



Newsletter

Giles Junior School

"Achieving excellence through Leadership"

**Summer
Term
Friday 28th
April
2023**

Giles Junior School News

We started the week with a celebration for Miss Dobson who ran and completed the London Marathon. The children were all very impressed and we know she had to Begin With the End in Mind with a long time training through the wet, snow and wind. What an inspiration!

It was a real success completing an art morning where every class paired up with another class to "Synergise" and produce some art work in preparation for the King's Coronation. The children will be proud to share their art in their class windows on Friday 5th May.



We have been gathering parent opinion to look at widening our offer for after school clubs from September 2023, utilising our own staff to give up their time and nominating a small charge per term. The feedback so far has been very positive. If you would like to have your view the survey will remain open until the end of next week (5th May). [CLUBS SURVEY LINK](#) (Year 6 parents were not sent the link as we appreciate some of you will not be here but feel free to have your say!)

The final thing to say (on this busy newsletter) is that we would like to invite children to celebrate their DIVERSITY on May 16th. We will write with more details separately but this day should not require any preparation. We are looking forward to marking this National Day and finding more about our pupils lives!

Miss Whitby (Headteacher)

Leader In Me

We had the exciting news that we have been re-certified as a flagship Leadership School for the Leader in Me! As we continue enhancing how we develop our pupils to use effective leadership strategies, we want to keep families up to date with what we are learning, so you might have the opportunity to talk to your own children about what they have learned and allow them to share their understanding. When we update you on our learning we may send home some complementary resources which allow you to take part in activities as a family relating to the different aspects of the 7 Habits. Please see below for the past two weeks learning on Habit 1 - Be Proactive.



17th April 2023

We learned about six emotions and how to manage the intensity that occurs when feeling them. View this resource and invite your learner to share how they can notice when feeling some of the big emotions. We are working on developing a wider vocabulary with our children to help them identify what they are feeling so they can self-regulate more easily as a result of the intensity which they feel. We have looked at a wide vocabulary for the word sad e.g. desolate, crushed, miserable, glum, devastated, melancholy. Then we tried to order them to look at which ones would affect us the most and least. You could try this at home with any of the 6 emotions: sadness, happiness, anger, disgust, fear, surprise.

24th April 2023

This week, we learned six self-regulation strategies: "Breathe," "Ask for Help," "Connect," "Move," "Take a Break," and "Use Your Senses." View the attached resource and create a pause plan for everyone to use at home!

World Art Day

As part of World Art Day, pupils in lower KS2 collaborated with upper KS2 and synergised together to make a fantastically vibrant piece of art. These pieces of art will be displayed in class windows for you all to see very soon.



Year 5 Boys Football Festival

Giles hosted the first of many sports festivals on Friday afternoon. Local schools enter inclusive teams to take part and enjoyed being active and developing their skills. The sportsmanship and consideration for others was fantastic. A true reflection of how competitive games should be played. Well done to all schools involved.

Next activity, Year 5 Girls inclusive festival.

Wellbeing



We are the first couple of weeks into the summer term and most of us are feeling energised and ready for what lies ahead, having had a 'reset' in the Easter break. But not all of us will feel like this and may be suffering from 'brain fog'. A 'reset' is a great way to clear this fog and does not need an extended amount of time, it can be a short burst of an activity which just helps get you back on track mentally.

You could:

1. Re-organise that cluttered cupboard/room; sharpening your ability to focus on one task.
2. Have a technology or social media detox; allowing you to stay in the present moment.
3. Spend time with a pet, to get affection where you don't need to converse.
4. Practise gratitude; writing down 5-10 things a day you are grateful for, to help bring your attention back to the things that are going well.

Here are some useful videos/websites to support tackling brain fog:

<https://www.healthline.com/health/brain-fog-anxiety#15-Minute-Yoga-Flow-for-Anxiety>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JG1rKG65vyU>
<https://www.healthline.com/health/brain-fog-anxiety>

We now have our Mental Health Meadow display up in the hall. Come and have a look when you are next in school.

Ria Tapner-Robinson.
 Music subject leader and LIM Lighthouse Lead.

Tune into ASD

Tune In To Together

An Autism Awareness Chill and Chat Session
 Facilitated by Jessica Kuffour and Dami Rock

A time to chat about Autism and related conditions.
 A time to listen, ask questions and share experiences from various perspectives.

Episode 14

Wednesday 10th May 2023
 7.30pm-8.30pm GMT via Zoom

Are you:

- a parent/carer or a family member of someone diagnosed with Autism or related condition or awaiting an assessment?
- an adult on the Autistic Spectrum, have a related condition or exploring an assessment?
- an educator or another professional who works with people diagnosed with Autism or related conditions?




You may be all of the above or none of the above but you feel passionate about connecting more with the wonders of our world and gaining more insight into ways to embrace the difference.

There's no fixed agenda so we will just flow with you and whatever comes our way. We will make sure the tribe has what we need. Come find your tribe here with us.

Come let's talk.

Bring your own drinks, come zoom with us with your camera on or off. Let's tune in together.

To register for this free event please visit: www.tuneinfoasd.com
 or email: letstalk@tuneinfoasd.com

YOUTH ROADSHOW

DYSPRAXIA FOUNDATION

A SERIES OF 3 FREE FUN PACKED
EVENTS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE WITH
DYSPRAXIA AGED 11-16.
HOSTED IN HITCHIN, HERTFORDSHIRE

Dates for this event are the 10th, 13th May and 10th June 2023.
Workshops to include an early evening on-line, just for fun quiz,
a cooking session and an interactive drumming workshop. For
more details and booking please follow the link below:

<https://forms.office.com/e/Ef679PdPea>

For further details please contact Claire Cripps at
youth@dyspraxiafoundation.org.uk
 Dyspraxia Foundation 8 West Alley Hitchin Herts SG5 1DQ
 Registered Charity No. 1055351 Company Limited by Guarantee Registered in England No. 3258753

School Office Opening Hours

Please be
reminded that
the school office
opening hours
are :

8am - 4.00pm
Monday -
Friday

Diary Dates - Summer Term 2023

Please keep an eye on these dates in each newsletter, as we add new events to the list throughout the term.

Date	Time	Event
Sun 30th April	All Day	Choir performing at The Royal Albert Hall
Mon 1st May		Bank Holiday - School Closed
Mon 8th May		Bank Holiday - School Closed
Tue 9th May	am	Start of Year 6 SATS (9th-12th May)
Mon 15th May	All Week	Start of Science week - Mad Science Assembly
Tue 16th May	8.15am	Year 6 Trip to Legoland - depart 8.30am & return 5.25pm
Wed 17th May	All Day	Year 4 Trip to RAF Museum (within the school day)
Wed 17th May	4.00pm - 4.30pm	Year 6 PGL Information Meeting for parents and children
Fri 19th May	All Day	Year 3 Trip to RAF Museum (within the school day)
Tue 23rd May	am	Class Photo day
Mon 29th May - Fri 2nd June		Half Term - School Closed
Mon 5th June		Inset Day - School Closed
Tue 13th June	All day	Year 4 Trip to Paradise Wildlife Park (within the school day)
Wed 14th June	6.00pm	New Year 3 Welcome Evening
Sun 18th - Wed 21st June	All Day	Year 6 PGL Trip
Thur 22nd June	All Day	Year 6 Recovery Day after PGL Trip
Mon 26th June	TBC	Sports Day (Year 3&4-am & Year 5&6 - pm)
Wed 28th June	All Day	Reserve Sports Day
Mon 3rd July	All Day	Inset Day - School Closed

Year 5 Trip to The Tower of London

On Tuesday, Year 5 set off on an expedition to one of London's most popular tourist attractions - The Tower of London.

As part of Year 5's History topic 'Crime and Punishment' The Tower of London picks up from where we last stepped into History with William the Conqueror building the Tower of London after his victorious battle in 1066 which ended the Anglo-Saxon period in British history. Since 1070, The Tower of London has served as a fortress, a royal residence, a prison, the royal mint, a public records office, an observatory, a military barracks, a place of execution, and the city zoo.

The children had an amazing time exploring The Tower of London and delving in to its past - we even had time to take in some of London's top sights before heading back to school.

Thank you to all the adults and parent helpers who made the trip possible.



Swimming

Swimming is currently taking place this school year for the whole of Year 5, giving each class two terms of swimming. All children in the year group take part even if children can already swim, as there is higher level testing available which incorporates further advanced swimming skills, which children can clearly benefit from.

Swimming has started this term for Year 5 Finland and Year 5 Turkey. This is a reminder of the rota for the year :

Spring Term 2023 (Jan-March 2023) - Year 5 Turkey & Year 5 France

Summer Term 2023 (April-July 2023) - Year 5 Finland & Year 5 Turkey

Autumn Term 2023 (Sep-Dec 2023) - Current Year 5 France & Current Year 5 Finland
(these classes will be year 6 at this point)

Any contributions towards swimming can be paid using the School Gateway, where the payment is split into 3 instalments. Alternatively, you are able to pay the full amount in one go on the School Gateway by clearing each instalment.

Yoga for Year 4

Year 4 have started their yoga sessions with Suzie from Happy Little Yogi. These will be running on a Thursday up to the 18th May.

At the end of the yoga sessions children are able to relax with the vibrations of sound bowls and positive affirmations.

It has been a great way to link a healthy body with a healthy mind.

Science Experiments at Nobel for Year 5 Wednesday 3rd May

On Wednesday 3rd of May, Year 5 will visit Nobel School (during the school day). The children, along with their class teachers, will be participating in practical experiments with the Science Lead in their laboratories. Whilst the sessions will take place during the school day, **please provide your child with a packed lunch on this day** as we will be offsite during the year group's normal allocated lunchtime. If your child is in receipt of Free School Meals and will need a lunch provided for them, this can be ordered at school in the morning as usual. **Please note that the only option available for a Free School Meal lunch will be yellow which is a ham roll.**

Year 5 Finland and Turkey will be dropped to Nobel straight after their swimming lesson and then will be walking back to Giles after their Science session.

Year 5 France will be walking to and from Nobel for their science session.

Coronation Lunch - Friday 5th May

We have a special coronation lunch arranged for Friday 5th May. In addition to the menu below there will also be a cheese roll and jacket potato option available.

Children will just need to order their lunch at school as usual on the day.



The menu is presented on a background with a Union Jack pattern. At the top, it says 'HCL' with a logo. The main title is 'The King's Coronation' in a large, stylized font, with '5TH MAY' on a red banner below it. The subtitle is 'A Menu fit for a King'. The menu is divided into sections: 'HOT OPTION' with 'Organic Minced Beef Pie or Quorn a la King (Creamy Sauce with Mushrooms and Peppers)' served with 'Royally Roasted Potatoes or Jewelled Rice and Seasonal Vegetables'. The 'Dessert' section offers 'Lemon Drizzle Cake with Ice cream or Custard or Kings Charles' Cheese Scones'. At the bottom, it states 'THIS MENU IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE DEPENDING ON SUPPLIER STOCK AVAILABILITY.' and includes social media icons for Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter, and Instagram, along with the handle '@HCLCatering' and the website 'www.hcl.co.uk'.

HCL

The King's Coronation

5TH MAY

A Menu fit for a King

This menu is inspired by food that King Charles enjoys such as sourcing organic produce where possible!

HOT OPTION

Organic Minced Beef Pie
or
Quorn a la King
(Creamy Sauce with Mushrooms and Peppers)

served with
Royally Roasted Potatoes or Jewelled Rice and
Seasonal Vegetables

Dessert

Lemon Drizzle Cake with Ice cream or Custard
or
Kings Charles' Cheese Scones

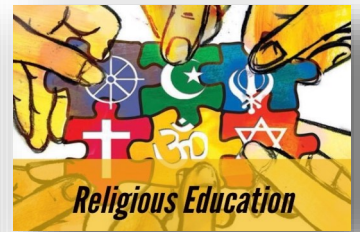
THIS MENU IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE DEPENDING ON SUPPLIER STOCK AVAILABILITY.

f in t o @HCLCatering

www.hcl.co.uk

A peek into ... Year 3

In PSHE we have been looking at different relationships and challenging different stereotypes!

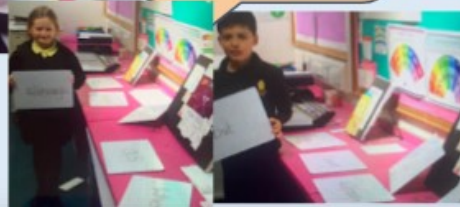


In Science, we grouped rocks in different ways according to observable features.

Our magnifying glasses helped us to inspect rocks closely.



We had fun in English playing a game to help us learn our conjunctions. 'And was banned!'



A peek into ... Year 4

During D&T lessons, Year 4 have learnt to sew using back stitch and running stitch to join a seam. They then designed and have sewn fabric money containers with a fastening.

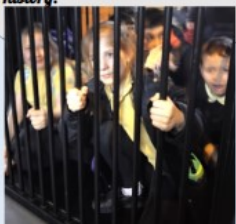


In Geography, we synergised in small groups to make papier mache volcanoes. We then used vinegar, food colouring and bicarb of soda to recreate a volcanic eruption!

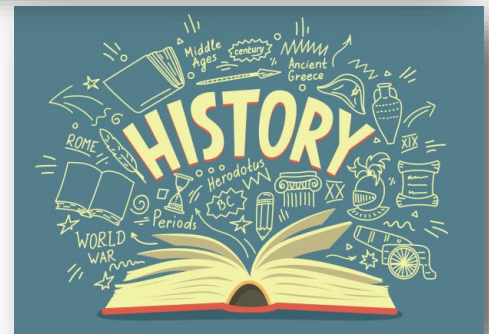


A peek into ... Year 5

Year 5 went on a trip to the Tower of London as part of their crime and punishment history unit. They learned all about the various prisoners and victims of the Tower during its almost 1000 year history.



"I really liked the trip - it was amazing! We saw lots of animals made of wire (the tower used to have lots of exotic animals). There was also a monument to Anne Boleyn who had her head chopped off just because Henry VIII wanted a new wife!" Oliver



A peek into ... Year 6

India class have been making clay mugs in the style of a Japanese artist, Ikuko Iwamoto.



Peru have enjoyed learning how to classify animals in their science lessons!



Germany have been enjoying their science lessons as we have been classifying living things. Here, we have classified plants into vascular and nonvascular.

