pick up some speed on scooters (even with little legs) so please carry the scooter for them while on site or ask them to walk with it.

Attendance

Just a reminder that the attendance policy is now running as per the normal school situation. We can continue to authorise any absence which is COVID related (awaiting PCR test due to a child showing symptoms, household isolating awaiting a sibling test result and/or has been in contact with a positive case).

All other absences relating to holiday's which may have been rescheduled will not be authorised. Please continue to support your child's attendance by making sure appointments are made outside school time where possible and that holiday's fall outside school term time.



Ordering Uniform from September 2021

From September school uniform will no longer be delivered to the school. The options are to order it online to have it delivered to your own home or to visit the Smarty Schoolwear shop. Please see the details below for either of these options.



In partnership with GILES JUNIOR SCHOOL



2021

SCHOOL UNIFORM PRICELIST



SMARTY SCHOOLWEAR LTD UNIT 2, MULBERRY HOUSE, PARK PLACE STEVENAGE, HERTS SG1 1DP

www.smartyschoolwear.co.uk customerservice@smartyschoolwear.co.uk Tel: 01707 263909

<u>Wear Orange Day</u> Monday 19th April 2021

The Giving site is now closed and we will be delivering a cheque for

£284.26

to the local charity Feed Up Warm Up.

Thank you for all your kind donations and messages of support for this charity.

We are very proud that Sienna raised awareness and support of this brilliant charity which in these difficult times needs



Basket Ball Trials

If you have a child who is a budding basketball player then see below for some information.

JUNIOR BASKETBALL TRIALS

1st & 8th June 2021

U11 Boys & Girls: Tuesday 5pm – 6:15pm U12 Boys & Girls: Tuesday 5pm – 6:15pm U14 Boys: Tuesday 6:30pm – 7:45pm U16 Boys: Tuesday 7:45pm – 9:00pm Marriott's School Sports Centre Telford Avenue Stevenage SG2 DAN

Cost: £5 per player for each trial date

The club will be adhering to COVID-19 guidelines set by Basketball England.

Trials are closed to parents & spectators.

These are open trials for any committed players of any ability who want to develop their skills and play

competitive team basketball.

Website: www.easthertsbasketball.com Email: info@easthertsbasketball.com Follow Us: @easthertsroyals 'Developing Youth Basketball In Hertfordshire



Full HOT Menu back from 7th June 2021

Since September we have been running a reduced menu while we adapted to the children eating within their classroom with "hot boxes" or packed lunch bags. This has meant some of the options have not been available. Such as the legendary ... "Chicken Pie!" Another adaptation has been that pudding has been preselected rather than the previous system where children would have a choice when they collect their lunch from the serving hatch. The children will be offered a choice of dessert which ranges from a range of jelly cups, cheese and biscuits or chocolate mousse. This selection will be available for the children to select in class.

School lunches are available for a cost of £2.60 per day. Payment should be made in advance via the School Gateway app. It may well be that your child might want to sample the choice. It is fine to order on the day so long as there is credit in your lunch

account.

Take a look at the menu below and see if your child might like to choose a menu option after half term.





Parent Courses and Access to Support

Innovative

E Caring

Children & Young People's Therapies Service

Hertfordshire Community

Parent / Carer Sensory Information Sessions

Places are now available to book on our Spring Term information sessions for

Understanding your child's sensory preferences

How do our sensory likes and dislikes affect the choices we make in everyday life? How do children develop their sensory awareness?

"Very useful to understand sensory needs and some ideas of how to support them"

Comment from a parent who attended a session

Our Understanding Sensory preferences information session is for parents and carers who would like to know more about their child's sensory development. They focus on sensory development for younger children, thinking about how this can influence an older child's sensory likes and dislikes. It offers practical advice and strategies that you can try at home

These sessions provide an introduction to the topic of sensory processing for parents and carers. They provide initial information and advice for families who are worried about their child's sensory development.

Innovative

Caring

Agile

Children & Young People's Therapies Service

BOOK YOUR PLACE FOR 2021: • Tuesday 27th April 10.00 – 11.00 am

https://tinyurl.com/2jkndmp8

• Tuesday 18th May 11.00 – 12.00 pm

https://tinyurl.com/5tcu63mp

We are also offering parent information sessions on supporting your child's self-regulation. To find out dates of these and other training opportunities please visit our CYP Therapies – Occupational Therapy Service webpage

https://www.hct.nhs.uk/our-services/childrens-occupational-therapy/



www.hct.nhs.uk



Parent / Carer Sensory Information Sessions

Places are now available to book on our Summer Term information sessions for parents and carers

Supporting your child's sensory Self-Regulation development

How does the sensory environment around us affect our attention and behaviour? How do children manage the sensory information within everyday situations?

Our Supporting your child's self-regulation information session is for parents and carers who would like to learn more about helping their child to self-regulate. Sensory regulating activities can help children focus and organise the sensory information around them. The session offers practical advice and strategies that you can try at home with your child

These sessions provide an introduction to the topic of self-regulation for parents and

BOOK YOUR PLACE FOR 2021:

• Thursday 29th April 1.00 – 2.00 pm

https://tinyurl.com/a6x2txpn

• Tuesday 25th May 11.00 - 12.00 pm

https://tinyurl.com/ypsy8rew

Thursday 24th June 9.30 – 10.30 am

https://tinyurl.com/342a2jwu

We are also offering parent information sessions on understanding sensory preferences. To find out dates of these and other training opportunities please visit our CYP Therapies – Occupational Therapy Service webpage

https://www.hct.nhs.uk/our-services/childrens-occupational-therapy/



www.hct.nhs.uk



Free 6-Week Programme

Led by: Lisa Lowe

Family Bereavement Support Worker

Starting on Wednesday 16th June — 21st July 2021

Time: 10 - 11am via Zoom

The Programme will:

- help parents and caregivers to support their children after a significant bereavement;
- understand how grief affects this age group;
- learn how to support your child's emotional well-being;
- strengthen family relationships;
- meet other parents.

Places are Limited To Register, Please email Info@stand-by-me.org.uk









