



Newsletter

Giles Junior School

“Achieving excellence through Leadership”

**Summer
Term
Friday 16th
July
2021**

Giles Junior School News

Wow! What a week!

We weren't sure if the Sports Days would go ahead as planned but the weather was kind to us. While we genuinely missed the opportunity to have families attend in person we have put together a small tribute to show you the activities the children took part in. Please click the followings links for a short video showcasing what the children experienced on the day. Click here to view the [Year 3 and 4](#) Sports Day. Click here to view the [Year 5 and 6](#) Sports day. I will apologise in advance if I did not manage to get all 346 children included at some point but hope it will at least give you the opportunity to talk with your child about the events they enjoyed the most. Presentations for the winners will take place next week in school.

The Year 6 leavers are currently (as I type) practising their Leavers' Song which will form part of a final assembly so we can give them a remote send off at the very least! They are looking forward to Bowling next week and still enjoying wearing their Leavers' Hoodies. It is always bittersweet saying goodbye. Sad to say goodbye but happy to know they are on their next phase of growing up to take them into the big wide world!

The newsletter wouldn't be the same without another announcement from our good friend the Giles Stork! Congratulations to Mrs E Sewell who is expecting her baby early November!

With another addition we also say a sad goodbye to the wonderful Mrs Slade who has been at Giles Junior School for 22 years! She is relocating to be closer to family. She will be truly missed by staff and pupils alike and think that her new school will be very lucky to have such an experienced member of staff.

To finish with an amazing piece of news, the Fun Run organised by The Lighthouse Team and Miss Robinson raised over £2,000, which helps fund Magic Breakfast, so we can continue to provide a healthy breakfast for every child in school.

Miss Whitby

Reminders

Medication - On the first day of term, if you need to sign medication into the office, please can you arrive in school a bit earlier to allow time to complete the paperwork at the office.

Parent Post Box - Please can we encourage parents to use our post box in Reception for any correspondence that needs to come into the office (this is emptied daily).

Application for leave of absence - Time off that is requested during term time will not be authorised, unless it is for exceptional circumstances. If you need to request time off, please complete a leave of absence form and hand into the school office (these can be found in the reception area).

Change of Details - If you need to inform us of any change of personal details please complete a change of details form which can be found in the front reception and pop it in the post box.

School Gateway - We are a cashless school so all payments need to be made through the School Gateway. If you have not downloaded the app please do so ASAP.

Sports Day

We were extremely happy that our Sports Days could go ahead this week, ending the term with great joy and sportsmanship. Our staff along with some year 5/6 helpers organised activities for all the children to participate in and earn points for their classes. With fun running races amongst their class friends and a teachers race to complete this great occasion for all parties involved. We are already looking forward to next years Sports Days.

Mr Stephenson - Head of PE

Dates for Diary (Updated)

Year 6 Bowling Trip	Wed 21st July	Within the school day
Last Day of term - early finish	Thur 22nd July	Staggered pick up between 1.40-2.00pm
Inset Day (School closed to children)	Wed 1st Sep	All day
First day of school for all pupils	Thur 2nd Sep	8.40am - 9.00am doors open
Rock Steady Assembly	Mon 6th Sep	9.00 am
Swimming lessons to start for Year 6 (confirmations have been sent to year 6 parents to say if their child will or will not attend swimming lessons)	Wed 8th Sep	Within the school day
Extra curricular clubs start this week for the Autumn Term	Week beginning 13th Sep	3.00 - 4.00pm
Half Term - School Closed	25th Oct - 29th Oct	

Clubs

We sent out a letter this week giving details of the clubs that are available next term.

All clubs are limited, so places are issued on a first come first served basis as they are booked. Please book a space for the club/clubs your child would like to attend through the school gateway clubs section, or direct with the club as stated in the club letter.

We will send a message out to parents today, 16th July, to say when the clubs are available to book on the School Gateway.

(Apart from Rock Steady which is available to book direct from August, with them online).

For further details about each club and a club timetable please click the link to the clubs page on our website :

<https://gilesjm.herts.sch.uk/about-us/clubs/>

Last Day of Term

Thursday 22nd July is the last day of term and will be a games day, as usual. The children may bring in a game and/or electronic devices. Please can all sim cards be removed.

School will finish early on 22nd July, you are able to collect your child anytime between 1.40pm - 2.00pm.



THE CLUB THAT PUTS A SMILE ON EVERY CHILDS FACE

AFTER SCHOOL CLUB SUMMER PARTY



WEDNESDAY 21ST JULY 2021

FROM 3:00pm to 6:00pm

PARTY GAMES & FOOD, PRIZES TO BE WON, DANCING and A PARTY BAG FOR EVERY CHILD



ONLY 30 PLACES AVAILABLE / BOOK ONLINE VIA GATEWAY

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT SARA WATTS ON 07982 925752

WISHING YOU ALL A FUN, SAFE HAPPY HOLIDAYS

SEE YOU ALL THURSDAY 2ND SEPTEMBER 2021

Uniform Reminder

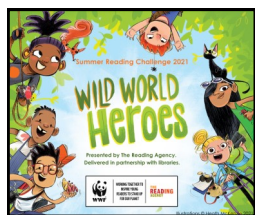
Please remember to order your uniform early from Smarty Schoolwear, to be ready for the start of the new school year.

Smarty Schoolwear are located in Stevenage Town Centre.

<https://www.smartyschoolwear.co.uk/>

Parent Information

Summer Reading Challenge



We look forward to finding out about the books you have read when the children return to school in September. If you bring in your completed certificate you will earn yourself a chocolate bar!

Click on the link for more information:

<https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/>



At Roebuck Academy

26 July to 27 August 2021

St Margarets, Broadwater, Stevenage
SG2 8RF

Book activities at:
sportinherts.org.uk/hafhappy

Free School Meals

If your situation has changed recently you may be entitled to Free School Meals for your child / children, please apply ASAP to find out. Your child can get a free school meal if you receive any of the following:

- **Income Support**
- **Income-based Jobseekers Allowance**
- **Income-related Employment and Support Allowance**
- **Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999**
- **The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit**
- **Child Tax Credit** (as long as you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and you don't get more than **£16,190** a year)
- **Working Tax Credit run-on** (paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)
- **Universal Credit** (with annual earned income of no more than **£7,400** after tax and not including any benefits you get).

Apply today, using the link below, if you receive any of these benefits. It takes **5 mins** and in most cases they can tell you straightaway if your child can get free meals at school.

www.hertsdirect.org/freeschoolmeals



Find the support you need at the Families First Portal

Families First is the name for early help in Hertfordshire. It is a way of getting extra support for your family to help you manage problems early on.

Families First is available to all Hertfordshire families with children under 18 (25 if they have a learning need or disability).

Visit the [portal](#) for more information, with direct links to:-

- Relationship Support
- Parenting advice and childcare
- Money advice
- Emotional and mental health
- Domestic abuse support
- Staying healthy
- Online Safety
- SEND Local Offer

and many other useful links



hertfordshire.gov.uk/familiesfirst

"I am struggling to cope with everything at present, so feeling overwhelmed."

"I'm worried about my child's behaviour in school and at home"

"I'm worried about money"

"I need reassurance and support"



Volunteer Mentors Needed

Are you a grandparent, mum, dad or carer?
You may have the skills we need!



A Volunteer Mentor supports families in their own homes on a weekly basis for 2-3 hours

Recruiting Now Next Course - September 2021

Make a difference to the lives of parents and children

Help others whilst doing something for yourself

High quality training

Home-Start's Preparation Course is a face to face, one day a week course that runs for 6-8 weeks. The free course will provide you with all the skills and information you need to support families.

For more information email
admin@home-startherts.org.uk

There for parents when they need us most
www.home-startherts.org.uk



ADD-vance

The ADD-vance ADHD and Autism Trust
Reg. Charity No. 1158968

Helpline: 01727 833963 Email: herts@add-vance.org Web: www.add-vance.org

FREE ONLINE Introductory 6-Week Courses for Parent/Carers

Understanding ADHD and Autism

This interactive course is designed for parent/carers of children aged 5 to 14 yrs with a diagnosis or suspected diagnosis of ADHD and/or Autism. Every course is bespoke to the needs of each group. Learning outcomes include:

- Understanding ADHD, Autism and related conditions
- Building your child's self-esteem
- Understanding anxiety and anger triggers
- Reducing meltdowns and other behaviours which challenge
- Developing positive behaviour strategies
- Working collaboratively with school
- Knowing your rights and how to advocate for your child
- Reducing your own stress levels
- Managing the needs of siblings
- Improving communication as a family
- Connecting with other families and sharing experiences
- Signposting to useful resources and local support networks.

Courses will be delivered online via Zoom with a maximum of 12 participants. They will run as a series of 2 hour sessions over six weeks. The sessions are designed to be interactive and participants will be expected to attend every session with video/audio. Earplugs are recommended if you have children in the same room with you.

The sessions can be accessed free via a PC, laptop, tablet or smartphone. Joining instructions will be provided beforehand and the first session will provide an opportunity to practice using the technology.

Eight separate courses will be running on the following dates:

Monday	13 th September to 18 th October	7 - 9 pm	
Wednesday	15 th September to 20 th October	7 - 9 pm	(Dads and male carers only)
Thursday	16 th September to 21 st October	9.30 - 11.30 am	(Early years only)
Friday	17 th September to 22 nd October	10 am - 12 pm	
Monday	1 st November to 6 th December	10 am - 12 pm	
Wednesday	3 rd November to 8 th December	7 - 9 pm	(Dads and male carers only)
Thursday	4 th November to 9 th December	10 am - 12 pm	(Parent/carers of girls only)
Friday	5 th November to 10 th December	10 am - 12 pm	

For more information and to book your FREE place please see <http://add-vance.eventbrite.com/>.

These courses are funded by Hertfordshire County Council and are open to residents of Hertfordshire only.





BIRTHDAY

PARTY

GILES JUNIOR SCHOOL IS 50!

Saturday 25th September 2021

12:00-15:00

Giles Junior School

Durham Road

SG1 4JQ

Food and refreshments will be available to purchase.

**Come and take a trip down memory lane
with old photographs and school tours.**

This is a ticketed event.

**Please RSVP by email letting us know how many people
will be attending and we will send you a ticket.**

RSVP@gilesjm.herts.sch.uk